

Today's Line-up

GATESHEAD THUNDER



OLDHAM

Neil Thorman .....	..... Ian Gordon
Danny Wilson .....	..... Byron Ford
Michael Knowles .....	..... Craig Littler
Pat Williamson .....	..... Adam Hughes
Graham Stephenson .....	..... Lucas Onyango
Tim Martin .....	..... Neil Roden
Scott Partis .....	..... James Coyle
Jason Payne .....	..... Jason Boults
Dan Smith .....	..... Simeon Hoyle
Tabua Cakacaka .....	..... Richard Mervill
Shane Wooden .....	..... Ian Hodson
Dylan Nash .....	..... Rob Roberts
Nick Hyde .....	..... Geno Costin
Ryan Clarke .....	..... Tony Tonks
Kevin Till .....	..... Gareth Morton
Matt Barron .....	..... Said Tamghart
Steve Bradley .....	..... Matty Brooks
Tony Doherty .....	.....
.....
.....
.....

Referee - C Neilson Touch Judges - A Fossett & M Reid
RR - M Hague Match Commissioner - S Nicholson

Next game at the Thunderdome...
9th September 2007 - 3.00pm Kick Off
Gateshead Thunder v Celtic Crusaders

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GATESHEAD THUNDER vs OLDHAM

Sunday 19th August 2007 - 3.00pm Kick Off
"SUPER FAN SUNDAY"



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From the Chair

I would like to welcome the players, fans and directors from Oldham to the thunderdome for the game today. We do hope you enjoy the day.

The season is coming to a close and the results on the pitch have not been the best however we did start the season in effect from the January of 2007 whilst our fellow NL2 clubs began in the August of 2006. This is not the case this year for next season & budgets are being set now.

The delay at the start was down to getting the financial support in place for this year.

During the glory years this club enjoyed 3000 + through the gates on an average home game. Now we just knock off the last 0. This lack of support just can't continue to sustain a professional club in the area.

The fans expect results on the pitch. To get results on the field then you need the funds to recruit the right player. The hardened supporters have been and are good loyal fans of the club supporting it through thick and thin but alas this is not enough to make that recruiting process happen.

I hope you all enjoy the pre match entertainment and indeed the game.

Sarah Garside.
Chairperson

Gateshead Thunder Rugby League Football Club

Board of Directors

Chairperson
Sarah Garside

Directors
Steven Garside
Neil MacPherson
Peter Horrabin
Janice Neighbour
Gary Davidson

Personnel

Head Coach
David Woods

Assistant Head Coach
Chris Hood

Club Doctor
Dr. Roger Checketts

Kit Man - Neil Coombs

Video - Jim Neighbour

Club Photography - Paul Clayton

Super Hero - Captain Thunder

Webmaster - Graham Lewis

Merchandise - Pete Ramsay

Club telephone numbers :

0191 433 5710

0191 477 7161

Club website:

www.thunder-rflc.co.uk

Club e-mail:

info@thunder-rflc.co.uk

Merchandise e-mail:

merchandise@thunder-rflc.co.uk

Shouting from the sidelines!

...the coaches comments

Hello and welcome to the Gateshead International Stadium on what we are hoping is another fine day. The weather has been tremendous of late so hopefully it will continue to be bright all day.

Welcome to Steve Deakin, the Oldham players, staff and supporters. Your club are doing very well and we wish you good luck for the semi finals series.

Our season is nearing its completion and we would certainly have liked to be higher on the table than we are. We are looking to win a few more games before seasons end and make it difficult for teams that we play.

We welcome Scott Partis to the club for his first game with us today and hope that he enjoys his time whilst here. The small band of fans that we have will welcome him i'm sure. We would like as much support as we can muster for our next few games and then build up for next season, so get behind the boys and get along to a game.

I would also like to comment on our under 18's that are now in training and should be having their first game today. There is a lot of the boys still away on holidays but everyone that has been training are all going very well. I'd like everyone to get behind these boys and show them your appreciation. It may be a long season for the boys as they will be up against some very tough opposition and again we will be in the learning phase of their development.

I hope everyone enjoys the game today.

Best Wishes

David Woods
Head Coach



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the future is here...



Back (L to R) – Adam Burn, Dan Barron, Stephen Welton, James Screen, Darryl Smedley, Danny O'Reagan.
Middle (L to R) - Alan White, Scott Woods, Rhys Clarke, Ben Stidolph
Front – Reece Young

Gateshead Thunder Under 18's are set and ready to go in the 2007/08 Halifax Home Insurance National Youth League. With the future of the game in the North East a real priority for the longevity of the club, Thunder is continuing to plan ahead for its future and the game throughout the region. Over 40 of the regions rising stars have now been training as a squad for over a month and are thoroughly looking forward to the challenge ahead.

Players from as far as Billingham in Teesside to Cramlington in Northumberland have pencilled Sunday 9th September in their diaries as Thunder U18's face Wibsey Juniors in their first competitive fixture. Also, potential players who are currently too young or too old are also training with the squad to assist in their development as players







Thunder Head Coach David Woods said: "There is a real crop of quality youngsters who not only have the potential to further their playing careers but deserve the opportunity to do so. We are very grateful to both the RFL and BARLA for giving both the players and the club this great opportunity."

Gateshead Thunder Under 18 Squad for 2007 / 2008

David Ball, Ali Blair, Adam Burn, David Cash, Rhys Clarke, Mark Dack, Adam Etherington, Drew Liddle, Steven Lockney, Andrew Mastaglio, Danny O'Reagan, Anthony Penfold, Austin Phillips, Andrew Reid, Daniel Robinson, Tom Rowe, Pat Sharkey, Darryl Smedley, Liam Smith, Ash Smith, Ben Stidolph, Anthony Veitch, Joe Wafer, Atephen Welton, Alan White, Scott Woods, Rhys Young, Danny Dyson, Danny Sayer, Daniel Smith, James Screen, Danny Westall, Daniel Pearce

Get in on the action...

sponsor the Thunderdome pitch!

 Jarrow Junior Rugby Proud Supporters of Gateshead Thunder RLFC 	 1	2	3	4	5	6	Carters Express Freight	8	Gateshead Panthers RLFC – Proud Sponsor of Gateshead Thunder	10	 DP Construction Jarrow Vikings ARLFC 
	11	Freeman Hospital	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	Freeman Hospital	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Goal Area 1	 31	Freeman Hospital	33	34	35	36	37	38	Gateshead Panthers RLFC – Proud Sponsor of Gateshead Thunder		40	Goal Area 2

Why not purchase one of the squares on our Thunderdome pitch above and have either your own, or your company name there for the whole season! That means the name will appear in every Gateshead Thunder Match Day programme for the entire 2007 season! Not only that but you will also be in with the chance to win some great prizes!...

Every time a Thunder player receives the ball in your square and then goes onto score you will gain a point. The square with the highest amount of points when the competition closes will be guests at the last home game of the season - you will receive a meal for 4 and complimentary match tickets and executive lounge passes for each person plus 4 tickets to the Gateshead Thunder 2007 Presentation Night!

That's 13 weeks of advertising and the chance to win a fantastic prize for only £30 per square for the whole season!

Why not maximise your chances and purchase 2, or even 4 squares together to give yourself more space for you, or your company's name, or purchase one of the In-Goal areas, (space beyond each try line) for only £50?

...but get in quick! Squares will be sold on a "first come - first served" basis!


To purchase your square, please contact the Thunder Office on 0191 433 5710

Show your support and win prizes, all for just £30 a season!...

Player sponsors




Graham Stephenson
Dial a Cab
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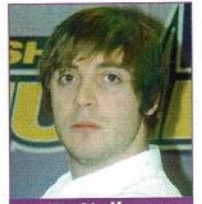
Dylan Nash
Michaela Jones



Darren Towart



Jason Payne
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Bill Quay



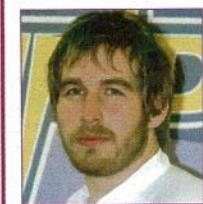
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Pat Williamson
Lynn Davidson



Nick Hyde
Zoe Anderton

'Howay the lads'



Check out the lad's figures ...squad stats

Name	Debut	2007						Gateshead Thunder Career							
		Apps	Sub	Total	T	G	DG	PTS	Apps	Sub	Total	T	G	DG	PTS
1 Steven Bradley	25/2/01	15	7	22	1	0	0	4	140	17	157	26	0	0	104
2 Robin Peers	17/2/02	16	5	21	1	0	0	4	129	10	139	45	0	0	180
3 Stephen Rutherford	17/12/00	7	5	12	1	0	0	4	94	44	138	14	0	0	56
4 Neil Thorman	17/2/02	22	1	23	7	14	0	56	87	45	132	33	43	1	219
5 Tony Doherty	17/2/02	2	16	18	0	0	0	0	29	50	79	2	0	0	8
6 Graham Stephenson	1/2/04	25	0	25	6	0	0	24	63	9	72	11	0	0	44
7 Tabua Cakacaka	13/2/05	-10	0	10	0	0	0	0	54	7	61	5	0	0	20
8 Ryan Clarke	22/8/04	13	11	24	5	11	0	42	14	15	29	5	11	0	42
9 Nick Hyde	11/2/07	25	0	25	3	0	0	12	25	0	25	3	0	0	12
10 Shane Woodden	11/2/07	24	0	24	3	0	0	12	24	0	24	3	0	0	12
11 Tim Martin	18/2/07	23	1	24	8	0	0	32	23	1	24	8	0	0	32
12 Pat Williamson	11/2/07	21	0	21	9	0	0	36	21	0	21	9	0	0	36
13 Odell Harris	11/2/07	20	0	20	2	0	0	8	20	0	20	2	0	0	8
14 Dylan Nash	11/2/07	15	5	20	6	0	0	24	15	5	20	6	0	0	24
15 Mark Christensen	16/7/06	10	0	10	4	3	0	22	18	0	18	9	3	0	42
16 Kevin Till	11/2/07	14	3	17	5	0	0	20	14	3	17	5	0	0	20
17 Damien Martinez	13/2/05	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	3	12	15	0	0	0	0
18 Matt Barron	11/2/07	2	13	15	0	0	0	0	2	13	15	0	0	0	0
19 Clint Frazer	7/5/07	5	8	13	1	0	0	4	5	8	13	1	0	0	4
20 Johnny Scott	11/2/07	8	2	10	2	0	0	8	8	2	10	2	0	0	8
21 Danny Wilson	25/2/07	8	0	8	2	0	0	8	8	0	8	2	0	0	8
22 Ritchie Metcalfe	11/2/07	2	6	8	0	0	0	0	2	6	8	0	0	0	0
23 Stewart Sanderson	27/5/07	7	0	7	1	2	0	8	7	0	7	1	2	0	8
24 Matt Walton	11/2/07	7	0	7	1	0	0	4	7	0	7	1	0	0	4
25 Jason Payne	17/7/07	7	0	7	1	0	0	4	7	0	7	1	0	0	4
26 Michael Knowles	7/7/07	6	0	6	5	11	0	42	6	0	6	5	11	0	42
27 Jono Roffe	18/2/07	6	0	6	4	11	0	38	6	0	6	4	11	0	38
28 Chris Parker	15/4/07	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0
29 Dan Smith	21/7/07	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	0	0
30 Andrew Pybus	9/4/07	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0
31 Mark McKinley	10/6/07	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0
31 Michael Land	4/3/07	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
		2007 Points						416							

Fixtures and Results 2007 Season



DATE	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	K.O.	RESULT	ATTENDANCE
11/02/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	York City Knights	15:00	L 12-58	503
18/02/07	Keighley Cougars	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 50-12	560
25/02/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Halifax R.L.F.C.	15:00	L 6-22	403
04/03/07	York City Knights	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 46-4	1033
18/03/07	Halifax R.L.F.C.	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 30-8	1404
25/03/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Keighley Cougars	15:00	L 26-30	389
06/04/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	York City Knights	15:00	W 26-18	557
09/04/07	Workington Town	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 68-0	679
15/04/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Barrow Raiders	15:00	L 10-65	305
07/05/07	Swinton Lions	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 58-12	403
20/05/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Featherstone Rovers	15:00	L 16-74	385
27/05/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Keighley Cougars	15:00	W 36-12	277
03/06/07	Blackpool Panthers	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	W 18-28	275
10/06/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	London Skolars	15:00	L 20-28	278
17/06/07	Barrow Raiders	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 60-22	1040
23/06/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Hunslet Hawks	18:30	W 18-6	276
01/07/07	Oldham	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 36-12	847
07/07/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Blackpool Panthers	15:00	W 28-26	145
15/07/07	Featherstone Rovers	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 30-4	1030
21/07/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Swinton Lions	15:00	L 8-34	219
29/07/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Workington Town	15:00	L 32-36	275
05/08/07	York City Knights	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 38-26	825
11/08/07	London Skolars	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00	L 32-12	300
19/08/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Oldham	15:00		
02/09/07	Keighley Cougars	V	Gateshead Thunder	15:00		
09/09/07	Gateshead Thunder	V	Celtic Crusaders	15:00		

Captain Thunder says
GO THUNDER!



Player sponsors



Ryan Clarke

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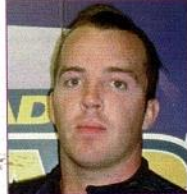
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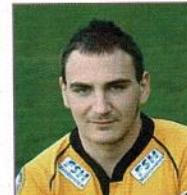
Tim Martin

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Michael Knowles

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Clint Frazer



Tabua Cakacaka



Go Thunder!

Club records

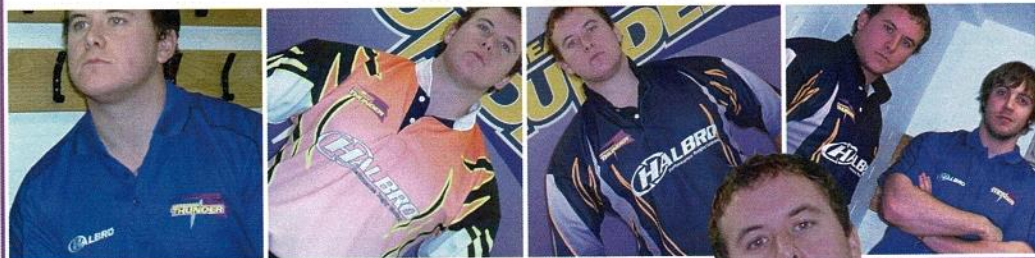
Category	Record	Opponents	Venue	Date
Highest Score	66	Wakefield Trinity Wildcats (66-6)	H	Sun 05/09/1999
	58	Swinton Lions (58-10)	H	Sun 14/08/2005
Biggest Margin of Victory	60	Wakefield Trinity Wildcats (66-6)	H	Sun 05/09/1999
	48	Swinton Lions (58-10)	H	Sun 14/08/2005
	48	Workington Town (54-6)	H	Sun 16/04/2006
Highest Points Aggregate	112	Salford City Reds (12-100)	A	Sun 23/03/2003
Highest Winning Points Aggregate	89	Swinton Lions (57-32)	A	Sun 12/06/2005
Most Points Conceded	100	Salford City Reds (12-100)	A	Sun 23/03/2003
Biggest Margin of Defeat	88	Salford City Reds (12-100)	A	Sun 23/03/2003
Lowest Points Conceded	4	Dewsbury Rams (22-4)	H	Sun 15/08/2004
Lowest Points Aggregate	18	Hull Kingston Rovers (0-18)	H	Sun 03/12/2000
Games Without Defeat	8	19th May to 29th June 1999		1999
Consecutive Wins	6	30th May to 29th June 1999		1999
Outside Super League	3	12th to 26th June 2005		2005
		14th August to 3rd September		2005
		6th to 20th August		2006
Games Without a Win	47	27th May 2001 to 30th March 2003		2001-2003
Consecutive Defeats	39	6th January 2002 to 30th March 2003		2002-2003
Record Attendance (h)	6,631	Bradford Bulls	H	Sun 16/05/1999
Outside Super League	2,332	Hull Kingston Rovers	H	Sun 03/12/2000
Record Attendance (a)	12,492	Bradford Bulls	A	Sun 08/08/1999
Outside Super League	3,105	Widnes Vikings	A	Wed 09/05/2001
Lowest Attendance (h)	172	Salford City Reds	H	Wed 19/03/2003
Lowest Attendance (a)	164	Chorley Lynx	A	Sun 02/05/2004
Appearances (Career)	141	Kevin Neighbour		2001-
Points (Career)	365	Paul Thorman		2000-2004
Tries (Career)	44	Robin Peers		2002-
	42	Kevin Neighbour		2001-
Goals (Career)	137	Paul Thorman		2000-2004
Drop Goals (Career)	7	Chris Birch		2005-
Points (Season)	246	Chris Birch		2005-
Tries (Season)	25	Matt Daylight		1999
	20	Wade Liddell		2006
Goals (Season)	105	Ian Herron		1999
Drop Goals (season)	6	Willie Peters		1999
Points (Match)	26	Ian Herron (v Wakefield)	H	Sun 05/09/1999
	25	Chris Birch (v Swinton Lions)	A	Sun 12/06/2005
Goals (Match)	11	Ian Herron (v Wakefield)	H	Sun 05/09/1999
Tries (Match)	5	Andy Walker (v London Skolars)	H	Sun 22/06/2003
Hat-tricks	3	Wade Liddell (3 v Swinton Lions)	A	Sun 12/06/2005
		Wade Liddell (3 v London Skolars)	A	Sat 03/09/2005
		Wade Liddell (3 v Workington Town)	H	Sun 16/04/2006
	2	Jim Carlton (3 v Hunslet Hawks)	A	Sun 13/05/2001
		Jim Carlton (3 v Whitehaven)	A	Sun 24/06/2001
	1	Deon Bird (3 v Huddersfield Giants)	A	Sun 25/07/1999
		Damien Reed (3 v Workington)	H	Sun 08/04/2003
		Andy Walker (5 v London Skolars)	H	Sun 22/06/2003
		Mike Hobbs (3 v Swinton Lions)	H	Sun 14/08/2005
		Chris Birch (3 v Workington Town)	H	Sun 16/04/2006
Appearances (Consecutive)	65	Kevin Neighbour		Aug 2002-Mar 2005
Scoring Matches (Consecutive)	23	Wade Liddell		2006
Try Scoring Matches (Consecutive)	7	Nathan Black		2006

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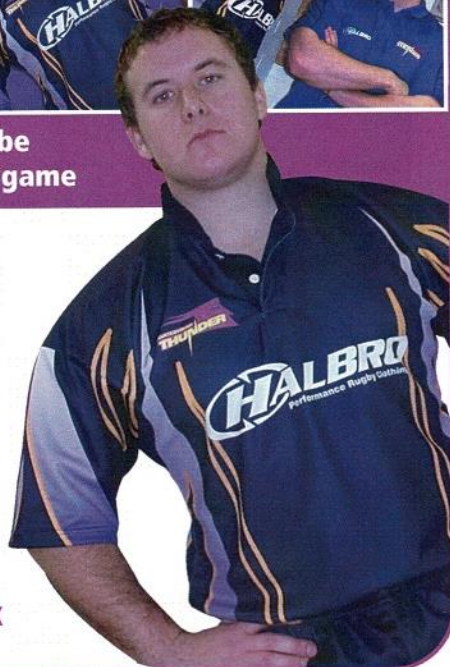


A full list of colours, sizes and prices will be available at the club shop before today's game

**Wear your club colours
with pride!**



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Book your seat for the season!

Adult season tickets - only £130

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Juniors (under 16) - only £75

Junior Ticket Offer

Under 16 season ticket allows access to all home and away grounds played by Gateshead Thunder (6 NRC and 22 League games)

Members club

£200 this includes Season Ticket

Entrance into the bar before and after the games

Free ticket to the end of season players presentation night.

Squadbuilder

Help the club and coach by subscribing to squadbuilder for as little as £5.

Membership works by blocks of £5 per month-We are aiming initially to recruit 100 blocks thus earning £6000 which will be used for the signing of players.

Anyone interested please contact the club for details.

Sponsor Package for 2007

Interested in Sponsoring Gateshead Thunder?

We have sponsorship packages for all from Gold Sponsorship to Player Sponsorship. If anyone is interested please contact any club official at today's game or on 01914335710.

Super Fan Sunday

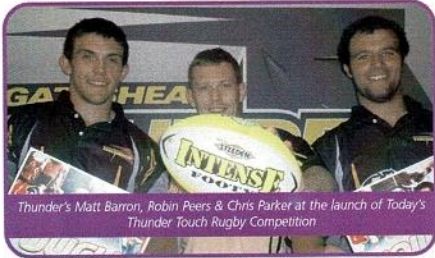
Today's Matchday Sponsor



Today we welcome our friends from Premier Travel Inn from Newcastle City Centre (New Bridge Street). This pleasant hotel, which has recently been refurbished to the latest standards, is ideally located in the centre of Newcastle, next to Eldon Square shopping, and a short walk from restaurants, Quayside and the Metro. Visit – www.premiertravelinn.com

We hope you enjoy your day!

Thunder Touch Competition



Today sees the inaugural Thunder Touch Rugby Competition, where several local sides will compete between 11am – 1.00pm, with the final being played at Half Time of the National League 2 fixture. Sides include "The Schooneratzi" with players made up of the Thunder Army, and Northumbria Touch, which is the brain child of Ex-Thunder Head Coach Seamus McCallion's Wife, Lesley. Northumbria Touch is a social touch league which takes place at Percy Park in North Shields.

Make sure you support the finalists at Half-Time!!

Hello to Our Friends from Mencap!!



At 2.30pm, our guests from The Lisa Dixon Centre of Haswell & District Mencap will take part in a coaching session in front of the Thunder faithful. Haswell & District Mencap are great friends of the club, and regularly visit The Thunderdome & The Schooner Inn. Please welcome all our friends from The Lisa Dixon Centre –

Alison Hood, Jean Dixon, Arthur Dixon, Alan Matthewson, David Betty, Pat Gibson, Diane Summerill, Sandra Hancock, Mark Underhill, Neil Bradshaw, Alyson Heppell, Julie Smith, Judith Bewick, John Steer, Brad Nicholson, Joan Huntingdon and Ian Huntingdon, Margaret Jubb and Karl Jubb

Today's Mascot

Our Mascot Today is Curtis Fletcher from Hartlepool. Curtis is 12 Years Old and celebrated his birthday on Monday. Today is his first time being a mascot so Good Luck Curtis!!!

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A look at today's visitors

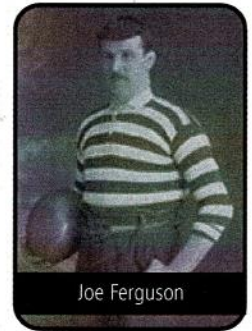
...The history of Oldham Rugby League

Rugby league in Oldham started back in 1876 when the town's first team was formed, and known as Oldham FC. Having started playing at Gartside Street during their first games, they then moved to Clarksfield in 1880 before finding a more permanent home at Watersheddings in 1889. Oldham were also one of the twenty-one clubs that left the Rugby Football Union to form the Northern Union in 1895.

They were the second club to win the Challenge Cup after beating Hunslet 19-9 in 1899, with Batley being the victors in the first two finals.

Oldham were fourth in the first title race of 1895-96 and second a year later, they finally won their first title in 1904-05 just edging out Bradford Northern by three points. Oldham won the Lancashire League in 1897-98, 1900-01 and 1907-08 as well as the Lancashire Cup in 1906-07.

The legendary Joe Ferguson (1899 - 1923) plied his trade for Oldham at the turn of the century. Always a player for the big occasion, he once landed a mighty drop goal from the half way line, to clinch a 4 - 3 victory over Swinton in the Lancashire Cup Final of 1910. Ferguson led the club to further success as they beat Wigan in the Championship final of 1910. With over 600 appearances for Oldham, Ferguson is 150 appearances ahead of his nearest rival and but for the First World War his total would have approached the 700 mark. His last game was at St Helens on April 14th, 1923 at the age of forty-four.



Joe Ferguson

Oldham won several honours during the early part of the 20th Century, winning the Lancashire League in 1921-22 and the Lancashire Cup in 1912-13, 1918-19 and 1923-24. Having lost in the 1907, 1912 and 1924 Challenge Cup finals, they finally won the trophy again in 1925 when they beat Hull Kingston Rovers 16-3 at Headingley, Leeds.

The club's last Challenge Cup final was in 1927 when they beat Swinton 26-7 at Central Park, Wigan, their fourth consecutive final and revenge for their 9-3 defeat when the same teams met in the previous year's match.

Post War

In the glory days of the 1950s, Oldham won the Championship and a host of other trophies with a side that boasted players such as Alan Davies, John Etty, Frank Pitchford, Derek "Rocky" Turner and Bernard Ganley.

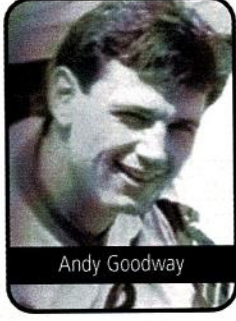
Ganley's debut came in the match against Liverpool Stanley on March 3rd, 1951, his contribution being two goals in a 16 - 3 victory over the Merseysiders, which turned out to be a humble beginning to a truly remarkable career. The following 1951-52 season saw Bernard become the first Oldham player to land over 100 goals, finishing with a total of 106. This was only the tip of the iceberg as records tumbled to the boot of "The Maestro". He would surpass the 100 mark on another six occasions and in 1957-58 became the first player in history to kick 200 goals, in club matches only. 1958-59 brought him another record that of goals in a match, splitting the uprights fourteen times with Liverpool again being on the receiving end on April 4th, 1959.



Bernard Ganley

Oldham's success in the 1950s also included two further Championship titles - in 1954-55 and 1956-57; the Lancashire League 1956-57 and 1957-58 and the Lancashire Cup 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58.

Oldham were Division Two champions in 1963-64, 1981-82 and 1987-88 while also winning the Divisional Premiership in 1987-88 and 1989-90. During this time, Oldham signed the young Andy Goodway, after he was spotted playing for Castleford amateur team Redhill against Saddleworth Rangers. He made his debut at Bramley in the last game of the 1979-80 season, but did not play in the first team again until the second division Championship winning 1981-82 campaign, when he gained a reputation as a rugged "tearaway" of a second row forward. Andy was quite at home in the higher league and won Great Britain Under 24 honours in January 1983. Full international selection soon followed and he went on to win 11 caps during his first spell with Oldham, including all the tests on the 1984 tour and had the honour of being Great Britain captain in 1985. Goodway left for Central Park later that year, where he became part of the infamous "all stars" side of the late 80' and early 90's. Goodway's second spell at Oldham was in the 1993 / 94 season. Bob Lindner took over as captain-coach following the departure of Peter Tunks in February 1994 and Goodway became Linder's assistant. The pair successfully averted the team's relegation to the Second Division and Andy's experience was to prove a vital factor in the club surviving that term back in the first division and he finished the season as assistant coach to Bob Lindner. When the famous Australian decided his future lay back home, Andy was offered the job of first team coach at Oldham. This he



Andy Goodway

accepted, hanging up his boots in the process and on very limited resources he steered the club into a position in Super League. Andy was one of seven players chosen to be original members of the Oldham Rugby League "Hall of Fame", when it was first opened in November 1995.

When the Rupert Murdoch funded Super League competition was proposed, part of the deal was that some traditional clubs would merge. Oldham were supposed to merge with Salford to form a club to be known as Manchester which would compete in Super League. This was resisted and instead they adopted the name Oldham Bears and were founder members of the new league. Relegation came in the second year of the new summer season, when they finished below Paris St Germain.

In 1997 under Chairman Jim Quinn, they went bankrupt with debts of over £2m. A new team Oldham Roughyeds was then formed in December to play at a lower level. The Roughyeds tag had been a long accepted nickname for the old club. To many loyal fans' dismay, the club sold the dilapidated Watershedding in 1997 and moved to Oldham Athletic AFC's Boundary Park stadium in nearby Chadderton / Royton.

The Roughyeds continue to play at the town's Boundary Park, and current coach Steve Deakin has guided his troops into 4th in this season's National League 2, with an eye firmly on a swift return back to National League 1.

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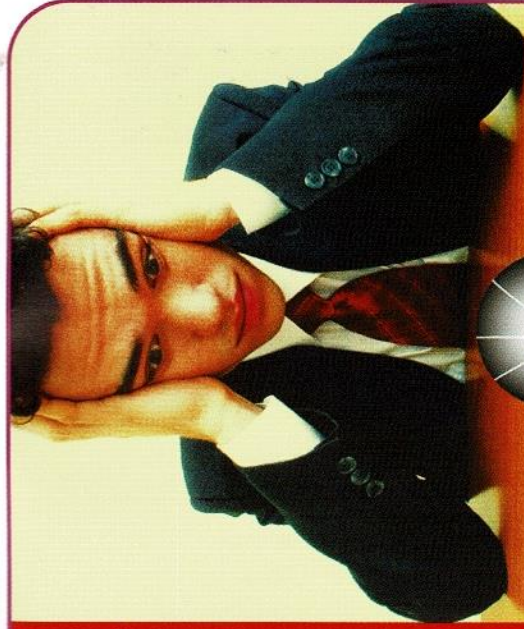
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