

T	P	C	DG	SB	S	Swinton Lions	v	Oldham Roughyeds	T	P	C	DG	SB	S
						Mark Brocklehurst	1	Paul O'Connor						
						Andy Saywell	2	Gareth Langley						
						Sean Conway	3	Drew Houston						
						Ben Williamson	4	Alex Wilkinson						
						Desi Williams	5	Andy Gorey						
						Martin Moana	6	Mark Ogden						
						Chris Hough	7	Neil Roden						
						Gareth Hayes	8	Jason Boults						
						Liam McGovern	9	Simeon Hoyle						
						Dave Newton	10	Wes Rogers						
						Paul Alcock	11	Kris Smith						
						Craig Farrimond	12	Ian Sinfield						
						Lee Marsh	13	Chris Baines						
						Subs		Subs						
						Wayne English	14	Said Tamghart						
						Craig Ashall	15	Richard Mervill						
						Danny Aboushakra	16	Andy Crabtree						
						Adam Sharples	17	Paul Ashton						

Referee : P Brooke
Touch Judges : J. Darbyshire & K. Povag
Reserve Ref : R.G. Phillips
Match Commissioner : P. Crashley

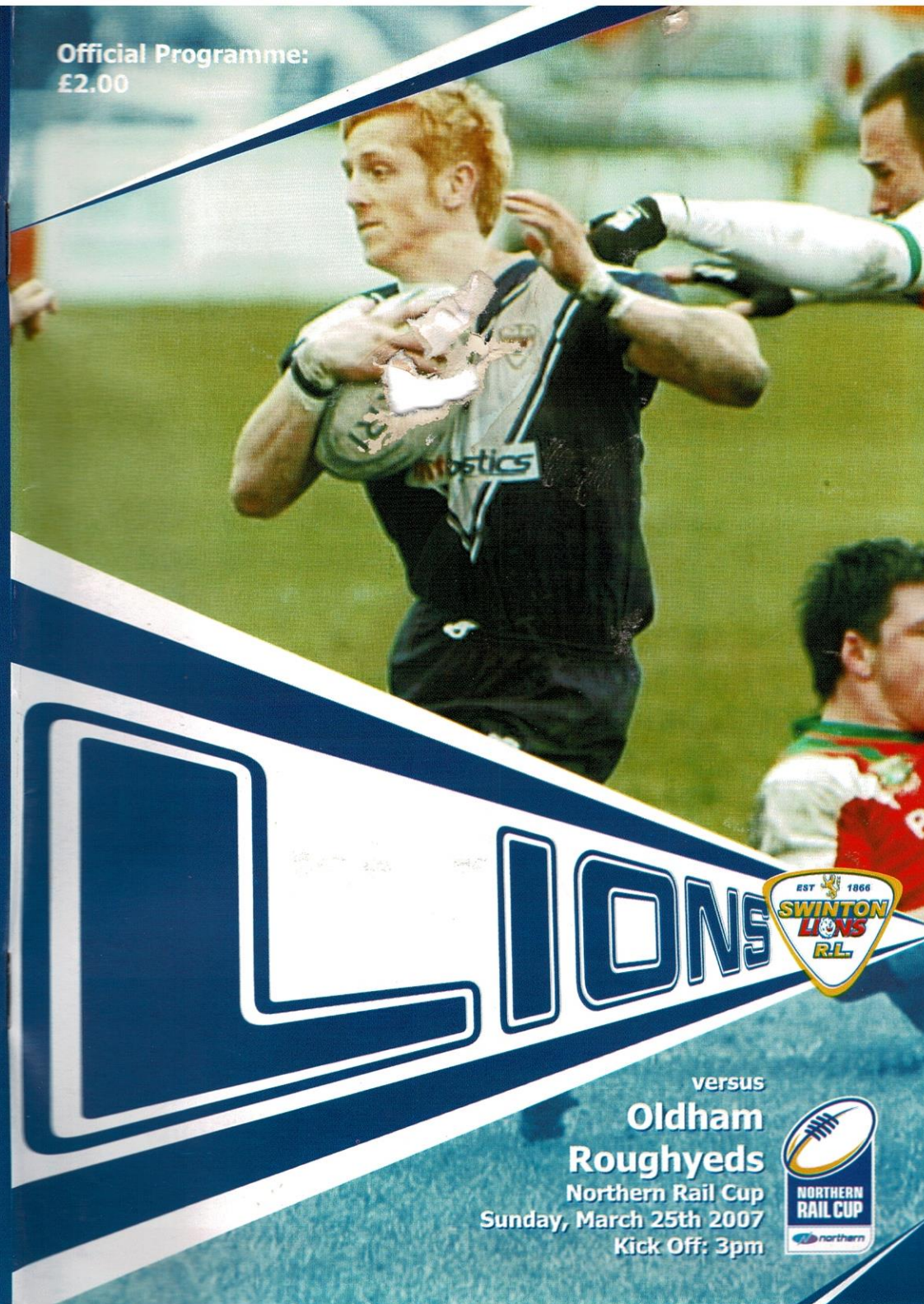
Next Home Match
Barrow Raiders
Carnegie Challenge Cup
Sunday 1st April, Kick Off: 3.00pm

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versus
**Oldham
Roughyeds**
Northern Rail Cup
Sunday, March 25th 2007
Kick Off: 3pm



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Website: www.swintonlionsrlc.co.uk

e-mail: info@swintonlionsrlc.co.uk

Club Honours

Rugby League Champions - 1926/27, 1927/28, 1930/31, 1934/35, 1962/63, 1963/64
Runners Up - 1924/25, 1932/33, 1939/40
Challenge Cup Winners - 1899/1900, 1925/26, 1927/28 Runners Up - 1926/27, 1931/32
Lancashire League Winners - 1924/25, 1927/28, 1928/29, 1930/31, 1939/40, 1960/61
Runners Up - 1892/93, 1893/94 (Under RFU) 1897/98, 1900/01, 1922/23, 1926/27, 1934/35,
1938/39, 1965/66
Lancashire Cup Winners 1925/26, 1927/28, 1939/40, 1969/70
Runners Up - 1910/11, 1923/24, 1931/32, 1960/61, 1961/62, 192/63, 1964/65, 1972/73
Second Division Championship Winners - 1984/85 Runners Up - 1986/87, 1996
Promoted - 1974/75, 1990/91
Second Division Premiership Winners - 1986/87 Runners Up - 1988/89
BBC Floodlit Trophy Runners Up - 1966/67
Western Div. Champ Runners Up - 1963/64

Club Records

Win: 90-0 v Prescot Panthers 11/8/1996

Loss: 10-106 v Leeds 11/2/2001

Appearances: Ken Gowers 602 (Inc. 8 Sub) 1954-73

Points (Career) 2105 Ken Gowers

(Season) 310 Lee Marsh 2005; 283 Albert Blan 1960/61

(Match) 30 Greg Pearce v Prescot Panthers 11/8/96;

Mick Nanyin v York Wasps 25/3/2001;

29 Bernard McMahon v Dewsbury 15/8/1959

Tries (Career) 300 Jim Valentine 1884-1901;

197 Frank Evans 1921-31

(Season) 48 Jim Valentine 1888/89;

42 Johnny Stopford 1963/64

(Match) 6 Mark Riley v Prescot Panthers 11/8/96

Goals (Career) 970 Ken Gowers

(Season) 128 Albert Blan 1960/61

(Match) 12 Ken Gowers v Liverpool City 3/10/1957

Ground Record Attendance 44,621 Warrington v Wigan 7/4/1951

Club Record Attendance 26,891 v Wigan 12/2/1964

World Record Kick 77.75 yards by Martin Hodgson at Rochdale Hornets 13/4/1940

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Chairman's Statement



New Stadium Update

John Kidd (Swinton Lions' Chairman) has reported that he is currently involved in discussions with 3 teams of Consultants who are reviewing potential "construction models" for the proposed stadium development. Upon completion of their reports one team will be selected to work with Swinton Lions RLC Ltd and other potential project partners in order to move forward with the proposed development.

Additionally, negotiations are taking place with Salford City Council with a view to securing a "long term" lease agreement for the Agecroft site.

John Kidd states,

"During numerous discussions with potential project partners / investors, I am consistently confronted with the issue of how we can justify proposing a 5,000 capacity stadium development when we currently struggle to attract 500 supporters?"

It is therefore imperative that all those who wish to see this project come to fruition help to demonstrate that Swinton Lions truly have the potential support to enable us to bridge this divide, with the developing and increasing number of supporters both through the gates and for all other associated fund raising activities.

John Kidd adds, "We can achieve our dream of a new stadium if we are all prepared to pull in the same direction and go the extra mile in the regeneration of our great club".

Stadium Builder Fund - goes live

It is intended that the Stadium Builder Fund

project will go live at the beginning of April, the current Stadium Project team managers have been working on a "legally watertight" constitution, which has proved more difficult than initially envisaged and consequently has restricted us in the establishment of an appropriate bank account. The constitution is currently with our solicitors and we expect this to be completed and approved shortly. The project team managers apologise for the delay and lack of communication on this matter, we have all been working extremely hard in order to overcome the recent problems.

For those people not on the web 20,000 leaflets have been printed outlining the project and asking for support, these will be distributed to every home in Swinton & Pendlebury via the Advertiser shortly. They will also be handed out at the match today.

We will shortly be in contact with those who have already pledged their support either via the website or leaflet, in order that we can generate some funds to assist in the realisation of our dream.

Joined up action

In order to maximise the efforts and all the goodwill that exists within the Swinton Lions Club, it has been proposed that a quarterly meeting should take place between the Swinton Lions Directors, the Commercial Team, the Supporters' Trust and the Stadium Development Team. This would ensure that a coherent and robust development strategy is adhered to resulting in maximum benefits without any duplication of activities.

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Hospital Road	1:57pm
Manchester Road	1:58pm
Worsley Road	2:00pm
East Lincs	2:05pm
Walkden Road	2:10pm
The Stocks	2:12pm
Morning Star	2:15pm
The Folly	2:18pm
Golden Lion	2:20pm
Park Lane	2:30pm



Coaches Comments



Good afternoon and welcome to Park Lane for this afternoon's final Northern Rail group match with our near neighbours Oldham.

It was very pleasing to progress to the next stage of the Challenge Cup with a win against a much improved Russian side. After the game I expressed a desire to be drawn against a Super League side, however the fact we have been drawn at home against Barrow is still pleasing. We could not have asked for much more than a home tie against a fellow NL2 rival.

It will be a tough test for us against Barrow next week, one which we will need as much home support as possible. No doubt Barrow will bring a few species down with them, so an early plea from myself and the players to you supporters, please bring a friend next week, your vocal support will go a long way as it always does.

academy side make their first appearance in the RFL's Senior Academy next week. So, if you are at a loose end on a Saturday, please go down and show your support, I am sure you won't be disappointed. On that note I would like to wish Wadey and all the squad all the best for the new season and hopefully see a few of the players knocking on the door of the first team.

Today we welcome Oldham. Steve Deakin is a vastly experienced coach and has with him in his ranks several ex-Lions so I expect the Oldham team will be firing on all cylinders today, therefore we will have to be at our very best if we are to produce a win. I have little doubt the Oldham club will be up there challenging at the end of the season, today and the two league games will produce some interesting games.

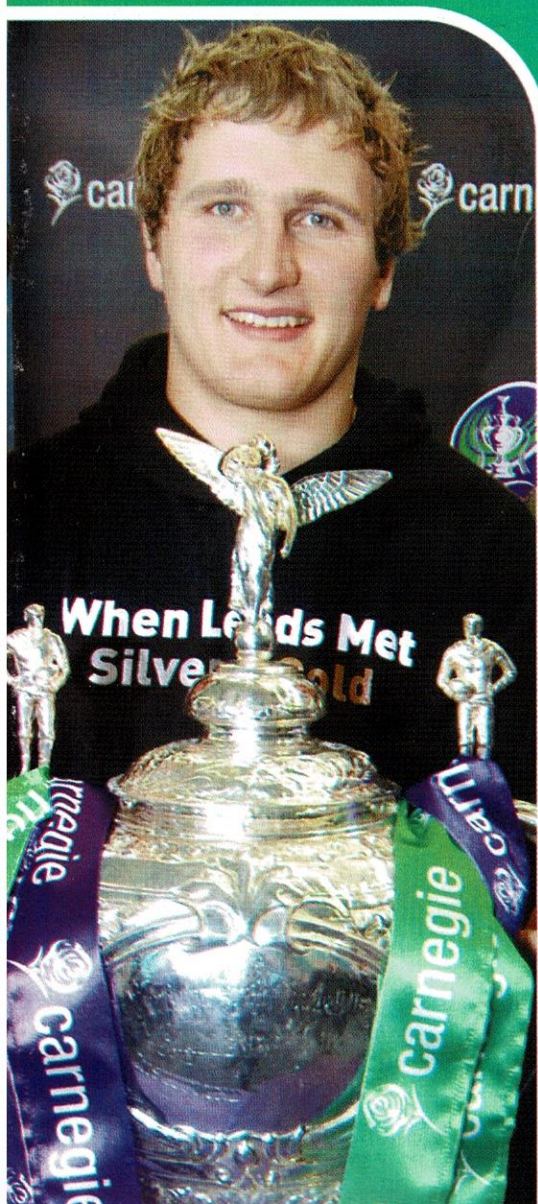
Enjoy the game and see you all next week

Still on the subject of next week, our Paul



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Today's Visitors...



Paul Ashton - Learned his trade at Saddleworth before playing for Halifax, Rochdale, Keighley and Swinton. He was in the Cougars side that won promotion to NL1 in 2003. He got his big chance at Oldham in 2006, initially on a week-to-week basis and did enough to earn a full contract for 2007.

Chris Baines - Was in his third season of under-21s rugby at Warrington when he first got the chance to move on loan to Roughyeds last season and signed on a permanent towards the end of 2006. A product of Wigan St Pat's, he toured New Zealand with Great Britain Young Lions in 2003, also representing his country at youth level against Australia and France.

Jason Boultis - Started off at Siddal under-16s, spent four years as a young pro with Bradford Bulls and signed for Halifax in November, 2004. Was an ever-present with 30 appearances in 2005 and then added 27 more in 2006 until the 16 stone and 6ft 2in Prop left the The Shay to join former team-mate Alan Hadcroft.

Geno Coston - A non-quota Aussie, who is in England for the first time and hoping to make an impact in NL2. First established himself in the Queensland Cup competition with Wynnum-Manly, alongside another Roughyeds recruit Mark Ogden, but last year played in the same comp for Logan Souths.

Andy Crabtree - Former Wigan and Warrington Academy who joined the Lions in 2005. The former Great Britain Academy player played in the hooking at Swinton but can also play loose-forward. Has come-on from the bench in all of Oldham's games so far this year.

Andy Gorey - Local lad who came through the former Roughyeds academy. In 2006 he established himself as a regular on the wing, making more than 20 appearances and taking

his try tally into double figures to finish the season as the club's top try scorer.

Alan Hadcroft - Earlier in his career he played many seasons for his hometown club, Leigh Centurions and it was while he was at Hilton Park that he represented the National League against the touring New Zealand 'A' side.

Signed from Halifax in 2006 but has suffered badly with injuries while at Boundary Park.

John Hough - A product of the Waterhead club, he signed for Warrington Wolves while still a boy, but he carved himself a niche in the history of the new Oldham club. He became the first player to sign for the 'new' Roughyeds club when it was formed by Chris Hamilton and his fellow directors in the autumn of 1997, following the demise of Oldham Bears.

Drew Houston - One of the two overseas quota men for 2007, once a youngster linked with Melbourne Storm, had two seasons with Storm feeder club, Norths in the Queensland Cup, before heading south for Dapto, champions of the Illawarra competition last year.

Simeon Hoyle - In 2003 he helped the Cougars to win promotion to NL1 from a third-place finish in the league, winning the League Express man-of-the-match award while beating Sheffield. He later headed Down Under for a spell before returning to Halifax, from where he opted to sign for the Roughyeds.

Gareth Langley - At 16 he was playing for Salford under-18s, but wasn't on contract and it didn't take long for his hometown club St Helens to take him to Knowsley Road. He was the Saints senior academy player of the year in 2005 and runner up in 2006.

Craig Littler - Lined up with Gareth Langley as centre and wing partners in the Saints academy

Oldham Roughyeds



teams of the past four years. Played in France at Super League level for the Saints in their 2006 campaign.

Richard Mervill - Formerly with Halifax and then Keighley, came to the Roughyeds for 2007 from Australia. Played in the 2003 Keighley side that won promotion to NL1 and later jetted off Down Under, where he has been playing for Dapto in the Illawarra competition.

Paul O'Connor - A former Ireland and Great Britain international at Students' RL level, spent two seasons with Widnes, his hometown club, operating mainly in the under-21s at full-back or on the wing.

Mark Ogden - A 23-year-old from Queensland also occupies a spot on the Roughyeds overseas quota. He was in the Brisbane Broncos development squad as a teenager and in 2000, aged 17, he represented Queensland Schoolboys. Represented Wynnum-Manly at various levels, but last year he transferred to Logan Souths.

Stuart Oldham - Worsley lad who learnt his rugby trade at the home of our landlords Sedgley Park. Moved onto Liverpool St. Helens RUFC before being picked up by the Saints Academy in 2004. Spent two seasons with the Lions before moving onto Oldham for 2007.

Neil Roden - Rejoined the Roughyeds from Leigh after leaving the club initially to go to Batley in 2004. In his first stint with Oldham, after joining from Wigan Academy, played for the Roughyeds in the 2001 Grand Final against Widnes at Spotland.

Wes Rogers - Signed for the Lions from Widnes at the beginning of his career but the Oldham-born player moved to his hometown club before spending three years with Rochdale then another three with Swinton. Returned to Oldham for 2007.

Ian Sinfield - Vastly experienced forward who is returning to his hometown club. Played in the first ever Roughyeds game at Rochdale on New Year's Day, 1998. Moved to Rochdale, then to Keighley, and on to Swinton. While at Keighley he played in the NL2 Grand Final, achieving the same feat with the Lions last year.

Kris Smith - Left Swinton for Oldham last year after four seasons with the Lions. Although a product of amateurs Eccles, he started his professional career with Leeds before moving onto Salford. A serious knee injury hampered his progress and he spent a year in France with Pai, before stints at Halifax and London Broncos.

Michael Stout - Former Warrington and Widnes Academy player for got his first taste of first-team action at Swinton last year. Although a second-rower has the quality to also play in the centres.

Said Tamghart - A French international, who has represented his country at every level, including Test matches against Australia and New Zealand. On his way up the ladder to full French international honours, he played for Carpentras, Avignon and UTC (better known now as Perpignan-based Catalans Dragons).

Alex Wilkinson - Oldham-born, who has signed for Oldham for part-time Rugby to complete his degree. A schoolboy international who was snapped-up by Bradford Bulls and has had loan spells in the Super League with London Broncos, Huddersfield and Hull.

Lee Wingfield - Second-row forward who signed last year from amateurs Leigh East. He won many honours in the amateur game and played on numerous occasions for Great Britain. He played against France and Russia in Russia in 2003 and toured Australia with GB amateurs in 2004.

Match Day Activities

- 25th March Swinton v Oldham - 3 Generations Day, Admission for one child, one parent and one grandparent only £15. Don't Forget Your Grandad (or Grandma!) Tickets available from the club shop and today at the Junior Lion table.
- 9th April Swinton v Barrow - Easter Lunch 'n' Crunch (Theme)
- 17th June Swinton v Keighley - Fathers Day (Theme), Lunch 'n' Crunch, Kids Meet The Lions Players - post match
- 15th July Swinton v Celtic Crusaders - Sponsors BBQ with Players
- 5th August - 12th August - Rugby Summer School
- 12th August Swinton v Blackpool - Summer School Teams Tournament, Before Match/Halftime

New style Lunch 'n' Crunch

The price has dropped to £20 this year but this does not include admission. In a slightly different format there won't be wine on the table but each person will be presented with a £2 drinks voucher for use at the bar. In addition to the standard Quiz there is also a free to enter RL Quiz where the winner will receive two tickets for Swinton's next away game.

At every fourth home game all lunch 'n' crunch diners and those from the previous three matches will be entered into a raffle to win a flat screen tv (scrum-half, not prop, size!). Car Parking and Half-time refreshments are also included in the price. Please ring the club shop for more details.

There has been a small delay in the replica shirts being available. There will be an announcement on the club website once the delivery has arrived.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CHAIRMANS DINNER

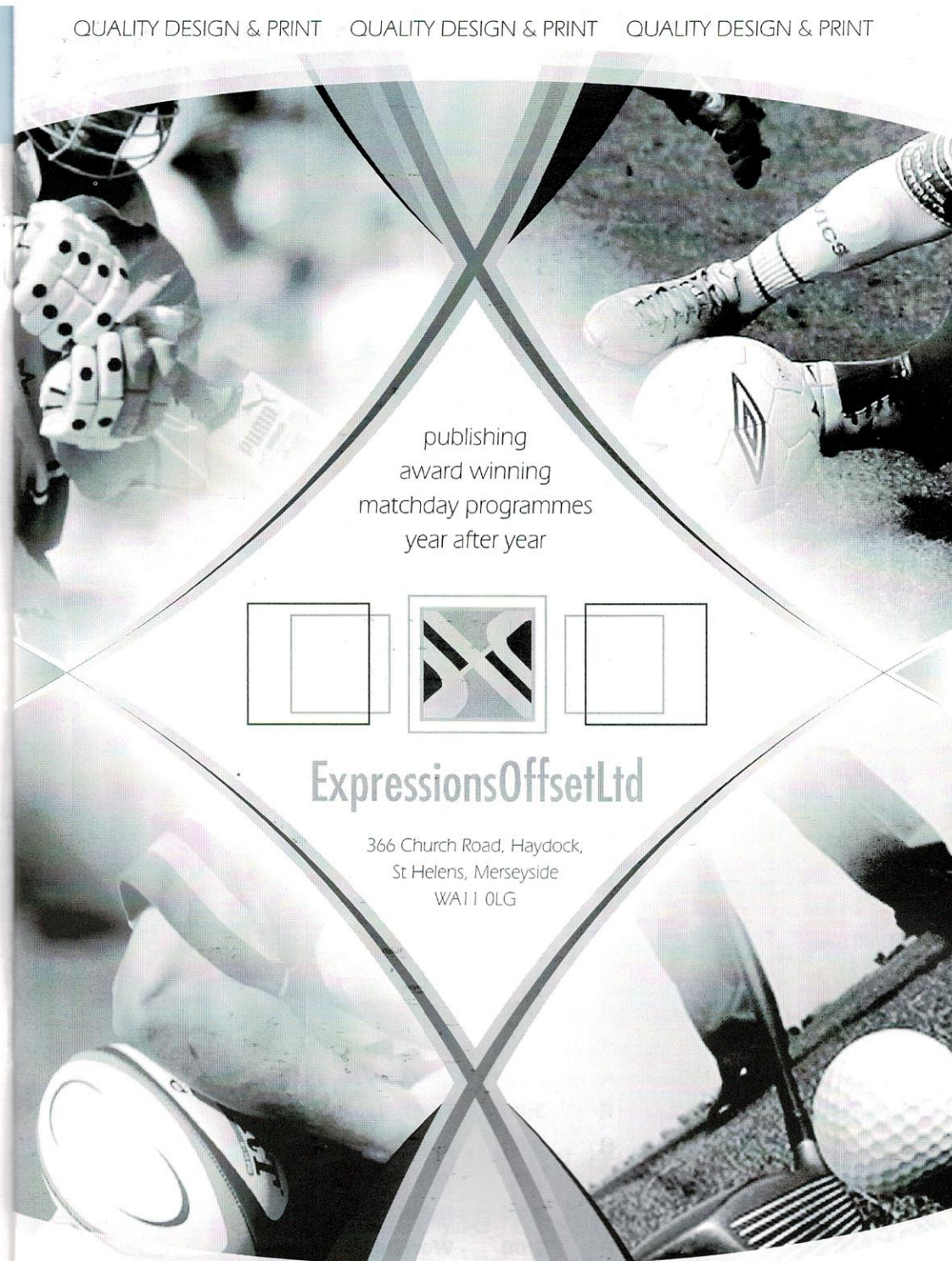
Friday 30th March 2007 - Swinton Park Golf Club
Entertainment: Beatles tribute band - Auction - Charlie Hale - Price £50

SPORTSPERSON DINNER


Thursday 17th May 2007 - The Willows, Salford
Entertainment Guest Speaker - Ron Atkinson, Comedian - Sean Styles
Tickets priced at £40 and are available from the club shop

LADIES NIGHT

Friday 6th July 2007 - Sedgley Park, Manchester, Date TBA, details to follow...



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Lions Stats

Fixtures and Results for 2007 Season

Date	Comp	Ven	Time	Opposition	For	Aga	Att.
Sun 11 Feb	NRC	H	3:00	Hunslet	38	20	432
Sun 18 Feb	NRC	A	3:00	Oldham	28	18	1017
Sun 25 Feb	NRC	H	3:00	Rochdale	14	40	572
Sun 04 Mar	NRC	A	3:30	Hunslet	10	10	403
Sun 11 Mar	CCC3	H	3:00	Lokomotive Moscow	60	20	331
Sun 18 Mar	NRC	A	3:00	Rochdale	10	42	556
Sun 25 Mar	NRC	H	3:00	Oldham			
Sun 1st April	CCC4	H	3.00	Barrow			
Fri 06 Apr	NL2	A	2:00	Blackpool			
Mon 09 Apr	NL2	H	3:00	Barrow			
Sun 15 Apr	NL2	H	3:00	London Skolars			
Sun 22nd Apr	NRC						
Sat 28 Apr	NL2	A	6:00	Celtic Crusaders			
Mon 07 May	NL2	H	3:00	Gateshead			
Sun 13 May	NL2	A	3:00	Oldham			
Sun 20 May	NL2	H	3:00	York			
Sun 27 May	NL2	A	3:00	Featherstone R			
Sun 03 Jun	NL2	A	3:00	Barrow			
Sun 10 Jun	NL2	A	3:30	Hunslet			
Sun 17 Jun	NL2	H	3:00	Keighley			
Sun 24 Jun	NL2	A	3:00	London Skolars			
Sun 01 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Workington			
Sun 08 Jul	NL2	H	3:00	Oldham			
Sun 15 Jul	NL2	H	3:00	Celtic Crusaders			
Sun 22 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Gateshead			
Sun 29 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Keighley			
Sun 05 Aug	NL2	H	3:00	Featherstone R			
Sun 12 Aug	NL2	H	3:00	Blackpool			
Sun 19 Aug	NL2	A	3:00	York			
Sun 02 Sep	NL2	H	3:00	Hunslet			
Sun 09 Sep	NL2	H	3:00	Workington			

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Mike Tyldesley	5	Mike Tyldesley
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Junior Lions	9	Heartland M27
Julie Hodson & Wayne Beswick	10	Julie Hodson & Wayne Beswick
The Harvey Family	11	AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP
Chris & Viv Tyldesley	12	Chris & Viv Tyldesley
Swinton M.O.T	13	AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP
David & Pauline Spruce	14	AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP
AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP	15	AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP
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Player Profile

Match Action

Photography courtesy of Peter Green



Bruce Johnson

Nickname : You tell me?

D.O.B. : 26 January 1984

Position : Prop

Home Town : Wigan

Occupation : Electrician

Previous Clubs : St. Helens & Widnes

Biggest Influence on Career : Mum & Dad. They had the car and funds as a youth

Pre-Match Superstition : Get ready ten minutes before warm-up

My Career Highlight so far has been :
England Under18s Academy win over Australia

Favourite Film : Lords of the Rings Trilogy/The Blues Brothers

Favourite Meal : Lasagne (My Mums)

My Worst Habit is : picking my nose

When not playing on Sunday I like to :
recover from Saturday and see the family

My ambition in life is to : find the man who invented speed bumps, without witnesses!

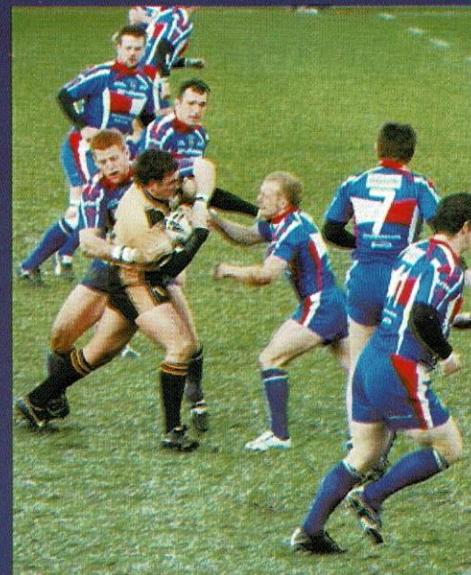
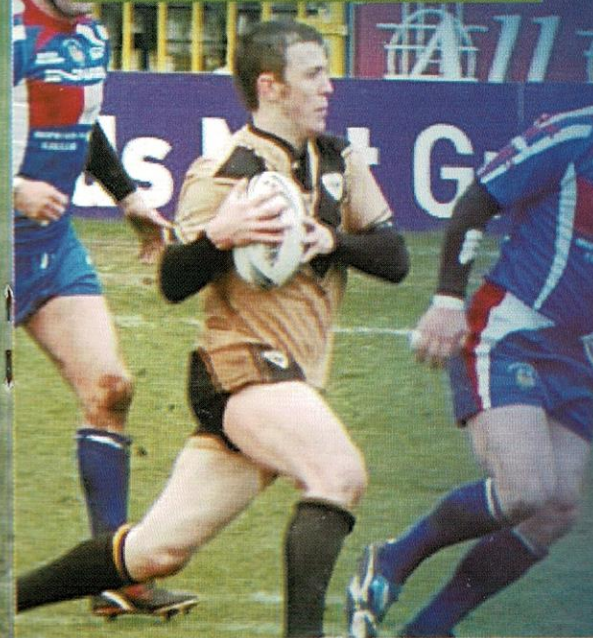
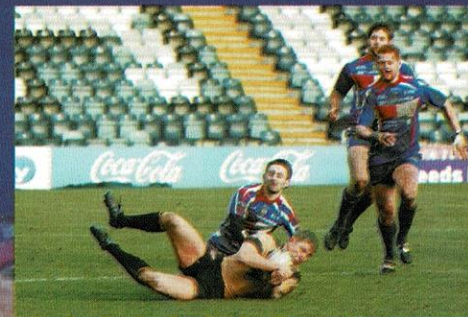
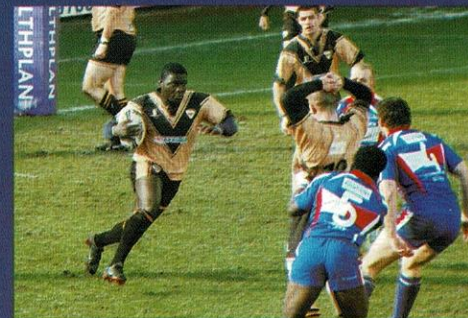
The one thing I dread or am scared of is : a mortgage

If I had a million pounds I would : buy a Ferrari or Bugatti Veron

My dream celebrity date would be :
Jenna Jameson or Alfred Steptoe

If I could have a super power it would be : to be able to fly

Tell us 3 things you think your team mates would say about you : fend of death, laid back & good fashion sense.



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The Treatment Table

With Laura Henderson



The only major injury concern this week is Marlon Billy who suffered a hamstring injury last week at Rochdale. Marlon has already made significant improvement but is unlikely to be fit for today's game. Bruce Johnson is also making good progress following his recent thumb dislocation but will not be risked today, given that we have a big game next week in the Challenge Cup.



training and Claire Dale is the physio that will be working with the academy. Claire has been busy doing medicals and the famous head tests on all of their squad and hopefully she won't be too busy with injuries once their season kicks off next weekend!

On a totally different note...last home match we decided that the post match atmosphere in the bar wasn't...how can I put it...particularly buzzing. So myself and Paul Kidd decided to try

Richard Marshall is progressing well following his longstanding broken arm and recent operations. He has been using the hyperbaric chamber and is in full training. He is due to see his specialist Mr Funk tomorrow and fingers crossed he should be given the go ahead to play at the start of the league campaign in a couple of weeks. Rich has also recently been suffering from a little discomfort in his ankle since he has resumed full training, so he has been keeping the specialist's luxury car fund topped up recently and is also under the care of Mr Jari with regards to this, although it is not expected to hinder his comeback. Steve McCurrie has also recently has a scan on a troublesome knee and we are just awaiting his results. John Walker has also suffered a sternum injury and is apparently also receiving daily treatment off the physio at Wigan Warriors and therefore should be fit fairly soon.

Other than that the treatment room has been fairly quiet recently. The Under 21's team are now in full

something a little different. We are planning once a month to hold a players and fans function evening. This will be an opportunity for you to meet the players, have some fun and win some prizes. The first event will be a quiz after the Barrow game on Easter Monday. You can enter a team of 4-6 people and will be able to draw names out of a hat for players to join your team. The winning team will receive free tickets to our next home match (and an Easter egg). There will also be a raffle and we will be running an 'open the box' competition which will take place at each monthly event where you will have a chance to win a cash prize. Please support the club (and myself and Paul who have organised the evening) and have an enjoyable evening with the boys. Other events include a casino night, a children's party night, a summer BBQ and beach party, a race night and an end of season party. I will keep you posted with dates.

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Sportspersons Dinner

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at The Willows, Salford.

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Big Ron's football career spans player, manager and pundit, his commentaries have led him to being voted the best television pundit ever by Total Football Magazine.

Comedian for the night is the excellent Sean Styles who has worked the major cabaret venues with Joe Longthorne, Marty Wilde, The Searchers, Foundations, Drifters, Dana, Jimmy Ruffin and many others.

Tickets are priced at £40

and can be purchased via the club shop.



NATIONAL LEAGUE TALK

with GARETH WALKER of RUGBY LEAGUER & LEAGUE EXPRESS



Last chance saloon!

TODAY represents the final round of fixtures in the group stages of the Northern Rail Cup - with a host of teams looking to seal their qualification to the last 16.

The top two teams in each group go through, along with the leading side from the NL3-based Group Seven, and the three best third-placed teams.

It's a measure of how competitive this year's NRC has been that only two professional clubs have 100 percent records - Castleford Tigers and Halifax.

They - along with York City Knights, Swinton Lions, Whitehaven, Celtic Crusaders and NL3 club Bramley - are already through to the knock-out stages. A host of other clubs will be looking to join them.

As things stand at the moment, Leigh Centurions, Workington Town and Doncaster Lakers would be the three best third-placed teams.

But that can all change around dramatically depending on Sunday's results.

The dozens of permutations are too complicated to go into here - though the only clubs that cannot still mathematically qualify are London Skolars, Gateshead Thunder, Blackpool Panthers and Oldham.

Everyone else has a hope - though in some cases it is an extremely small one!

The competition to date has provided plenty of superb entertainment, though there are undoubtedly issues that need to be raised again.

The most pertinent one at the moment is the fact that teams aren't seeded in the last 16 draw.

That means that teams - take Castleford or Halifax for example - could go through the entire group stage unbeaten, and then draw each other.

In comparison, two clubs that have scraped through the pool stage as a third-placed team could also face each other.

That hardly seems fair does it? It renders the group stage almost meaningless in some ways - and will doubtless lead to teams that have already qualified fielding weakened sides in today's matches.

If top place in each group meant more, that could potentially be avoided.

But that aside, the NRC has plenty of positives.

And every club still alive in the competition will be dreaming of a summer trip to Blackpool for the final.

As Hull KR and Leigh Centurions will testify, winning at Bloomfield Road can provide a flood of happy memories.

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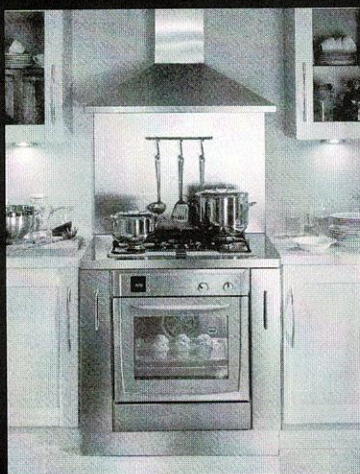
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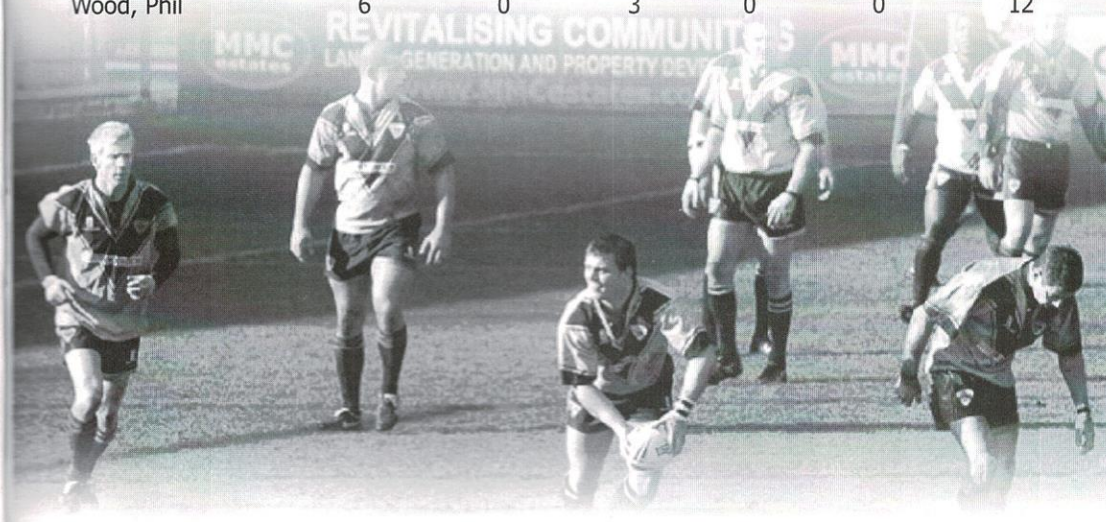
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Lions Stats

Statistics for 2006 Season

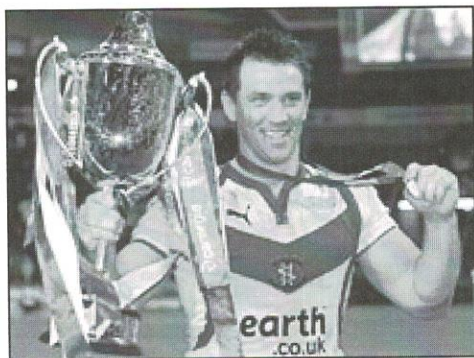


	Played	Subs	Tries	Goals	Drops	Pts
Aboushakra, Danny	0	2	0	0	0	0
Alcock, Paul	2	1	0	0	0	0
Ashall, Craig	5	0	2	1	0	10
Ashton, Dave	3	0	1	0	0	4
Billy, Marlon	5	0	2	0	0	8
Brocklehurst, Mark	2	0	1	0	0	4
Bryers, Matty	0	1	0	0	0	0
Conway, Sean	2	0	0	0	0	0
English, Wayne	6	0	2	0	0	8
Farrimond, Craig	0	4	0	0	0	0
Hayes, Gareth	6	0	0	0	0	0
Hough, Chris	3	2	0	1	0	2
Johnson, Bruce	5	0	1	0	0	4
Line, Rob	0	2	1	0	0	4
Marsh, Lee	0	1	0	0	0	0
McGovern, Liam	5	0	1	16	0	36
Moana, Martin	4	2	0	0	0	0
Morley, Chris	4	2	1	0	0	4
Newton, Dave	5	1	2	0	0	8
Saywell, Andrew	5	0	5	0	0	20
Sharples, Adam	0	2	0	0	0	0
Smith, Mike	1	3	0	0	0	0
Walker, John	2	1	2	0	0	8
Williams, Desi	2	0	0	0	0	0
Woods, Darren	5	0	7	0	0	28
Wood, Phil	6	0	3	0	0	12



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YOU KNOW, what they say IS true. Super League IS getting better by the year. It really has been a dream start - not just for Hull KR or Wakefield. The rude health of the competition is underlined by each two or four-point victory, each underdog that has their day.



We DO seem to be catching up with Australia's NRL - if not in terms of the skill-level then at least with the unpredictability of the league placings. Crowds are up again too. But improvements in our domestic game are still outweighed by our failure to implement a strong international scene.

Not much beats football to the headlines on the TV news, or knocks it from the back pages of the nationals. On occasion, however, it can happen.

Look how much publicity the Six Nations got - and that was for France beating Ireland. Right now, the World Cup's doing the trick for cricket. International competition sells - and boy we need more of it.

I applaud the RFL for introducing the Federation Shield last year. Meanwhile, Scotland, Ireland and Wales were in World Cup qualifying action - and, of course, there was the Tri-Nations.

But let's not simply stick internationals at the



end of the season - let's work in some round this time too. Let's take the newly-created international weekend in June and build on that with more scattered throughout the season.

Instead of 'Team GB' get-togethers, let's get our lads out on the pitch.

Games may not be of the highest intensity - no full blown Tests - but neither are England football friendlies. They still serve their purpose, though.

Right now, I'd love to see England against France or one of the home nations, with form players like Jamie Rooney given their shot.

I dare say enough of the paying public would like to see that too. And the advantage such a game would have is that fans won't have packed away their rugby shirts for the winter - right now, they're still hungry for rugby league.

The bottom line is, there's not enough international RL and it's not planned well enough. Has anyone booked a trip Down Under for the World Cup yet? Brave decision if you have, seeing as it's yet to be confirmed.

The RFL's set to appoint a full time GB coach and this is the perfect time to take the game by the scruff of the neck and say 'this is the way we're going to go'.

Come on guys, let's show everyone this full time coach thing isn't just a gimmick - nor a reaction to yet more embarrassing GB defeats. Let's really change attitudes to international competition ... starting now.

Hello and welcome to all the players and officials from our local neighbours Oldham and especially any Junior Roughyeds and their families. Our visitors have had a rough 12 months but recently have shown glimpses that there may be light at the end of tunnel, but sorry Oldham, hopefully not today. Today's game has added spice, as there is the return of a number of former Lions to who we say hello and welcome back. Our visitors will be looking for revenge for the defeat we inflicted on their own patch earlier in the season so it should be an exciting game today, so come on all you Junior Lions lets get behind the lads and cheer them on to victory.

Cup match v Barrow 1st April 2007

Season tickets are not valid for the cup-tie with Barrow but it has been agreed that on production of your Junior season ticket it will be £3 to enter, instead of the concession price of £6. Junior Lion members must remember to bring their membership card to gain their admission discounts.

SEASON TICKETS

It's still not too late to buy a season ticket for the forthcoming season at a bargain price of £30, which includes membership to the Junior Lions. Season tickets include admission to all home and away league matches as well as the home and away qualifying league matches. On average it is £5 admission price to most away

grounds and in some cases £6 and £7 and with admission to all our home matches it proves what a bargain it is. Don't delay save yourself money and become a season ticket holder.

HALF TIME / FULL TIME DRAW

Don't forget to get your free draw ticket and win a prize. At our last home game against Locomotive Moscow, we had 2 winners each winning some Lions merchandise. The winners were Nathaniel Stanton and Kenzye Dixon.

BIRTHDAYS

Some of our Junior members have recently or are about to celebrate their birthdays:

25th March	Millie Orme (6)
26 th March	James Carroll (9)

Happy Birthday to you all and hope you all have a good day

TODAYS JUNIOR LION

Today's Junior Lion is Millie Orme who is celebrating her 6th birthday today and comes from Runcorn. Her favourite player is Liam McGovern and Millie attends Halton Lodge infants and in her spare time she enjoys dancing.

MEMBERSHIP FORMS 2007

These are now available from the Junior Lions table.

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Last Time Out

By Ian Rigg, From Spotland



Rochdale Hornets 42 - Swinton Lions 10

The Lions qualified for the next round of the Northern Rail Cup despite a heavy defeat in the wintry conditions. Coach Paul Kidd said that he was happy to be through to the next stage of the competition and he would be giving the younger members of his squad a game against Oldham in the final game next week.

Hornets took the lead in the fifth minute when Phil Hasty sent Paul Anderson in on the left but Kevin King was unable to convert. Swinton had a chance to hit back three minutes later when they were awarded a penalty but Liam McGovern's conversion struck the posts and missed.

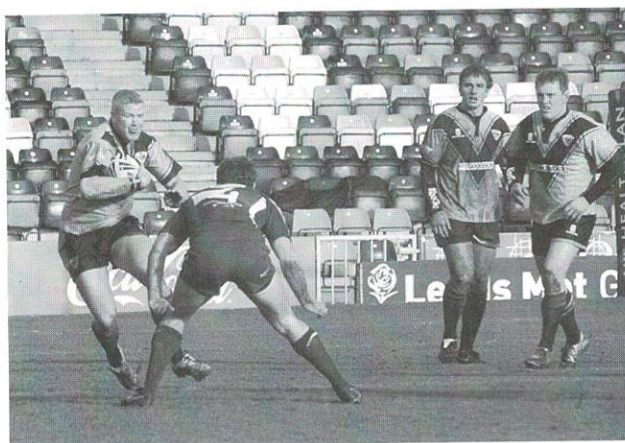
The Lions put plenty of pressure on the Hornets line in the early stages but they were unable to add the finishing touches and paid for this when King added the second Hornets try on twenty-four minutes again from a Hasty pass and the try scorer also added the goal points. Swinton hit-back three minutes later when McGovern chipped the Hornets defence and Phil Wood won the chase

with Chris Giles for the touchdown under the posts and McGovern converted via the upright. Hornets finished the half strongly when Hasty again sent Anderson through a gap to score and King was again unable to convert.

The start of the second half was a disaster for the Lions when Hornets ran in three tries in a seven minute period with King adding two to complete his hat trick and then Balu Fagborun intercepted a Phil Wood pass to race full length to score with King adding two more conversions.

Dave Ashton added Swinton's second try in the sixty-fourth minute when Paul Alcock sent him in at the corner but Lee Marsh could not convert. Tommy Goulden was placed on report ten minutes from the time for an off the ball tackle on Craig Farrimond.

Seven minutes later it was the same Hornets man, Goulden, who sent Gary Hulse in for a try under the posts and King again converted. The home-side added their final try in the dying seconds when Goulden himself went over and King converted as the final hooter sounded.



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One Lion on the Shirt

By Ian Jackson

On 16 November 2006, the Oldham RLFC Heritage Trust showed the Rugby League films contained in the Mitchell and Kenyon collection. The archive contains moving images taken in the late Victorian and early Edwardian period by two pioneers of British cinema, namely Sagar Mitchell and James Kenyon. The show was held at the Gallery in Oldham and was presented jointly by archive expert Dr. Vanessa Toulmin from the University of Sheffield and Rugby League expert Professor Tony Collins from the Leeds Metropolitan University. There was even a large contingent from Swinton in the audience including Ian Rigg, John Spellman and Steve Wild. The show outlined the cultural and sporting context of the films, which have only recently been discovered and fully restored.

The twelve Northern Union games to survive are as follows:

Oldham v Swinton 12/1/1901 at Watersheddings
St Helens v Swinton 19/1/1901 at Knowsley Road
Runcorn v St Helens 16/2/1901 at Canal Street
Hunslet v Leeds 16/2/1901 at Parkside
Halifax v Salford 23/2/1901 at Thrum Hall
Dewsbury v Manningham 19/10/1901 at Crown Flatt
Salford v Batley 2/11/1901 at New Barnes
Warrington v St Helens 30/11/1901 at Wilderspool
Hull F. C. v Hull K. R. 26/4/1902 at the Boulevard
Hull F.C. v Wigan 4/10/1902 at the Boulevard
Hull K. R. v Wigan 25/10/1902 at Craven Street
Halifax v Salford 25/4/1903 at Headingley
(Challenge Cup Final)

It is fascinating to see what has changed in the game and what has remained the same. Two of the rugby league teams in the list are defunct, namely Manningham and Runcorn who were both founder members of the Northern Union in 1895. Manningham became Bradford City Football Club in 1903 and still play at Valley Parade, whereas Runcorn did not re-appear after the end of World War One in 1918 and were replaced by St. Helens Recreation. Many of the rugby league grounds from the period have also now disappeared such as Watersheddings and Thrum Hall where the rugby

league teams in these towns share with the local football team. Incidentally, Swinton were the first away team to visit Watersheddings in 1889 and the last in 1997. Warrington, Dewsbury, Hull F. C. and Hull K. R. have all built new grounds. Headingley and Knowsley Road are still in existence. Whilst Leeds have built a new stand at Headingley, there are plans for St. Helens to relocate from Knowsley Road, but not in the immediate future. Salford left New Barnes in 1901 and moved to the Willows, where Swinton were the first visitors on 21 December 1901. The New Barnes ground was adjacent to the former Manchester Racecourse and across the Manchester Ship Canal from Old Trafford football ground albeit that the latter was not built until 1910. Salford changed in a Public House where the primitive changing rooms were located at the London and North Western Railway Hotel on Cross Lane where Salford had their Headquarters. The LNWR Hotel was a five minute walk from both New Barnes and the Manchester Racecourse which may explain why the players were known to arrive in a horse-drawn cart. This is a practice that Swinton did also around this time when they travelled to their Chorley Road ground from the Bulls Head Public House in the town, their former Headquarters, over a similar distance. Young boys would race the players and some of the bolder ones would even jump on the back and hitch a ride.

In the book "The lost world of Mitchell and Kenyon" (2004) edited by Vanessa Toulmin et al. there is an observation that almost all the crowds at the football and rugby games in the collection were men and boys. There is an exception at the Oldham versus Swinton game where five well-dressed women attended, but their identity is unknown. Finally, across the entire Mitchell and Kenyon collection there are also scenes from Pendlebury Spinning Company and images of Pendlebury coalminers exiting the pit-head. There is even a scene of James Kenyon himself standing by an advertisement for Sedgwick's Exhibition and Stage Show at Pendlebury Wakes in August 1901.

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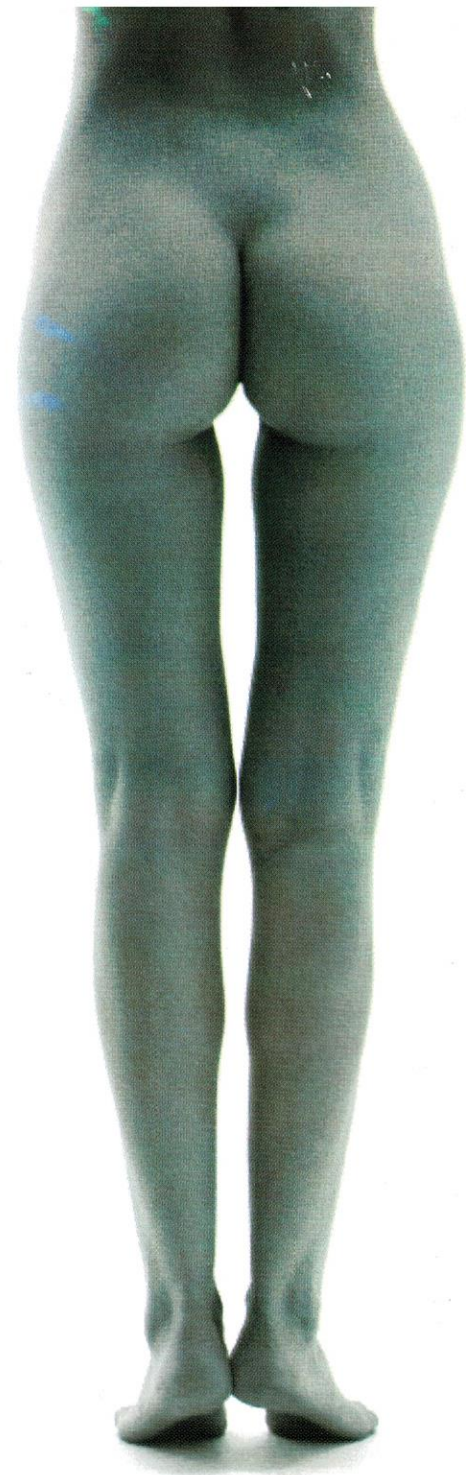
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Academy Fixtures

The Academy's first match in the RFL's Senior Academy is at home to Dewsbury next week. Unfortunately this match may have to be switched to Dewsbury due to the unavailability of our home pitch. Hopefully there will be an announcement at today's game, but if not, please keep a look out on the club website or by calling the club shop later in the week.

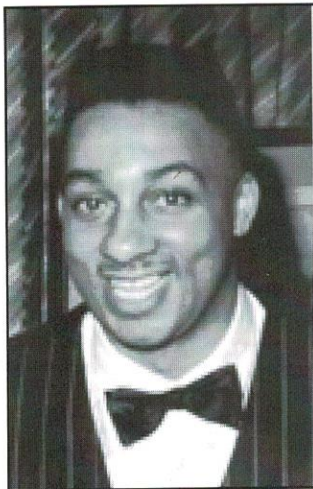
Lions Senior Academy Fixtures

31st March	A	14:30	Dewsbury
14th April	H	14:30	Barrow
21st April	A	14:30	Doncaster
28th April	A	14:30	Widnes
5th May	H	14:30	Featherstone
12th May	A	14:30	Halifax
19th May	H	14:30	York
26th May	A	14:30	Rochdale
9th June	A	14:30	Hunslet
16th June	H	14:30	Keighley
23rd June	A	14:30	Batley
30th June	A	14:30	Workington
7th July	H	14:30	Leigh
14th July	H	14:30	Castleford

28th July	A	14:30	Keighley
4th August	H	14:30	Whitehaven
11th August	H	14:30	Sheffield
18th August	A	14:30	York

East Lancs Lions National League 3

7th April	H	14:30	Gateshead Storm
14th April	A	14:30	Bramley Buffaloes
21st April	A	14:30	Cottingham Phoenix
28th April	H	14:30	Huddersfield UR
12th May	A	14:30	Featherstone Lions
19th May	H	14:30	Dewsbury Celtic
26th May	A	14:30	Hemel Stags
2nd June	H	14:30	Leeds Akademiks
9th June	A	14:30	Warrington Wizards
23rd June	A	14:30	Gateshead Storm
30th June	H	14:30	Bramley Buffaloes
7th July	H	14:30	Cottingham Phoenix
21st July	A	14:30	Huddersfield UR
28th July	H	14:30	Featherstone Lions
4th August	A	14:30	Dewsbury Celtic
18 August	H	14:30	Hemel Stags
1st Sept	A	14:30	Leeds Akademiks
8th Sept	H	14:30	Warrington Wizards



Chairmans Dinner

Friday 30th March 2007 at Swinton Park Golf Club

Beatles tribute band and Auction

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