

game line-up

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WORKINGTON TOWN

OLDHAM SQUAD	Played	WORKINGTON TOWN
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GENO COSTIN		JAMES MOSSOP
JAMES COYLE		MARTYN WILSON
ANDY CRABTREE		CARL FORBER
BYRON FORD		MARTIN KEAVNEY
ANDY GOREY		DEAN BURGESS
IAN HODSON		DARREN KING
JOHN HOUGH		TAANI LAVULAVU
DREW HOUSTON		JAMIE BEAUMONT
SIMEON HOYLE		ADAM SIDLOW
GARETH LANGLEY		SHAUN LUNT
CRAIG LITTLER		FRANCO KMET
RICHARD MERVILL		DEXTER MILLER
LUCAS ONYANGO		DEAN VAUGHAN
NEIL RODEN		MATT TUNSTALL
IAN SINFIELD		RYAN CAMPBELL
KRIS SMITH		LIAM CAMPBELL
SAID TAMGHART		MARK COX
TONY TONKS		
ALEX WILKINSON		
ADAM HUGHES		
ADAM ROBINSON		
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IAN GORDON		

match officials

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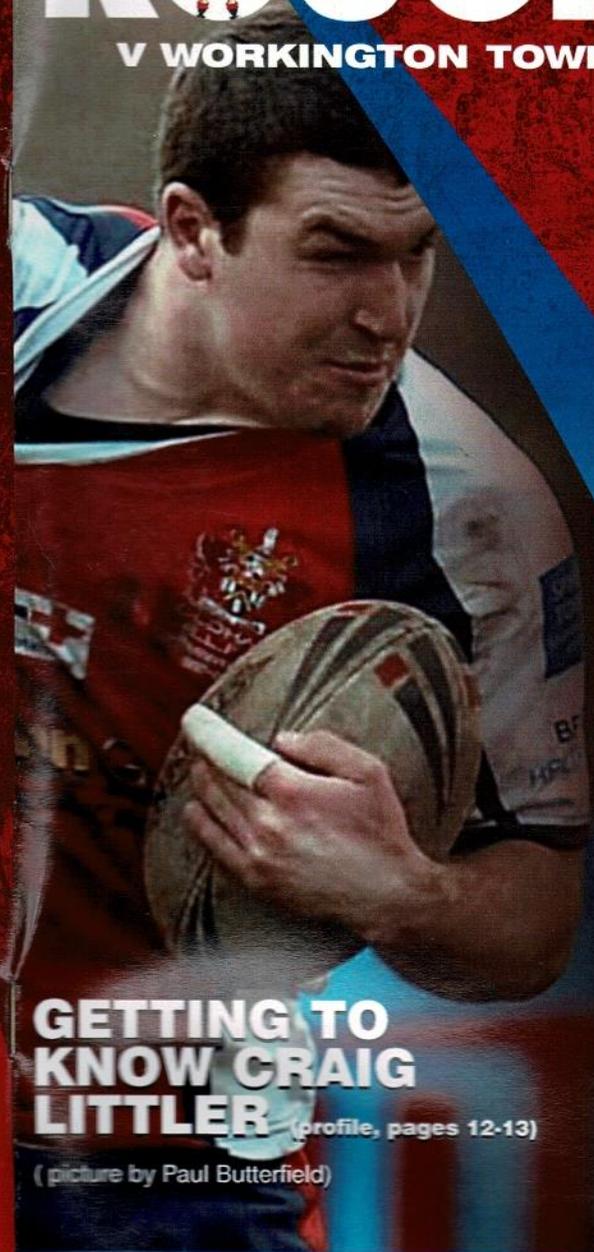
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GETTING TO KNOW CRAIG LITTLER (profile, pages 12-13)
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MOST APPEARANCES: John Hough, 228 - Jan 1998 - Sep 2006
CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES: Phil Farrel, 67 - *April 2nd 2000 - March 15th 2002
*John Hough was on the team for every match February 1st 1999 - April 16th 2001 (82)

TRIES IN A SEASON: Nick Johnson, 25 - 2004
GOALS IN A SEASON: Pat Rich, 146 - 2000-2001
POINTS IN A SEASON: Pat Rich, 320 - 2000-2001
DROP GOALS IN A SEASON: Neil Roden, 7 - 2001-2002
TRIES IN A CAREER: Neil Roden 77 - 2000-2004; 2007-?
GOALS IN A CAREER: Pat Rich, 254 - 1999-2001
POINTS IN A CAREER: Pat Rich, 576 - 1999-2001
DROP GOALS IN A CAREER: Neil Roden, 18 - 2000-2003

TRIES IN MATCH: Mark Sibson v Wigan St. Judes, 4 - Feb 8th 2000 at Boundary Park
Mark Sibson v Queensbury, 4 - Jan 28th 2001 at Boundary Park
David Gibbons v Chorley Lynx, 4 - Jan 30th 2001 at Boundary Park
James Bunyan v Featherstone Rovers, 4 - Apr 12th 2004 at Boundary Park

GOALS IN A MATCH: Simon Svabic v Swinton Lions, 10 - Apr 6th 2003 at Boundary Park
POINTS IN A MATCH: Gareth Barber v Dewsbury Rams, 26 - Apr 2nd 2002 at Hurst Cross (7 goals, 3 tries)

DROP GOALS IN A MATCH: Neil Roden v Workington Town, 2 - Dec 17th 2000 at Derwent Park
John Braddish v Hull KR, 2 - Dec 16th 2001 at New Craven Park

HIGHEST SCORE/WINNING MARGIN: v Yorks Wasps, 70-6 - Apr 1st 2001 at Huntington Stadium
v Queensbury (amt), 64-0 - Jan 28th 2001 RLCC 3rd Rnd at Boundary Park

The views expressed in this matchday magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the management and staff of Oldham RLFC (1997) Ltd.

CLUB DIRECTORY

The Roughyeds
Oldham Rugby League
Football Club (1997) Limited

Lansdowne Road, Chadderton,
Oldham OL9 9EF

Telephone: 0161 628 3677

Fax: 0161 627 5700

Club Shop: 0161 627 2141

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Mike Elliott 1962-79

Bob Irving 1964-74

Martin Murphy 1966-82

Terry Flanagan 1979-89

Andy Goodway 1979-85 & 1993-94

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.digisport.co.uk)

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boardroom **view**

with Chris Hamilton



After what seems like an eternity stuck in fifth place in the division we today have the opportunity to go higher courtesy of a win against our opposition from Cumbria. Although that is easily said we know, especially after our trip earlier this season to Workington that they will also know this is a vital game in their season and one they will be just as anxious to take the three points from.

They were probably the biggest team from one to seventeen that I have seen for a long time that day and it was a fantastic defensive effort that saw us through.

Since we came back to Boundary Park on 22 July to play Hunslet we realised that the six games at home (as was then) could be crucial in the final league placing and so far we have managed to make that home advantage pay racking up nearly 100 points in the two games played here since. We are also aware of the fact that the two games in hand can prove to be a burden just as much as an advantage with games coming thick and fast between now and the end of the normal playing season and we must really be switched on and motivated to make sure that we pick up as many points as possible between now and 9th September.

Blackpool demonstrated - again - last week that there are no easy beats in this division any more and lets hope that the lads can ensure that they keep up the level of intensity needed each week to take us as high up the league as possible. There will be, without any shadow of a doubt, more twists and turns to come and I for one have not given up hope of gaining automatic promotion and whilst it may seem a long shot all we can do is keep winning. After all up to Celtic winning at Fev the other week who would have said that Fev werent the ones to be going up automatically?

With the signing deadline approaching this Friday I am sure there will be something of a scramble as clubs try to bolster squads for the final run in with teams hoping they can get a player in who can just give them that extra something to get over the finishing line. As far as ourselves are concerned we have had a good track record in doing this over the years and we are still actively looking for players who can come in and help the players who are already here to achieve things - indeed to that end there may have even been some movement this week after writing these notes.

The next few days will see the club announce an exciting unique event for one of our remaining home games and is further demonstration of our commitment to taking the club forward and increasing crowds. There are a number of things happening at the moment which will hopefully lay down some markers for our long term development and which will also reward our loyal supporters.

Today as I said at the beginning of these notes is a chance for the team to move up the division and we would ask that, as ever, you play your part in this by getting behind the lads for what will undoubtedly be a tough, physical game and hopefully cheering the boys on to another three points.

Thanks for your support and enjoy the game.

Chris

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deaks's coach approach

with Steve Deakin



WELCOME to Boundary Park for what promises to be a thrilling game between two teams pushing for a top-three spot.

The next few weeks are going to provide fans of many of the Co-Operative NL2 clubs with some intriguing, nail-biting matches to enjoy — and all the signs indicate that it will be an appropriately competitive run-in over the last few rounds of the competition to bring down the curtain on what has been a cracking comp since day one.

On page 33 of this match-day magazine you can see the league table as it stands before today's game (excluding the results from yesterday's games, Celtic Crusaders v Hunslet Hawks and London Skolars v Gateshead Thunder) and we also provide you with the remaining fixtures of the clubs placed 1 to 5.

Those five are all jostling for end-of-season positions in the first three, and you will see that they include Oldham and Workington. Enough said, therefore, about the relevance of today's encounter. Anyone who travelled to Workington to watch our game at Derwent Park at the beginning of June will recall that we got a 27-18 win on the back of an outstanding effort defensively. It was achieved at a price, however, because our players dipped into a bit of a lull after that game and after our narrow defeat at Featherstone a fortnight later.

Things have been coming back together again over the course of the last few games and we have been showing some good signs offensively, particularly in our last two home games against Hunslet and Blackpool which yielded a total of 17 tries.

Also, the Foden-Coyle half-back partnership is starting to get a bit slicker, just at the right time of the season, ready for the late push. We scored some outstanding tries last week against Blackpool (we had to because Panthers defended very well indeed and made us work hard for everything we got) and wasn't Lucas Onyango's try a 'super solo' in every sense of the two words. As I said after the game, I rated it the best individual touchdown I had seen all year.

The two latest signings, Rob Roberts and Ian Gordon, both did well in their first games at Boundary Park. 'Two Bobs' followed up

his match-winning, last-gasp drop goal at York with a brace of tries, while Ian gave a sound and steady game at full-back in his first outing for the club.

We changed the team around a bit because it is important that, at this late stage of the season, we utilise the full squad. I don't want to be in a position where I have to call on players who are short on match sharpness because they have been too long on the sidelines.

Blackpool made us work for everything — make no mistake about that — and they did the basics like completing their sets, tackling well and utilising a good kicking game to the full. There wasn't much fluency about the game in the first half, but once things opened up a bit in the second half we scored 28 unanswered points to finish comfortable winners, 46-12.

I know 25 minutes had elapsed before we scored, but when you finish up with eight tries, have two or three disallowed, miss a couple of gilt-edged chances, nil the opposition in the second half and rattle up 28 points after the interval, it's got to be seen as pretty comprehensive.

Roberts and Gordon, our two latest acquisitions, played significant roles in that win. And talking of new players I can tell you that the board are continuing to make every effort to further strengthen the squad in our push for promotion, whether it be automatically or through the play-offs.

At the time of writing (and we have to bear in mind that the signing deadline for NL2 clubs is next Friday) efforts were being made behind the scenes to do a topping-up job in terms of recruitment, another indication of the board's ambition for this club.

Apart from the long-term injuries, those who won't play again this season, only two players are currently unavailable through injury and those are Kris Smith and Adam Robinson.

Kris should have had his knee clear-out by now, if everything went according to plan, and with a bit of luck he could be back on the field in a couple of weeks, three at the most. Adam is currently nursing a shoulder injury, but he shouldn't be too long, either.

All in all the squad is looking pretty solid right now — as was reflected in the quality of the players who didn't turn out last week — and that provides competition for places, which is always healthy.

After today we have two away trips to Gateshead and Hunslet and then we have a week and a half off before we wrap up the regular part of the season with three games in eight days, all here at Boundary Park.

You don't need me to tell you of the significance of those eight days in which we will play Celtic Crusaders on the Sunday, Swinton Lions on the Wednesday night, and then London Skolars on the following Sunday.

It promises to be some week. We will need all the support and all the vocal backing we can get. I know we can rely on you.

Enjoy the game,
Deaks.



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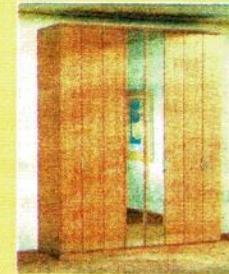
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Under-14s... proud to wear the colours of their town

Picture by OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE.

SEVEN SELECTED FOR REGIONAL CAMP TO CROWN A MEMORABLE SEASON

IN this issue of the Roughyeds match-day magazine we look back at the successful under-14s town-team season in which no fewer than seven members of the squad were selected for regional camp at Rossall School, Fleetwood --- a stepping stone in the RFL's structured youth development programme.

The seven honoured in this way were Kristian Bell, Danny Bridge, George Ford, Grant Hudson, Louis Jackson, Ryan Murgatroyd and Ben Pye.

They couldn't have achieved their regional step-up, of course, had it not been for the support and backing of other members of the town-team squad.

It read as follows: Kristian Bell, Simon Brunt, Danny Bridge, Sean Casey, Ashley Caveney, Declan Crossley, Jacob Eastwood, George Ford, Jack Francis, Joe Greenwood, Adam Goulden, Grant Hudson, Louis Jackson, Hayden Jones, Damon Lees, Ryan Murgatroyd, Jake O'Grady, Ben Pye, Tommy Smith, Lewis Waterman.

Results in inter-town games were as follows: Oldham 10, Kirklees 20; Oldham 18, Wigan/Leigh 28; Oldham 44, Lancashire 10; Oldham 48, Copeland (Whitehaven) 8; Oldham 34, Halton (Widnes) 10.

A report on the Kirklees game was not available and a full list of scorers in the Copeland game was not given, but off the information to hand it would appear that Danny Bridge, Louis Jackson and George Ford were high in the list of try scorers, with Ford also proving to be an accomplished goalkicker.

OLDHAM 18 WIGAN/LEIGH 28

Oldham's difficulty in controlling the ball against big, physical opponents was the biggest single factor in this defeat. Few sets were competed in the first half.

Despite this falling they trailed only 14-12 at half-time thanks to tries by Lewis Waterman and Louis Jackson, both goaled by George Ford.

Early in the second half a try by Danny Bridge and the Ford goal edged Oldham into an 18-14 lead, but Wigan got on top in the later stages to produce a scoreline which failed to do justice to Oldham's contribution to a tough encounter.

OLDHAM 44 LANCASHIRE 10

Oldham rattled up the tries in this match --- nine in total and two apiece for Danny Bridge, George Ford, Louis Jackson and Ryan Murgatroyd, with Ashley Caveney scoring the other. Ford

completed the scoring with four goals to take his personal points tally in the game to 16.

The local boys produced some terrific football once the forwards had gradually got on top to lay down the platform for the backs to do the rest.

OLDHAM 48 COPELAND 8

Oldham were totally focused on the task in hand and they never looked back from the moment George Ford returned the opening kick-off the full length of the field to score under the posts. That set the pattern.

Tough-tackling forwards Grant Hudson, Sean Casey and Ben Pye worked hard to give their backs plenty of chances, with the result that the Copeland line was always under threat.

Bridge, Jackson and Kristian Bell joined Ford on the scoresheet as the game opened up and Oldham's classy backs took it in turn to shine.

OLDHAM 34 HALTON 10

This was another convincing win in which Bridge, Ford and Jackson each scored two tries and Ford also landed five goals.

The scoring was opened by Ford with a spectacular break from half way before smart team handling enabled the excellent Danny Bridge to cross from close range.

Jackson added a third try and Ford duly obliged with the goal to give Oldham an 18-0 half-time lead. Halton threatened briefly after the break, but Oldham weathered the storm before scoring another three tries by Ford, Bridge and Jackson.

Among other notable performances were those by Sean Casey, Ben Pye and Lewis Waterman in a splendid team effort.

CHRONICLE CUP FINALS

Under-12s. Saddleworth 24 (tries, Bolton 3, Claridge, Webb; goals, Booth 2), St Anne's 10 (tries, Galbraith, Ashworth; goal, Bryan). M-O-M, Jack Ashworth (St Anne's).

Under-13s. St Anne's 30 (tries, Reddyoff 2, Bradbury, Davies, Hughes, Ryan; goals, Reddyoff 3), Waterhead 10 (tries, Clarke 2; goal, Whitehead). M-O-M, Ewan Reddyoff (St Anne's).

Under-14s. St Anne's beat Shaw (conceded); Under-15s, Waterhead 34 (tries, Owen 2, Martin, Gill, Wrigley, Fogarty; goals, Ford 5), St Anne's 22 (tries, Rankin, Moran, Morgan, Fitzpatrick; goals, Lees 3). M-O-M, George Ford (Waterhead).

Under-16s. St Anne's 18 (tries, Ward 2, Newton, Worrall; goal, White), Waterhead 6 (try, Clarke, goal, Sneyd). M-O-M, Michael Ward (St Anne's).

(OUR SERVICE AREA FEATURE NEXT TIME WILL LOOK AT THE TOWN-TEAM UNDER 15s)

with Geoff Cooke

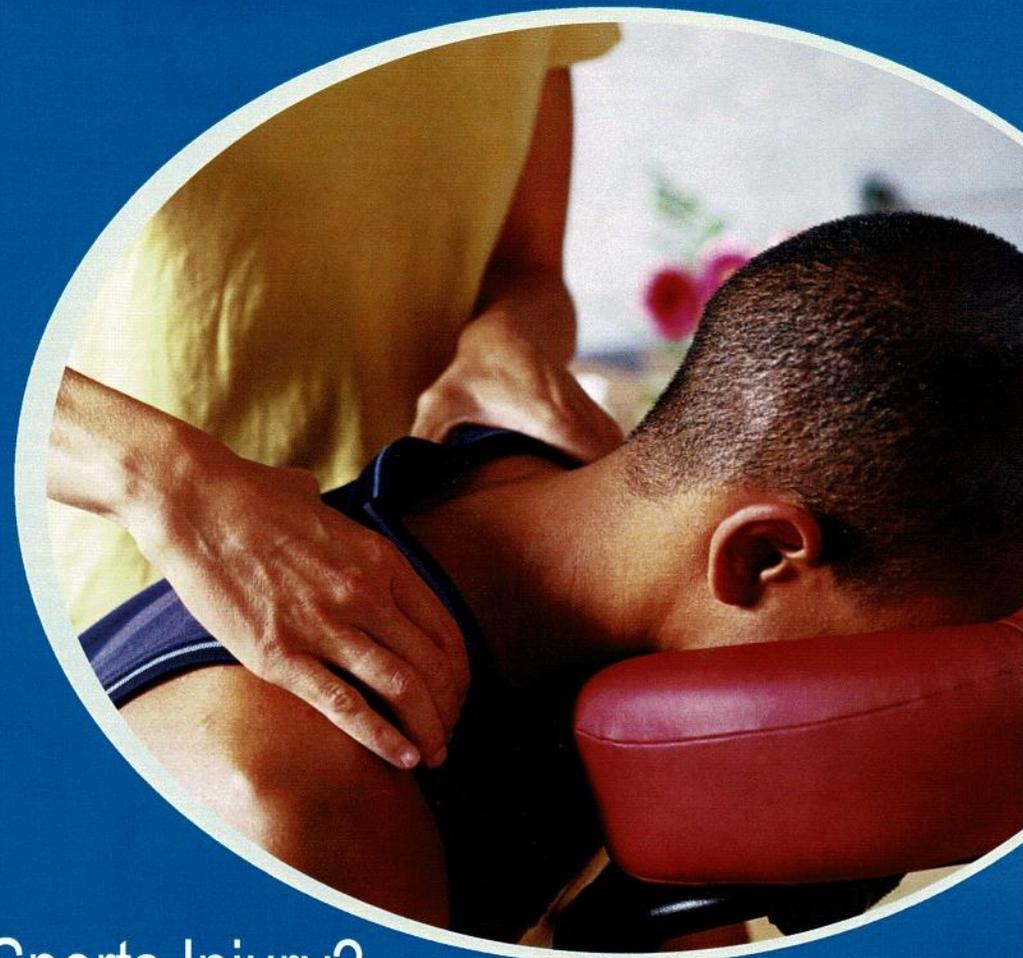
cooke-ability!

Coaches are fond of telling us that it's a marathon and not a sprint, that they want to be playing well at the business end of the season. Well, the business end of the season is here.

If Oldham harbour ambitions of promotion now's the time to prove it. The performance at York left a lot to be desired but it provided one vital pointer, namely that the team had the resilience to retrieve a potential losing situation. That is something that should give them confidence and belief in themselves in the tough fixtures to come, starting with the game against Workington, today. Last week against Blackpool the Roughyeds gradually wore down a very plucky and enterprising team whose performance was anything but that of a bottom of the table outfit. And scrum-half Martin Gambles provided the best attacking display of any halfback I have seen against Oldham this season. Good too to see Andy Gregory on the touchline looking fit and well after his recent serious accident. Looked like he'd lost weight too!

As for Oldham the Board and Coach have been putting their money where their mouths are. Our recent signings indicate they are serious about promotion, the side starting to look as though it has strength in depth. Because we have been games in hand all season Oldham seem to have been stuck in fifth place all season. Well, today finally sees the opportunity to go above Workington into fourth and the aim as matches come thick and fast at the close of the regular season must be to overhaul Barrow. The top two places look as though they are beyond us but who knows? Any slip up by Featherstone or Celtic Crusaders must be exploited as home play off ties can prove vital and Oldham have the benefit of a string of regular season games at home.

Meanwhile, with the signing of Rob Roberts Coach Steve Deakin seems to have found himself a Captain and pack leader who leads by example and spurs his team into action. And I don't know what sort of training regime Roberts had in his absence from the game but it was certainly good. Last week he played the full eighty minutes, not something you often see in from a forward in today's game.



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by ROGER HALSTEAD

BORN TO BE A SAINT AND CENTRE OF ATTRACTION

Five years at Knowsley Road, then Craig follows his mate to Oldham

THE year 2002 will be embedded for ever in the memory bank of the Roughyeds' St Helens-born centre Craig Littler.

It was his last year at St Augustine's secondary school in St Helens and, in terms of the sport which he had loved since the age of eight, it was a golden year in which he:

CAPTAINED his school in their successful push to be crowned National Champions, only a year after they had carried off the North-West Schools' Cup.

CAPTAINED his amateur side, Blackbrook under-16s, to victory in the BARLA under-16s National Cup final.

CAPTAINED the St Helens town-team under-16s in the absence through injury of another young fella you might have heard of ---- James Graham, now a Super League star with Saints and one of the brightest young forward prospects in the game.

"I was town-team vice-captain," recalled Craig this week, "so when James wasn't available I captained that side, too. It made a nice little hat-trick for me, captain of school, club and town team.

"We won the St Helens Cup in each of the five years I spent at St Augustine's and then we won the NW Cup when I was in Year 10. But the best was saved for last --- Year 11 when we were national champions.

"In the same year I was captain of the under-16s at Blackbrook and with James Graham and James Roby in the side we won the National Cup. You could say 2002 was a good year ---- yes, a very good year." Born in rugby-daft Parr, a St Helens suburb from which you risk deportation if you admit disinterest in affairs of the oval ball, Craig was only eight when he first joined nearby Blackbrook Royals.

He was to play town-team and county rep rugby from the age of 11 until he was 16, and always at centre, the position he occupied at St Helens and is still occupying to this day at Oldham.

There was some rugby league played when he was at St Vincent's Primary, but it was while he was developing his skills at Blackbrook and advancing through secondary school at St Augustine's that he became one of scores of bright young prospects in and around the town that made its name on glass . . . and rugby league.

He was still at school, in fact, when he did what all self-respecting young, talented rugby league players did, and still do, in St Helens --- he signed for Saints. He had been a fan since he was a small boy and had spent many happy hours on the Knowsley Road terraces.

That year, Saints plucked four young hopefuls from the town team ---- Craig Littler, Ian Hardman, James Graham and Paul Leyland.

James Roby, now a Great Britain international and arguably the best player of his type in the northern hemisphere, if not the world, was left to stay a bit longer at Blackbrook because at that stage of his

development there was some doubt as to whether he would make it. He was to sign a few months later.

A year earlier Roby and a young Wigan boy, James Coyle, had been competing for a half-back spot in the younger of two NW Counties squads which toured Fiji, New Zealand and Australia with Oldhamers Steve Bithell and Garry Highton in senior managerial positions in the tour party.

Littler didn't make the tour, Roby did. So did Hardman. Graham was picked, but chose instead to travel with an England academy squad in which yet another Oldhamer, Graham Aitken, was involved at managerial level.

Back home, Littler was working hard on his game and on his skills and he was to be rewarded when Saints made their move a few months later --- another huge milestone for the lad in that memorable winter season of 2001--2002.

He had already signed for them when he left school to start 'A' level courses in history, physical education and sociology at Carmel College in St Helens.

That lasted one year, at the end of which Craig decided it wasn't for him. He turned instead to an appropriate course and an apprenticeship as an electrician, by which time he was already starting to make a few sparks fly in the Saints under-18s side as centre to another Parr lad who had arrived at Knowsley Road via Salford City Reds ---- Gareth Langley.

"I was at Saints for just shy of five years," said Craig, "and for nearly all of that time I played centre to 'Gaz'.

"I signed for them in December, 2001, but I stayed at Blackbrook until the end of that winter season and I stayed at school until the end of the academic year. Then I went straight into academy rugby with Saints and had five summer seasons there, 2002 to 2006 inclusive.

"It was December, 2006 when I signed for Oldham and I have to say that to leave Saints was one of the biggest decisions I have ever had to make so far in my life."

It was far more difficult, for instance, than the decision he took to turn his back on his electrical apprenticeship after one year at it. He went into the steel-erecting business, and that's the job he does to this day.

Meanwhile, back at Knowsley Road, he was learning an apprenticeship of a different kind --- how to be a professional rugby league player.

In his first year he and Langley played centre-wing in a young Saints academy side that reached the play-off semi-final only to lose at Hull.

Aged 17 and 18, he was called up for a few first-team friendlies, such as Tommy Martyn's testimonial match; a match at Barrow in which Maurie Fa'asavalu made his debut; and a pre-season game against Salford on Knowsley Road.

Gary Connolly was his boyhood idol and the player

on whom he tried to model his game, having been a Saints fan for as long as he can recall.

There was another academy semi-final defeat against Leeds at Headingley, but the centre-wing partnership of Littler and Langley was developing all the time and they were played alongside each other in Super League when Saints sent a young side to take on Catalans Dragons in Perpignan in 2006.

Neither of them knew it at the time but they were both destined to be leaving their hometown club sooner rather than later in pursuit of new challenges with Oldham in NL2: Craig takes up the story. "I was coming off contract when I got a phone call from Saints at work to tell me Swinton and Leigh wanted to talk to me. I went into the club for a chat and Saints told me the decision was mine. They wanted me to stay and they could offer me another one-year deal, but at the same time they didn't want to stand in my way if I wanted to move elsewhere.

"At first I was leaning heavily towards staying, but Gaz had already signed for the Roughyeds and when I learned there was a chance that I could pair up with him again at Oldham that put a different slant on things.

"I met Chris (Hamilton) and Deaks (Steve Deakin) and they sold the club to me in no uncertain terms. I was quite excited by their ambition and by Deaks's optimism and enthusiasm in terms of getting promotion first time round. I felt I wanted to be part of it.

"At the same time though there was this nagging doubt about the wisdom of leaving Saints. I really struggled to make up my mind. I didn't know what to do. In fact, I changed my mind a few times and the uncertainty was doing neither me nor Oldham any good.

"Time went by, then Chris rang me again. This time I went for it. Within two days everything was sealed and delivered. I was an Oldham player."

And has everything gone according to plan? "Pretty much, yes. We didn't plan to have that mid-season blip, of course, and if we had avoided it I think we would have been fighting to go up automatically.

"We are definitely as good as anything in the division. I know we lost twice to Featherstone, but there were mitigating circumstances: we could easily have won both. I don't think we have any reason to be frightened of anybody. I am pretty confident we can make it.

"For me the highlight of the season up to now was our win at Celtic Crusaders. It was a great win for the club and for the fans --- on TV too --- and from a personal point of view I thought I went okay.

"As players, and as a squad, we were always confident among ourselves, but the media and everyone else outside Oldham completely wrote us off. I think that made our win even more satisfying.

"It was a terrific to be part of it and, hopefully, there will be one or two similar highlights in the next few weeks now that we are getting down to the business end of the season."

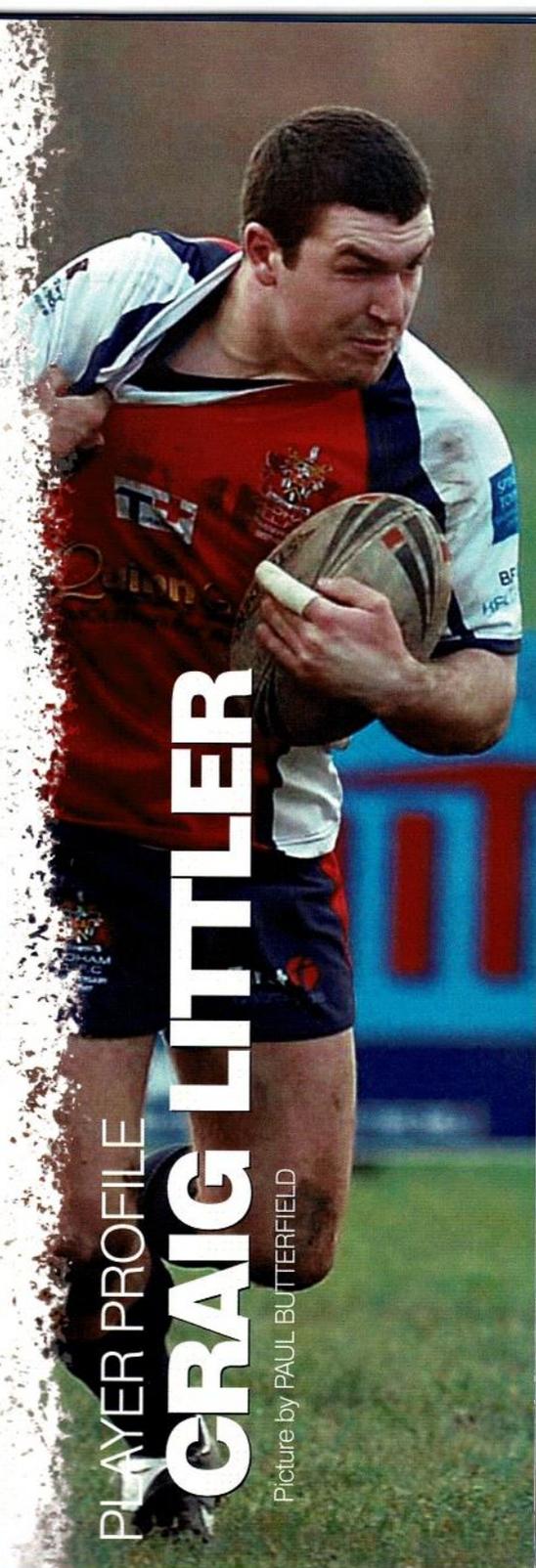
Craig, like most of the players at the club, is operating on a one-year contract. But he won't be talking to Deaks or club officials about next year until 2007 is confined to the record books.

"I don't think anything other than that would be right. I'll be concentrating all my energies in the next few weeks on playing. As far as anything else is concerned, we'll get to the end of the season and then see what happens."

His job in steel erecting has the potential to take 21-year-old Craig all over the country, but he does his utmost to keep it local so it interferes with his rugby as little as possible.

He wouldn't want anything to come between him and his rugby. Well, he wouldn't, would he? He was born and brought up in Parr . . . where rugby league is not just a sport, more a way of life.

ROGER HALSTEAD



PLAYER PROFILE
CRAIG LITTLER

Picture by PAUL BUTTERFIELD

AROUND & ABOUT

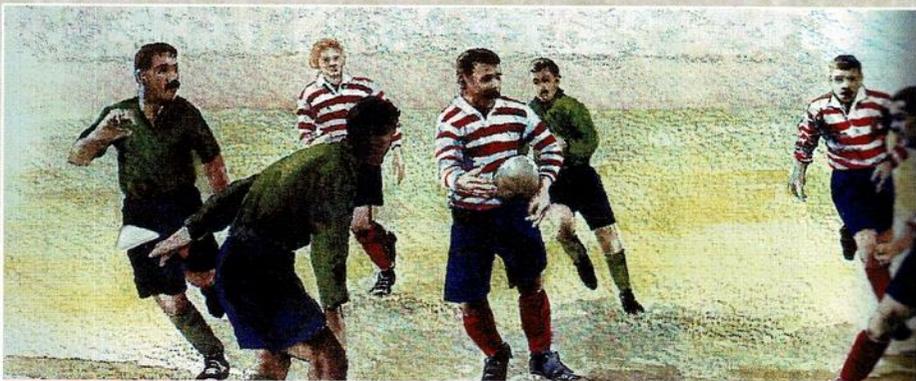
by Brian Walker

with The Heritage Trust

It shouldn't go without mentioned that this year is the centenary anniversary of the first ever RFL Championship final which was played between Oldham and Halifax at Huddersfield. Halifax won 18-3. The Roughyeds went on to appear in five successive finals. In 1908 they drew 7-7 with Hunslet at Salford, the Parkside outfit going on to win the replay 12-2 at Wakefield. Then came

three successive finals against Wigan.

The first in 1909 was lost 7-3 (played at Salford) but the following season the Watersheddings side lifted the trophy for the first time beating the cherry and whites 13-7 at Broughton Park. They retained the trophy in 1911 beating Wigan 20-7 on the same ground.



Oldham action 1911

Congratulation to three-quarter Adam Hughes who's four try haul against Hunslet Hawks equalled the record for the new Oldham club. Mark Sibson (twice 2000 and 2001), David Gibbons (2001) and James Bunyan (2004) had each previously scored four in a match. The free-scoring centre must have at least one eye on the tries in a season record - 25 from Nick Johnson in 2004



Adam Hughes

So that it could be featured at the 1957 Championship Celebration Dinner held at the Queen Elizabeth Hall back in May the Heritage Trust produced a DVD consisting of enhanced cine footage encompassing incidents and highlights from the match (most of it in colour) and including a brilliant voice-over from Jack Dearden (thanks for that Jack!) It's wonderful stuff and will be included in a comprehensive history of the Oldham club sometime in the future. A copy has been sent to each of those players who played in the final and it was nice to receive several replies, the one from former Great Britain forward Sid Little is included here.



Evan Davies

In a previous edition of the Oldham matchday programme I reviewed the fascinating read **THE STORY OF THE 1958 BRITISH LIONS TOUR** written and compiled by Cumbrian Joe Holliday a supporter of today's visitors Workington and I don't apologise for giving it a second mention. I've always been fascinated by both incoming and outgoing rugby league tours and this book gets right to the plumb stone. If you want the low down of what goes on behind the scenes - and during this wonderfully controversial tour plenty did! - buy yourself a copy. Read too about Oldham heroes Pitchford, Jackson and Davies.

300 brilliant pages. Send Joe a cheque for £18 (inc postage) to 12, Northumberland St, Workington CA14 3HA. Make it payable to Joe Holliday.

Sidney D. Little OBE, FIBF, AMIQA, IENG.

Dear Brian,

12/07/07

Thank you for the DVD received this morning. It is indeed very good for age and it does stir up some distant memories of a most enjoyable decade when I lived, studied, flew aeroplanes, played rugby and worked in Oldham.

It was all against a background of harsher weather that we have now but the many true sports supporters in the town made light of that and aided by the fine pubs and the close contacts comment and humour abounded.

My grandchildren find it difficult to accept that as I gasp for breath and fail to keep up with them now that fifty odd years ago I could run and play rugby but the disc has certainly modified their views. I think they have also realised that success in many things need those key elements - support, preparation, endeavour, teamwork and practice.

Thank you and all those involved with the production of the DVD for the memories replayed.

Yours sincerely,
Sid Little

Former Llanelli star Evan Davies was one of the greatest centres ever to play for the club scoring 102 tries from 321 matches. His playing career stretched between 1911 and 1926 although interrupted by the First World War. A tourist in 1920 Davies was quiet the veteran when he played for the Roughyeds in the 1925 Challenge Cup final victory over Hull KR sweeping in for the last try. After all those years his medal awarded for playing in that match (shown here) was recently unearthed by a Bath RU supporter at jewellery fair in Wiltshire and thankfully has now found its way into the Trust's ever growing collection.

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British Lions Tour



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"The Lions' Finest Hour"

Joe Holliday

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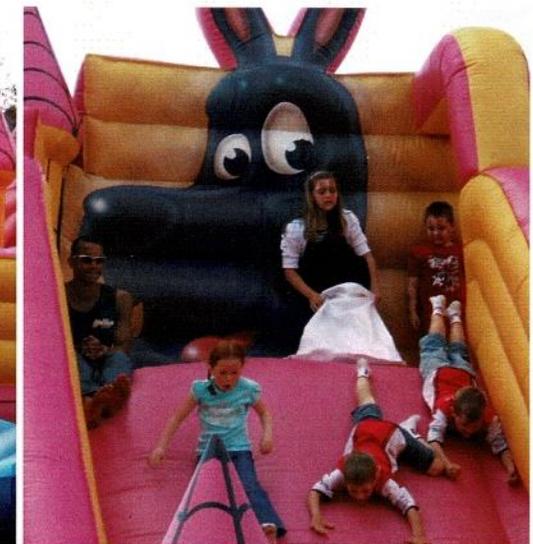
ALL THE FUN OF THE SLIDE AND THE BOUNCY CASTLE THE VISIT OF BLACKPOOL AND THE "BIG ONE"?

Blackpool might possess a few rides, but last Sunday at Boundary Park the Roughyeds got their own "Big One". The "Family Fun Day" before the game against Blackpool Panthers last Sunday, featured a 28 foot high inflatable "Scooby Slide". This attraction, which was also accompanied by a more sedate Bouncy Castle, was thoroughly enjoyed by a large number of Roughyeds fans in the 2 hours prior to the 3.00pm kick off.

Red'Ed deserves a special mention for his tireless work distributing Uncle Joe's Mintballs and Vimto lollies. Before people quite rightly point out that bananas would have been much healthier, spare a thought for Red'Ed. How heavy would a bag of 500 bananas have been? A mountain of fruit might have been healthy for the kids but it would not have done a lot for his creaky back.

To encourage families to enjoy the Matchday Experience and support the rejuvenated Roughyeds, a number of Family Ticket Vouchers were made available allowing reduced-priced entry to the match for family groups. The vouchers proved very popular not only with the target family market but also with a few opportunistic individuals who, while they did not possess any visible offspring (and did not even bother to acquire any from "Rent-a-Kid"!) did take advantage of the reduced admission prices. These antics may be a little disappointing, but at least they provide an indication of the current pulling power of the team.

On the subject of improved health, we are delighted to welcome, as guests of the club, a number of individuals who have successfully completed an Oldham PCT initiative "Passport to a New You". The project was designed to assist people with improving their lifestyles through improved diet and exercise regimes. Everyone at the Roughyeds would like to congratulate them on their achievement and hope that they enjoy their "Passport to a Game."



Taking on the Army . . . Craig Littler finds a gap in the soldiers' defence during a training spin when Roughyeds and the 2nd battalion Duke of Lancaster Regiment joined forces at Noddy's Field as part of the battalion's getting-to-know-you drive in Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham.

with Ian Wilson

roughyeds' roar!

Is there anything those of us who are opposed to the proposed franchise arrangements can do to get the decision at least reconsidered before it comes into effect in 2009, I wonder. As I understand it, the plan is that no side will be relegated from Super League in 2008, and that thereafter there will be neither promotion nor relegation on an automatic basis.

I don't think final plans have yet been announced - or decided? - in full. For example, how many teams will there be in Super League from 2009 onwards? Will it be 13, with the 2008 NL1 Grand Final winners promoted? Or maybe 14, with 2 new franchise bids accepted, one of which may or may not be the NL1 champions? Or maybe more, or maybe still only 12? Then there is the question of the existing 12 Super League sides. Will they all automatically be in the 2009 top echelon, or may one or more of them fail to meet the criteria? And, of course, crucially, what exactly will these criteria be? [and how stringently will they be applied?] Further, what will Super League sides have to do in the future to be eligible for demotion to the National League?

There is also the question of what will be the position of the National Leagues under the new franchise system. Will we stick with two divisions, with some sort of automatic promotion and relegation system, or maybe move back to just one? How will spectators view the competition when it does not give automatic eligibility for the top level of the game for its most successful side? On what basis will NL sides be allowed to apply for a Super League franchise - each year, or only after a minimum period has elapsed? on what

timetable? will they have to have top-dog playing records, or will other criteria be more important?

One of the problems we face is that no-one seems to know when such decisions as those mentioned above will be taken, or by whom. When the nature of the new set-up is not known in precise detail, it is very difficult to mobilise opposition to it. The fear is that at some point, decisions will be announced as final ones, and all hope of some sort of rational debate on what is the best structure for the future will then be gone.

So, for now, all that can be done is to reiterate the basis of the opposition in principle. This is that the evils advanced as being inevitably faced under the promotion/relegation system are nothing like as great as those associated, when it does not exist, with its loss of incentive for sides outside Super League as well as for those near the bottom of it. As I have said many times before, the processes of promotion and relegation are an integral part of sport in the UK. This is neither Australia nor the USA. To abandon promotion and relegation at the top level of RL will do incalculable harm to the game.

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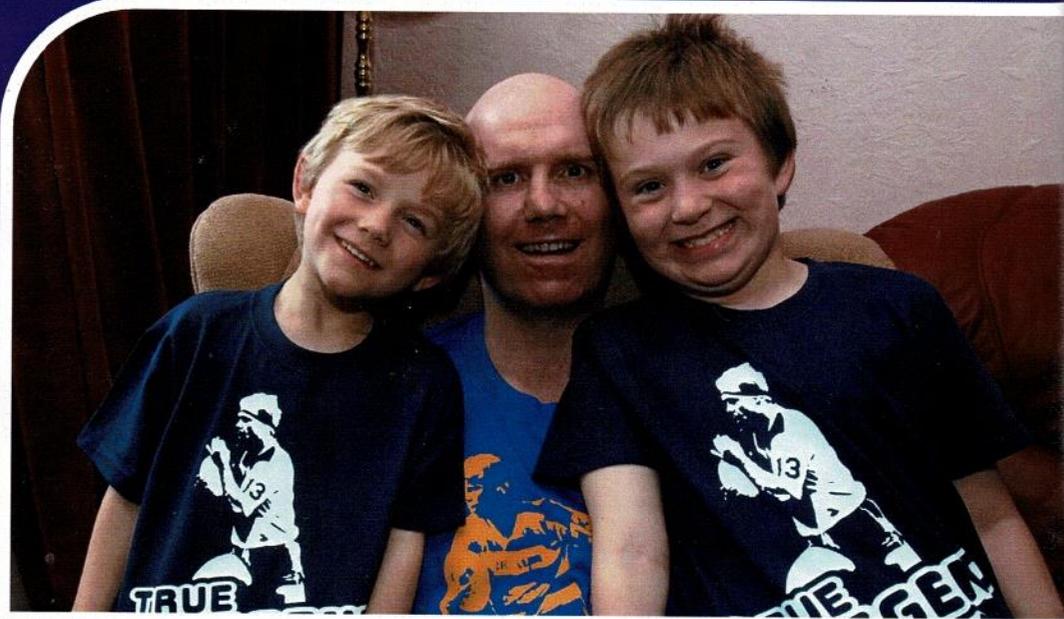
When Leeds Met launched the Carnegie Great Student Run 2007, leading the way was former Widnes, Wigan and GB star Joe Lydon. Joe declared his intention to run the 5km race to raise money for the Mike Gregory Trust Fund. Mike is one of rugby league's most popular, respected and courageous stars who captained Warrington and his country with such distinction.

The Mike Gregory Trust Fund was formed by friends and supporters from the rugby league community who knew

of Mike's battle against Motor Neurone Disease and felt compelled to do something to help.

It is Mike and his family's intention that the trust's funds will be used to cover his ongoing medical expenses and help raise awareness about the effects of Borreliosis/Lymes Disease.

Through the Carnegie Great Student Run and the Carnegie Challenge Cup, Leeds Met Carnegie provides a unique opportunity for the whole of the rugby league community to participate and support the Mike Gregory Trust Fund.



Entry forms and the Mike Gregory Trust Fund sponsorship forms are available from Leeds Met at www.leedsmet.ac.uk/greatstudentrun or by calling 0113 283 8686

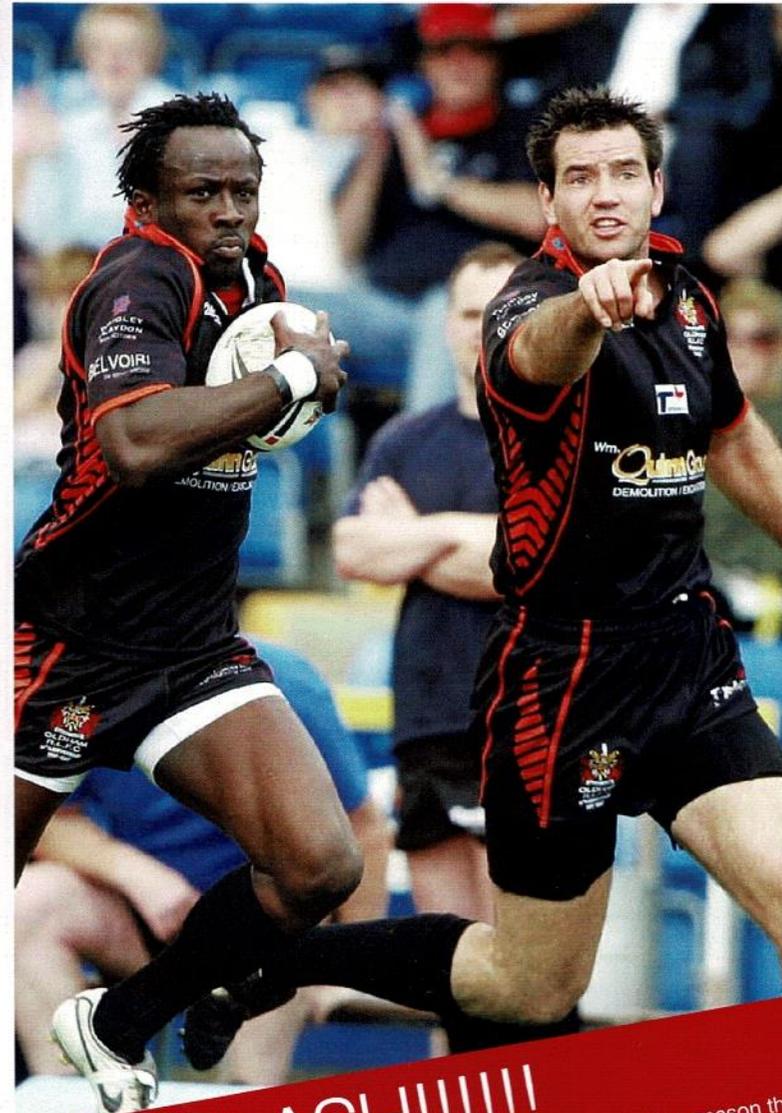
For more information on the Mike Gregory Trust please visit www.mikegregorytrust.co.uk



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BE PART OF IT - RUB SHOULDERS WITH CHAMPIONS - SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE

BY THE LEFT, IT'S THAT WAY, MATE!



This cracking picture by Graham Lynch depicts the speed and energy generated by the Roughyeds' left-flank pair of Lucas Onyango and Adam Hughes.

Lucas has high-stepped his way to 12 tries in 15 games, while his centre, Adam, has rattled up 14 tries in 11 outings.

Adam is pictured pointing Lucas towards the posts at York, where the winger scored one of his many long-range tries this season.

In the next match, against Blackpool, he raced in for another super solo, which captured headlines in League Express and League Weekly.

Adam, meanwhile, was named in Rugby League World's NL2 form team for July.

Together, they are making things happen and totting up those tries.

And you could say this is one left-wing alliance which is way ahead in the polls!

LATE FLASH!!!!!!

LATE FLASH ---- Roughyeds have snapped up on loan to the end of the season the Hull KR centre or wing Byron Ford, who is likely to make his debut in today's game against Workington Town. The 25-year-old Cook Islander was top try scorer in the game last year with 33 and he joins us after making 15 Super League appearances this season with Rovers.

LONG-SERVING 'BUTCH' UNDERLINES LOYALTY TO HIS BELOVED 'TOWN'

by NIGEL MARLAND



A look at Workington - and their battle to beat major setbacks

Club Chairman Dave Bowden recently said the club was in no rush to make an appointment of a new coach due to the work of stand-in coaches Les Ashe and Craig Barker, who despite their success in trying circumstances have both said they are not ready to take on the post.

"But hopefully", Bowden added, "the new coach will recognise the work that they have put in. We are very lucky to have people of the quality of Les and Craig within the club." Barker and Ashe have been in charge at Derwent Park for all 16 NL2 games so far, having won 10 and lost six.

"How time flies when you're having fun!" said Craig Barker recently and it is quite unbelievable that 14 years on Craig Butch Barker is still involved with the club that he loves. After 11 years playing he felt it was time to hang up his boots, and was overwhelmed when former coach Ged Stokes asked him to be his assistant. But he never thought for one minute that he would eventually be acting as stand in coach as now. A lot has happened over the past months at Workington who are coachless after the suspension and dismissal of coach Ged Stokes for gross misconduct. On top of that they have suffered the serious injury to Liam Campbell and the sad departure of their captain Andrew Beattie.

But none of this has stopped their will to succeed. The squad has continued to work hard and are determined to finish this roller-coaster season on a high. Some clubs won't go through what they have been through in five years never mind six months and they are in a good position to secure a place in the play-offs.

On the field, the loan players have given the team a massive boost. Adam Sidlow is a class act at such a young age (19) and is in fine form. Martin Keavney is also showing his talent lately and was Man of the Match last week against Keighley with him and Sidlow each scoring a try and it is easy to see the reason why Widnes were keen on signing him in the first place. He along with Adam are expected to play at a high level during their playing career, that's for sure. The relationship Workington now have with Widnes is certainly a win - win situation for all parties.

Talking of signings, over the past few months they have secured several signatures of some of the top talent within Cumbria with the likes of Scott Gorman who has already made his first-team debut. Peter Dobson along with Tyrone Dalton are showing up well in the Under-21s and big Kris Coward made his debut against Blackpool recently to get his first taste of first-team action.

Congratulations need to go out to Carl Forber for getting himself into the rugby history books for equalling Dean Marwood's long-standing most goals per game record with 13 goals and three tries as Workington Town hammered hapless Blackpool Panthers 86-6 at Derwent Park recently.



MARTIN KEAVNEY



ADAM SIDLOW

Oldham RLFC Appearances and Scorers, 2007

players statistics

[up to and including August 5]

NAME	PLAYED	TRIES	GOALS	POINTS
P Ashton	11	3	27	66
C Baines	19	2		8
J Boult	22			
M Brooks	7			
G Costin	18	5		20
J Coyle2	5	2		8
A Crabtree	20	1		4
I Gordon	1			
A Gorey	9	1		4
I Hodson	14	4		16
J Hough	2			
D Houston	22	4		16
S Hoyle	21	1		4
A Hughes	11	14	7	70
G Langley	23	9	27	90
C Littler	20	5		20
R Mervill	21	2		8
P O'Connor	14	4		16
M Ogden	5	1	10	24
S Oldham	1			
L Onyango	15	12		48
R Roberts	2	2	10G	9
A Robinson	10	3		12
N Roden	24	9	2dg	38
W Rogers	10			
L Sanderson	8	1	20	44
I Sinfield	19	2		8
K Smith	10	5		20
M Stout	4	1		4
S Tamghart	19	4		16
T Tonks	12	2		8
A Wilkinson	22	12		48
L Wingfield	4	1		4

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with GARETH WALKER of RUGBY LEAGUER & LEAGUE EXPRESS



Skolars learning fast

LONDON Skolars have already achieved their best ever season in the professional game - and a serious play-offs push is now firmly underway.

Sunday's excellent 32-6 win at top seven rivals Hunslet Hawks was Skolars' sixth of the campaign.

Having also drawn with Keighley Cougars earlier this season, that takes them past the six wins haul of 2004, the club's best to date.

With four matches remaining, there is every possibility that they will now fly past their record.

The progress made this season under New Zealand coach Latham Tawhai should see the much-travelled former halfback become as a serious contender for the NL2 Coach of the Year award.

Tawhai has constructed a team that continually pushes opposition teams at their New River Stadium home.

But more impressively than that, Skolars have now started to show that they can win on the road.

A superb victory at fourth-placed Workington Town was followed up by Sunday's win at Hunslet, and the capital club now lie just three points behind the Hawks, who occupy the final play-off place.

Several stars have emerged from the Skolars ranks this season, with the main one being tough South African prop Richard Louw, the club's first ever Rugby League World Player of the Month.

Louw's non-stop workrate in both attack and defence has been a cornerstone of the Skolars' progression this season.

Other players to catch the eye include Austin Aggrey, Pete Hodgkinson, Paul Thorman and Jermaine Coleman.

Halfback Jamie Nowland has also impressed, and scored an excellent hat trick against Hunslet at weekend.

Now Tawhai will be looking for his side to kick on and secure that first ever play-off place.

This weekend sees them with another massive game, as they host Gateshead Thunder on Saturday.

With Hunslet away at table-toppers Celtic Crusaders on the same day, it isn't inconceivable that the Skolars could be seventh by the end of the weekend, though points difference could be an issue.

The match with Thunder will be the club's first home game away from New River (which is being used for athletics this weekend), and will be staged a Finchley Rugby Club.

There will also be an opportunity for League fans at every level to see the club in action on Wembley weekend.

On Friday August 24, the night before the Challenge Cup final, the club hosts York City Knights in another vital NL2 clash.

A bumper crowd should be there to witness the latest chapter in London Skolars' development.

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JFS Mortgage Services (John Smith)	Terry Bailey	Noise Killer Acoustics (Steve Bithell)
J Aubrey	John Barrie Gallagher	B Giddens
Chris Broadbent	Terry Kelly	Jack Buckley
Dorothy M Johnston	Cheshire Telecom Ltd (Sean Lynch)	Ultan McGovern (Oldham Electrical Supplies)
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	Raymond Sankey	

WE are delighted to welcome to Boundary Park today one of the club's longest-serving supporters in 88-year-old Clifford Bardsley, who lives in Morecambe.

Clifford, whose wife died some years ago, will soon be moving south to Surrey with his daughter Tricia so they can be nearer other members of the family, and he was determined he was going to get to a Roughyeds game before he went, writes ROGER HALSTEAD.

In order for that to happen, his grandson Martin drove north from Guildford yesterday so that he could accompany his mother and grandfather to today's match and enjoy a three-generations family lunch in the Boundary Park hospitality suite before the game.

Said Tricia: "It will be a special day for dad, so I hope the Roughyeds make his day and win the game."

Clifford rarely sees his favourite team in action these days, but since leaving Oldham to relocate to Morecambe many years ago he has retained a sharp interest in the club's affairs and was one of the first fans to sign up for Five Alive.

He subscribes to the Chronicle's postal delivery service in order to keep himself informed of Roughyeds activity and he is a regular reader of the sports trade journals and magazines. From a distance he has always been keen to help and support the club, particularly during the dark days of the recent financial crisis.

"I first watched Roughyeds from the Penny Rush in 1928," he said, "and I was a regular at Watersheddings for about 50 years

until I moved to Morecambe. My father got me hooked on rugby league and on the Oldham club when I was a small boy, and I've been hooked all my life.

"I promised myself a visit to Boundary Park before we moved to Surrey. It will seem a little bit strange to me to watch Roughyeds playing on Latics' pitch, but it will be wonderful to watch a game again and if I get the opportunity to be introduced to Chris Hamilton, Sean Whitehead and Bill Quinn I will be delighted to shake their hands and wish them well for the future.

"I've spoken to Chris a few times on the phone, but never met him. What he and Sean did to keep the club alive was phenomenal, and now Bill has come along to help to take the club forward. They fully deserve all the support they can get."

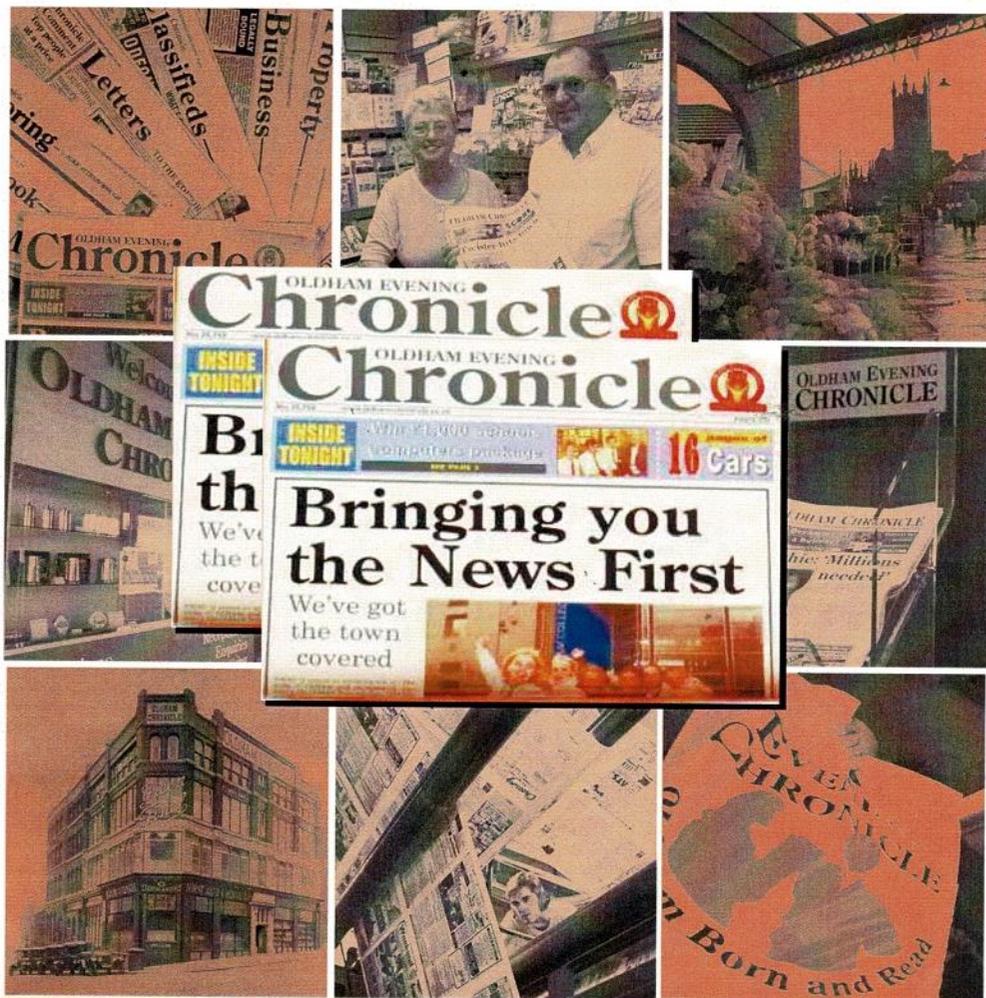
Clifford was active in and supportive of the so-called ginger group that ousted the Watersheddings committee more than 30 years ago and led to former Rochdale Hornets chief Arthur Walker being voted into office as club chairman. He was invited to stand for election under the ginger-group banner, but declined because of other commitments.

Added Clifford: "Times change and things move on. We can't bring Watersheddings back, but we can get a new rugby ground in the town and I am thrilled to read that Bill and the board are aiming to do that. I would love to see that happen because in terms of taking the club forward it would make all the difference."

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journalistic license

by Matthew Chambers

WHILE we know that after 2009 there will be no automatic promotion or relegation from Super League, just about every other aspect of this seismic shift for the sport is still shrouded in uncertainty.

It is less than two years away and the questions being thrown up are of burning importance.

Who will be granted the broadcasting rights? Will there be 12 or 14 teams competing? Is there to be a return to a simple (and fair) home-and-away fixture structure? Have any of the less well-to-do 'heartlands' teams got a chance of squeezing their way in? What will become of the National Leagues?

Will France get another team to add to the Catalans and are the Celtic Crusaders really a shoo-in?

It is a shame that, less than two years away from the new system, so many rumours and counter-rumours can't be put to bed. The reason? As ever, money.

Of the uppermost importance in the RFL's mind appears to be the concern over landing a lucrative television contract for the amended competition.

While on these shores it would logically appear to be a straight shoot-out between Sky and Setanta, incorporating another team from across the Channel should increase the pot by way of an external deal; in turn, that could help alleviate concerns from those already taking the Sky dollar that their share would be reduced should two extra teams be added.

A Welsh representative should also make the coverage more attractive to television advertisers, given the increased numbers who would (hopefully) then tune in.

Then again, the likes of Widnes, Castleford and others involved in National League One but with Super League credentials, could point to the fact that their supporter base is stronger than that of an expansion

team such as Harlequins, whose gates have slumped alarmingly of late.

Increasing numbers of kids are taking up the game in the capital — but how many new professional clubs can ever really take off in a city with so many alternative leisure-time options?

Hopefully the RFL will be wary of the many pitfalls of their proposed new system. It is interesting to note that no professional sporting competition in Europe has ever before been run successfully using the franchise model.

A closed shop mentality is alien to us and the lack of a relegation scrap at the top level would surely, at the very least, decrease interest in the end-of-year league campaign — especially if one side is running away with things at the top.

It will be interesting to see how developments unfold. But I expect there will be much gnashing of teeth whatever the outcome.

* INCIDENTALLY, the chairman of one of the sides hopeful of gaining entry in 2009, Toulouse, had his boat race printed in the trade press this week. If Super League's entry requirements were solely down to possessing a magnificent, oversized and immaculately trimmed moustache (as some have argued should be the case), Carlos Zaldueño would be the new figure of hate for anti-expansionists. C'est magnifique!

Matthew

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FIGHT TO THE FINISH PUSH FOR TOP-3 SPOTS

BY ROGER HALSTEAD

Deaks's boys can clinch it on last-lap home run

GAMES in hand --- and home advantage in four of their six remaining matches --- should stand the Roughyeds in good stead over the neck-and-neck final furlong of the race to honours in a hugely competitive Co-Operative NL2.

The champions win automatic promotion and the six clubs finishing behind them play-off for one more promotion spot.

In reality, though, the top five have broken away from the rest and those five --- Featherstone, Celtic Crusaders, Barrow, Workington and Oldham --- will all be scrapping to finish in the top three, given that No 1 is home and dry in the promotion chase and for No 2 and No 3 there are huge play-off advantages.

All is not lost if you finish 4, 5, 6 or 7, but Oldham won't be alone in setting a top-three target and one advantage they have over the rest is that they have to travel only twice in their last six outings, to Gateshead Thunder and Hunslet Hawks.

Hopefully, Boundary Park will prove to be Home Sweet Home, particularly in the last eight days of the campaign when Roughyeds take on Crusaders, Swinton Lions and London Skolars --- a big hurdle, but not insurmountable.

Coach Steve Deakin, meanwhile, is not going to be distracted by what other teams do. "We can't afford to take our eye off the ball and let outside influences affect us," he said. "We have to take it one match at a time and focus on what WE do rather than what is happening elsewhere."

"Incidentally, we have picked up a bonus point in every game we have lost and only Crusaders can say the same."



Steve Deakin . . . one game at a time

Who they play -- home and away

Featherstone: August 12, York (H); August 19, Hunslet (A); September 2, Workington (H); September 8, Barrow (A).

Celtic Crusaders: August 11, Hunslet (H); August 18, Keighley (H); September 2, OLDHAM (A); September 9, Gateshead (A).

Barrow: August 12, Keighley (A); August 19, Workington (A); August 31, Blackpool (H); September 8, Featherstone (H).

Workington: August 12, OLDHAM (A); August 19, Barrow (H); September 2, Featherstone (A); September 9, Swinton (A).

OLDHAM: August 12, Workington (H); August 19, Gateshead (A); August 22, Hunslet (A); September 2, Celtic Crusaders (H); September 5, Swinton (H); September 9, London Skolars (H).

Play-off structure (top team promoted):

Sunday, September 16, elimination play-off A (4 v 7) and B (5 v 6).

Sunday, September 23, qualifying semi-final (2 v 3) and elimination semi-final (winners of A v winners of B).

Sunday, September 30, final eliminator (losers of 2 v 3 winners of elimination semi final).

Sunday, October 7, Grand Final (winners of 2 v 3 v winners of final eliminator).

How they stand -- tell-tale table

Co-Operative National League TWO

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Bns	Pts
Featherstone	18	15	0	3	717	280	2	47
Celtic Crusaders	17	14	0	3	644	263	3	45
Barrow	18	13	0	5	601	351	4	43
Workington	18	12	0	6	561	367	4	40
Oldham	16	11	0	5	471	302	5	38
York	18	8	0	10	370	388	5	29
Hunslet	16	7	0	9	305	405	5	26
London Skolars	18	6	1	11	356	516	3	23
Swinton	17	7	0	10	441	545	5	20
Keighley	18	5	1	12	347	573	3	20
Gateshead	16	5	0	11	294	607	3	18
Blackpool	18	0	0	18	258	768	6	6

2007 fixtures

DATE	OPPONENTS	CUP	VENUE	K. O.	RESULT	W/L	ATT
31/01/07	Warrington Wolves	Friendly	Home	7.45pm	42-6	W	789
11/02/07	Rochdale Hornets	NRC	Home	3.00pm	8-24	L	1,145
18/02/07	Swinton Lions	NRC	Home	3.00pm	18-28	L	1,017
25/02/07	Dewsbury Rams	NRC	Away	3.00pm	22-32	L	819
04/03/07	Rochdale Hornets	NRC	Away	3.00pm	6-16	L	816
10/03/07	East Hull	CCC 3	Away	2.00pm	26-10	W	214
18/03/07	Dewsbury Rams	NRC	Home	3.00pm	8-32	L	622
25/03/07	Swinton Lions	NRC	Away	3.00pm	42-18	W	555
01/04/07	Keighley Cougars	CCC4	Away	3.00pm	26-16	W	1039
04/04/07	Featherstone Rovers	NL2	Home	7.45pm	12-23	L	1,162
09/04/07	Hunslet Hawks	NL2	Away	3.30pm	NEW DATE BELOW		
15/04/07	Blackpool Panthers	NL2	Away	3.00pm	40-20	W	501
29/04/07	Keighley Cougars	NL2	Home	3.00pm	32-20	W	847
04/05/07	Celtic Crusaders	NL2	Away	7.35pm	34-26	W	3441
13/05/07	Harlequins	CCC5	Home	12.30pm	6-66	L	559
20/05/07	Barrow Raiders	NL2	Home	3.00pm	50-18	W	848
26/05/07	London Skolars	NL2	Away	3.00pm	34-6	W	636
03/06/07	Workington Town	NL2	Away	3.00pm	27-18	W	1,231
10/06/07	York City Knights	NL2	Home	3.00pm	21-10	W	1,024
17/06/07	Featherstone Rovers	NL2	Away	3.00pm	18-24	L	1,587
24/06/07	Keighley Cougars	NL2	Away	3.00pm	18-26	L	969
01/07/07	Gateshead Thunder	NL2	Home	3.00pm	36-12	W	847
08/07/07	Swinton Lions	NL2	Away	3.00pm	10-17	L	956
15/07/07	Barrow Raiders	NL2	Away	3.00pm	34-26	L	1,348
22/07/07	Hunslet Hawks	NL2	Home	3.00pm	52-22	W	1,024
29/07/07	York City Knights	NL2	Away	3.00pm	15-14	W	1,064
05/08/07	Blackpool Panthers	NL2	Home	3.00pm	46-12	W	858
12/08/07	Workington Town	NL2	Home	3.00pm			
19/08/07	Gateshead Thunder	NL2	Away	3.00pm			
22/08/07	Hunslet Hawks	NL2	Away	7.30pm			
02/09/07	Celtic Crusaders	NL2	Home	3.00pm			
05/09/07	Swinton Lions	NL2	Home	7.45pm			
09/09/07	London Skolars	NL2	Home	3.00pm			

Play offs will take place on Sundays, September 16, 23 and 30 with the Grand Final on Sunday 7th October.
Home* venue to be arranged.

Key

NRC - Northern Rail Cup
NL2 - National League Division 2
CCC - Carnegie Challenge Cup

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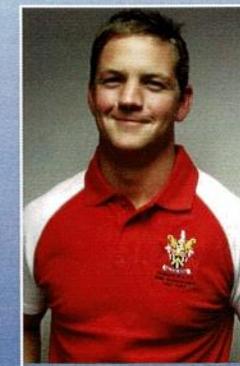
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