



The Roughyeds

A.J. Law Cup v Rochdale Hornets

OLDHAM

V

ROCHDALE
HORNETS

Jon Goddard	1	Michael Platt
Will Cowell	2	Chris Campbell
Iain Marsh	3	Sam Butterworth
James Bunyan	4	Paul Anderson
Nick Johnson	5	Liam Williams
Simon Svabic	6	John Braddish
Ian Watson	7	Lee Birdseye
Steve Molloy	8	Andy Grundy
John Hough	9	Jannan Billings
Paul Southern	10	Andy Leatham
Lee Doran	11	Rob Ball
Dane Morgan	12	Gareth Price
Lee Marsh	13	Andy Gorski
	14	Tony Hibbert
	15	Tony Kirwan
	16	Lee Hanson
	17	Mark Cristello

Subs From:

Gavin Dodd
Gareth Barber
Martin McLoughlin
Craig Farrimond
Adam Sharples
Gavin Johnson
Dave Newton
Neil Roden

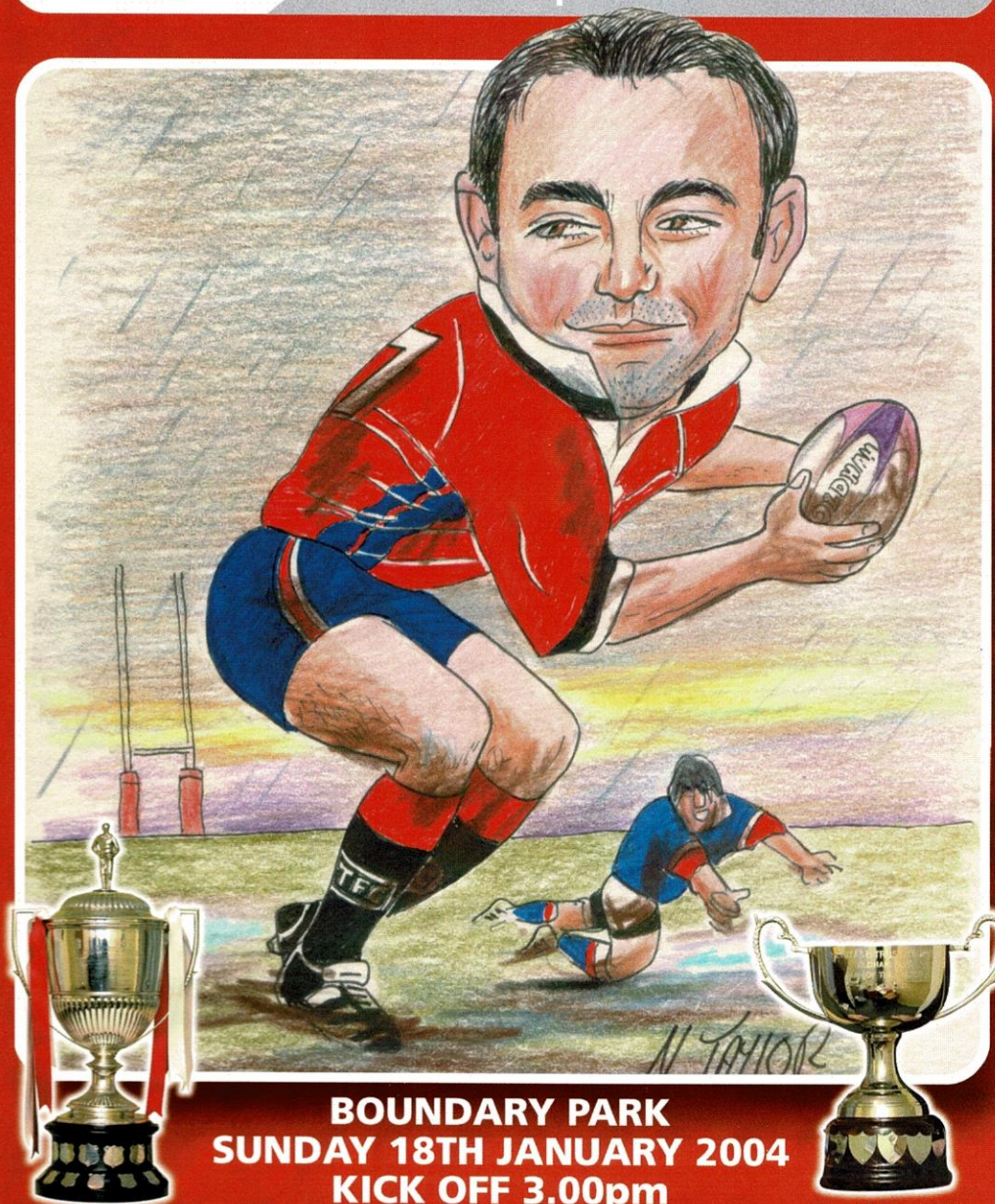
Match Officials:

REFEREE: Ben Thaler • **OFFICIALS:** Paul Stockman & Stuart Marshall



The Roughyeds

A.J. Law Cup v Rochdale Hornets



BOUNDARY PARK
SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY 2004
KICK OFF 3.00pm



The Roughyeds

**Oldham Rugby League
Football Club (1997) Limited**

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Christopher Hamilton

DIRECTORS

Christopher Hamilton
Sean Whitehead

HEAD COACH

Steve Molloy

ASSISTANT COACH

Andy Proctor

SENIOR ACADEMY COACH

Shaun Gartland

CLUB CAPTAIN

Phil Farrell

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Nic Walker & Clare Gross

TIMEKEEPER

David Lord

MEDIA & MARKETING MANAGER

Nigel Marland

COMMERCIAL MANAGER

David Bradshaw

OFFICE MANAGER

Jackie Collier

PROGRAMME EDITORS

Nigel Marland & Brian Walker

CLUB HONOURS

A J Law Cup Winners
1998, 1999/2000, 2003
Trans Pennine Cup Finalists 1998
NFP Grand Finalist 2001

HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

(SPONSORED BY J. W. LEES, BREWERS)

Joe Ferguson 1899-23
Herman Hilton 1913-26
Alan Davies 1950-62
Frank Stirrup 1950-62
Bernard Ganley 1950-61
John Etty 1954-56
Derek Turner 1955-59
Bob Irving 1964-74
Martin Murphy 1966-82
Andy Goodway 1979-85 & 1993-94

IN THE CHAIRMAN'S OPINION

Welcome to Boundary Park for our first ever home pre-season friendly. After six seasons it will be a refreshing change to play 'at home' for the AJ Law Cup against our deadly rivals from down the road - Rochdale.

I am hoping that we have good weather and a crowd to match who will vocally support this annual event. What we do know is that you can forget any idea that this will be a friendly - there is no such thing in rugby league anyway, but especially when it comes to games between US and THEM!

It now appears to be the norm, every season, that we will be fielding several new players and we hope they settle into their new environment as quickly as possible. In that respect the match takes on an added significance. During the close season Rochdale have had what appear to be major troubles of a financial nature. This has resulted in them coming here with virtually a complete new team and coach. Although it is undoubtedly going to be a hard season for them in the National League, they will be nobody's mugs. If anyone is expecting an easy game today I would ask you



to cast your mind back to the 1st of January 1998 when our 'scratch' team won the Law Cup 36-16 with a side thrown together in just a few weeks.

It is uncanny how many similarities there are between Rochdale now and ourselves in 1997/98 and if we get a similar crowd today as we did then (3097), I'm sure both Ray Taylor and myself will be happy.

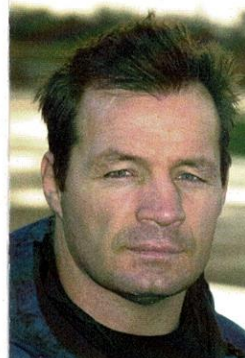
The number of ex-Oldham players signed by Rochdale should make for a game between two highly motivated sides especially as three of Rochdale's key players last season are now with us.

May I also, belatedly, wish all our sponsors and supporters a very happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Enjoy the game.

CHRIS HAMILTON

COACHLINES



WELCOME to Boundary Park for the first Law Cup match held at home since the club was reformed. With the season only two weeks away it's all set for an interesting encounter.

I would like to congratulate Bobby Goulding on his appointment and hope he has a long

and successful coaching career (spoiled only by the games played against us!). Having played with Bobby at both club and international level, I know what a competitor he is and I have great respect for his knowledge of the game.

Pre-season has gone well with the squad knuckling down to some hard work under the guidance of Andy Proctor and I feel we are better prepared for the physical demands that this season will no doubt have in store for us.

Although the average age of the squad is a lot younger this season, I feel the senior members that we have brought in, James Bunyan, Paul Southern and Ian Watson have a wealth of experience at both this level and Super League.

The younger additions to the squad will be able to rely on, and learn from, these seasoned campaigners and it is this that I think is the key to our success this season. It is vital that they learn and learn quickly!

Both Phil Farrell and Keith Brennan are due back after surgery and both these key players will also bolster the squad.

As always can I emphasis how important it is for the players that you get behind the team, it really does make a difference!

Enjoy the game,

STEVE MOLLOY

Fixtures

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	K. O.	RESULT	W/L
01/02/04	Chorley Lynx	Home	15.00		
06/02/04	Castleford Panthers	Home	15.00		
15/02/04	Leigh Centurions	Away	15.00		
22/02/04	Swinton Lions	Away	15.00		
29/02/04	Powergen CC R4				
07/03/04	Leigh Centurions	Home	15.00		
14/03/04	Powergen CC R5				
21/03/04	Chorley Lynx	Away	15.00		
28/03/04	Powergen CC Quarter Finals				
28/03/04	Rochdale Hornets	Home	15.00		
04/04/04	Swinton Lions	Home	15.00		
09/04/04	Rochdale Hornets	Away	19.30		
12/04/04	Featherstone Rovers	Home	15.00		
18/04/04	Powergen CC Semi Final 1				
18/04/04	Halifax	Away	15.00		
25/04/04	Powergen CC Semi Final 2				
25/04/04	AT Cup Play-offs				
02/05/04	Leigh Centurions	Home	15.00		
09/05/04	Hull Kingston Rovers	Away	15.00		
15/05/04	Powergen CC Final				
23/05/04	Rochdale Hornets	Home	15.00		
30/05/04	Batley Bulldogs	Home	15.00		
06/06/04	AT Cup Quarter Finals				
13/06/04	Keighley Cougars	Away	15.00		
20/06/04	Whitehaven	Home	15.00		
27/06/04	AT Cup Semi Finals				
04/07/04	Doncaster Dragons	Away	15.00		
11/07/04	Halifax	Home	15.00		
18/07/04	At Cup Final				
25/07/04	Leigh Centurions	Away	15.00		
01/08/04	Hull Kingston Rovers	Home	15.00		
08/08/04	Rochdale Hornets	Away	15.00		
15/08/04	Batley Bulldogs	Away	15.00		
22/08/04	Keighley Cougars	Home	15.00		
29/08/04	Whitehaven	Away	15.00		
05/09/04	Featherstone Rovers	Away	15.00		
12/09/04	Doncaster Dragons	Home	15.00		
19/09/04	NL 1 & 2 Play-offs				
26/09/04	NL 1 & 2 Play-offs				
03/10/04	NL 1 & 2 Play-offs				
10/10/04	NL 1 & 2 Grand Finals				
17/10/04	NL 1 & 2 Prom/Releg. Play-offs				

Key

AT Cup - Arriva Trains Cup

Powergen CC - Powergen Challenge Cup

NL1 - National League Division 1

We would like to express our thanks to the Oldham Evening Chronicle, League Publications Ltd, Phil Burdge and all concerned for the use of photographs.

www.roughyeds.co.uk

Left to right, Paul Southern, Craig Farrimond, Ian Watson, James Bunyan, Martin Elswood and Nick Johnson

IN THE NEWS

Oldham RLFC v Rochdale Hornets

NEW SQUAD MEMBERS 2004

WELCOME back for the start of another new season. It's certainly nice to be playing the Law Cup on home soil and hopefully the weather will stay five and we'll have a good crowd.

We've decided to print a reduced programme today as the arrangements for the game have been fluid because of the delay in Rochdale finalising their squad but we are sure you will like the new style and come the start of the season proper we hope you will also like our brand new 'ALL COLOUR' match programme which will put us even further ahead in National League programme quality and presentation. We are confident that our relationship with our new design agency SIREN CREATIVE of Leeds will be a long and happy one.

I thought the best thing I could do on this page is to introduce you to the new members of our squad, some of whom will be very familiar to those fans from Rochdale who have come to Boundary Park today.

JAMES BUNYAN

Centre or Second Row. James, aged 25, had spells at Huddersfield and Doncaster before joining Rochdale Hornets. A native of Leeds (he still lives there) he has spent three seasons at Hornets under coach Martin Hall. While there he was used mainly as a second rower when Brendan O'Meara and Matt Calland held down the Hornets centre spots, but he made a centre spot his own in 2003 and built a reputation as one of the most direct and defensively tough backs in National League.

MARTIN ELSWOOD

Tall and fast, 20 year old Martin is an Oldham lad, who lives in Shaw. Played soccer in his schoolboy days and was snapped up by Oldham Athletic on schoolboy forms. When things didn't work out he turned to rugby league, started to play for Royton Tigers and was quickly invited to the McAlpine Stadium for trials with Huddersfield. The Giants signed him on and he was there for a couple of seasons, mainly in the academy and alliance teams, until he seized the chance of a move to his hometown club in the autumn of 2003. Originally a centre, he now plays in the second row and this is where he sees his future.

CRAIG FARRIMOND

Became a Roughyed on his 21st birthday at the end of the 2003 season. The club hopes this will be a good luck omen. Craig plays second row or loose forward. A Wiganer, who played his early rugby with Ince Rose Bridge before turning pro for Warrington Wolves. He captained the academy and then the alliance sides at Wilderspool before coming to Oldham highly recommended. He represented Super League under 21s last season against Nation League U21s at Leigh. He was picked at hooker and had a sound game.

NICK JOHNSON

20-year-old winger and another Oldham born youngster returning 'home' after originally signing for a Super League club, in his case Bradford Bulls. The younger brother of Oldham forward Gavin Johnson, Nick was a Great Britain academy international. Stockily built and unusually solid for a winger, Nick lacks nothing in pace. Like Lee Marsh, he played a few games for Oldham on loan at the end of last season before he got his release from Odsal and then signed for his hometown club on a one-year contract.

LEE MARSH

Not entirely a new face to Rougheds fans because he played for Steve Molloy's men in the last five games of the 2003 season whilst on loan from Salford City Reds. A product of the amateur game in St Helens, Lee was wanted by Whitehaven, and his former Salford coach Steve McCormack, when he was released by City Reds at the end of the 2003 season. He had enjoyed his time with Oldham last summer however, and chose instead to sign a one year contract with the Roughyeds. Play anywhere, Lee is at home in several positions but he lists loose forward as his favourite with stand-off close behind.

PAUL SOUTHERN

26-year-old front row forward who, like Ian Watson, was also a major influence last year in the Rochdale Hornets camp. Big and strong, he is known to be a clever ball

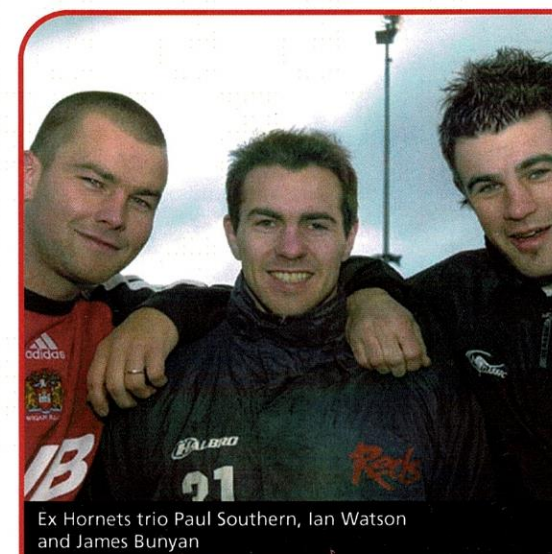
handler and alongside Dane Morgan Oldham must have two of the best ball handling props in the business. Spent most of his career with Salford – much of it in Super League – and comes to Oldham to 'prop up' the front row following the departures of Paul Norton, Jason Clegg and Danny Guest.

IAN WATSON

Aged 27, Ian is one of the most experienced scrum halves in the game. Capped numerous times for Wales, he played most of his career with Salford City Reds, with whom he had considerable experience in Super League. A playmaker and midfield organiser, he was a key man in the Rochdale Hornets team that finished third in National League Division One last term. His last appearance for Wales was against the touring Australians at Bridgend in the autumn of 2003. He was picked at hooker and did enough to be named the best player in a red jersey.

Enjoy the game and I look forward to seeing you all at the opening game of the season on 1 February against Chorley Lynx.

NIGEL MARLAND



Ex Hornets trio Paul Southern, Ian Watson and James Bunyan

TODAY'S OPPONENTS - ROCHDALE HORNETS

COACH - BOBBY GOULDING

One of the great names of the modern era, Bobby Goulding, joined Rochdale Hornets in the close season, replacing Martin Hall. On being appointed, Goulding immediately set about building a squad capable of holding its own in National League One.

Wherever he has played, on the international or domestic fronts, Goulding has made his mark as a wily scrum half with a tremendously astute tactical kicking game. His competitiveness and desire to win has always shone through and it is those qualities that he hopes to bring to the Hornets. The players he has brought in comprise of a mixture of experience and youthful promise and he has sought to build a solid platform from which the backs can play from by putting together a physically strong pack.

PAUL ANDERSON (CENTRE)

Probably the most experienced player to have joined Hornets during the close season, having had Super League experience with St Helens and Sheffield notching over 40 appearances. Came to Hornets having played at National League level with Leigh and Oldham. A centre with excellent try scoring ability, a powerful runner who can also operate in the back row. GB under 21 and Scotland international honours.

ROB BALL (PROP)

Product of the successful Wigan youth set up who came to Hornets via Leigh. A player with Super League experience having played for Wigan. Tall, strong and mobile forward likely to form the cornerstone of the Hornets pack.

JANAN BILLINGS (HOOKER)

22 year old Aussie who signed from Gateshead Thunder in the close season. Good hands and elusive runner and is expected to relish the step up to NL1.

LEE BIRDSEYE (HALF BACK)

At Widnes Vikings since the age of 16 where he was a regular star performer in the under 21's. Jumped at the chance to join Bobby Goulding at Hornets to further his career and become a regular first team performer. A player with an abundance of pace and a good kicking game.

JOHN BRADDISH (STAND OFF)

Product of St Helens youth system having played twice for them in Super League. 23 years old and a reputation as an astute tactical kicker with the ability to dictate the pace of a game. Has also played for Oldham and Chorley Lynx.

SAM BUTTERWORTH (HALF BACK)

Rochdale lad joined Hornets from the successful Mayfield team after a string of impressive performances. Accurate goalkicker but his main asset is his pace and deceptive footwork. A great professional career awaits Sam if he continues this rate of progress.

ANDY GORSKI (SECOND ROW)

Another of Hornets major close season signings with Super League experience. At 6ft and 15st he was signed by Goulding from Salford City Reds to bring his powerful running style and solid defensive game to Hornets' pack. GB BARLA under 18's and GB Young Lions under 19's honours.

ANDREW GRUNDY (PROP)

Another product of Wigan's youth development system having arrived at Hornets in the 2002-03 close season after a spell at Chorley Lynx. At 25 years of age he still has the best years of his career in front of him and will be looking for a big season at Hornets.

JOHN HAMILTON (HOOKER)

Signed from Leigh Centurions during the 2003 season to add impetus to Hornets campaign. Unfortunately

suffered a broken leg after 8 appearances but his pugnacious, go forward approach had already made him popular with the fans who will be pleased to see him return.

ANDY HIBBERT (BACK ROW)

Another product of Widnes under 21's side looking for a chance to further his first team career after limited opportunities at Widnes. Spotted playing for the successful Widnes Albion ARLFC team and will be looking to repay Goulding's judgement to bring him to Hornets.

TONY KIRWIN (PROP)

Played for Widnes under 21's for two seasons before suffering a serious leg injury. Looking to resurrect his career at Hornets. He is renowned as a go forward, robust player who takes the ball up well and tackles tenaciously. Another player spotted by Goulding playing for Widnes Albion.

ANDY LEATHEM (PROP)

Another player who has vast Super League experience having played over 30 matches for St Helens and Warrington and was a member of the St Helens cup winning team in 1996. He is a blockbusting prop forward who scores more than his fair share of tries and has had recent National League experience with both Swinton and Leigh.

MICHAEL PLATT (FULL BACK)

Major coup for Hornets having captured his signature from Salford City Reds where he played in Super League. At 6ft 2" and 15st his pace, power and versatility will be a telling factor in Hornets quest for success this year. Lancashire senior academy honours.

GARETH PRICE (PROP)

One of the few players still on the books who played in Hornets successful 2003 campaign. Made a big impact, playing 32 games and scoring 5 tries, was a model of consistency whether starting or coming off the bench. Another player with Super League experience having played for Salford, London and St Helens.

DARREN SHAW (BACK ROW)

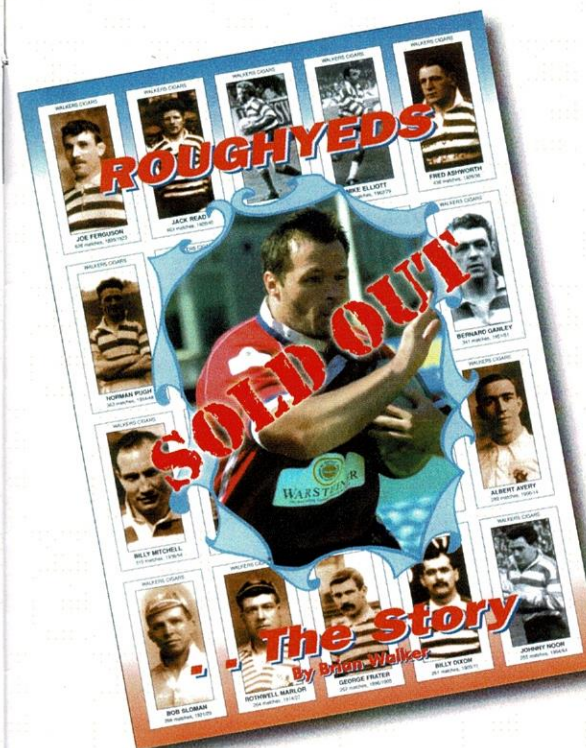
Vastly experienced Super League player having played for Salford, London, Sheffield and Castleford as well as having spells down under with Brisbane and Canberra Raiders. A superb professional and genuine leader on the field with a game based around his strong defence. Has come to the club as Bobby Goulding's assistant.

LIAM WILLIAMS (WING)

Joined the club from St Helens where he was a product of the academy set up. His sheer pace bagged him many tries for Saints and if he can get the same running chances for Hornets the tries will surely follow.

WALKERBOUT

With Brian Walker



Thanks to everyone who bought a copy of 'Roughyeds The Story'. The 'Sold Out' notices were being posted just two weeks after publication and by Christmas stocks had totally dried up with copies being sent as far and wide as Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA.

The Oldham Rugby League Trust does not have too many options when raising funds and we wish we had printed another 500 copies or so!

Reviews, by and large, have been excellent so on behalf of the Trustees once again a big thanks to everyone. (Copies are available on loan from all the local libraries).



Roughyeds Chairman receives the Heritage Trust Trophy from solicitor and Trustee Tim Hughes.

The Trust is also pleased to have been able to offer the new 'Heritage Trust Trophy' to be awarded to the Roughyeds' 'man of the match' during today's and all future A.J. Law Cup games. The first winner will be chosen by Oldham Chronical reporter Roger Halstead.

The 'Karl Marriott' trophy will continue to be awarded by Hornets to their 'man of the match'.