

# Today's Squads



## Oldham

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chris <b>BAINES</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Simon <b>BALDWIN</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jason <b>BOULTS</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Matty <b>BROOKS</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Daryl <b>CARDISS</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | James <b>COYLE</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tommy <b>GOULDEN</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tommy <b>GRUNDY</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Danny <b>HALLIWELL</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Simeon <b>HOYLE</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Phil <b>JOSEPH</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Craig <b>LITTLER</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mick <b>NANYN</b>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Paul <b>O'CONNOR</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Rob <b>ROBERTS</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Adam <b>ROBINSON</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Neil <b>RODEN</b>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lee <b>SANDERSON</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Warren <b>STEVENS</b>    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Marcus <b>ST HILAIRE</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Said <b>TAMGHART</b>     |
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## Hull KR

|                          |                         |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben <b>COCKAYNE</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben <b>FISHER</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben <b>GALEA</b>        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chaz <b>I'ANSON</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chev <b>WALKER</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chris <b>CHESTER</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Clint <b>NEWTON</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Daniel <b>FITZHENRY</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | David <b>MILLS</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Garret <b>CROSSMAN</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jake <b>WEBSTER</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | James <b>WEBSTER</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jason <b>NETHERTON</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jon <b>STEEL</b>        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Kirk <b>NETHERTON</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Kris <b>WELHAM</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Liam <b>WATTS</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Luke <b>MENZIES</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Makali <b>AIZUE</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mick <b>VELLA</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Paul <b>COOKE</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Peter <b>FOX</b>        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Rhys <b>LOVEGROVE</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Scott <b>MURRELL</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Shaun <b>BRISCOE</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stanley <b>GENE</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

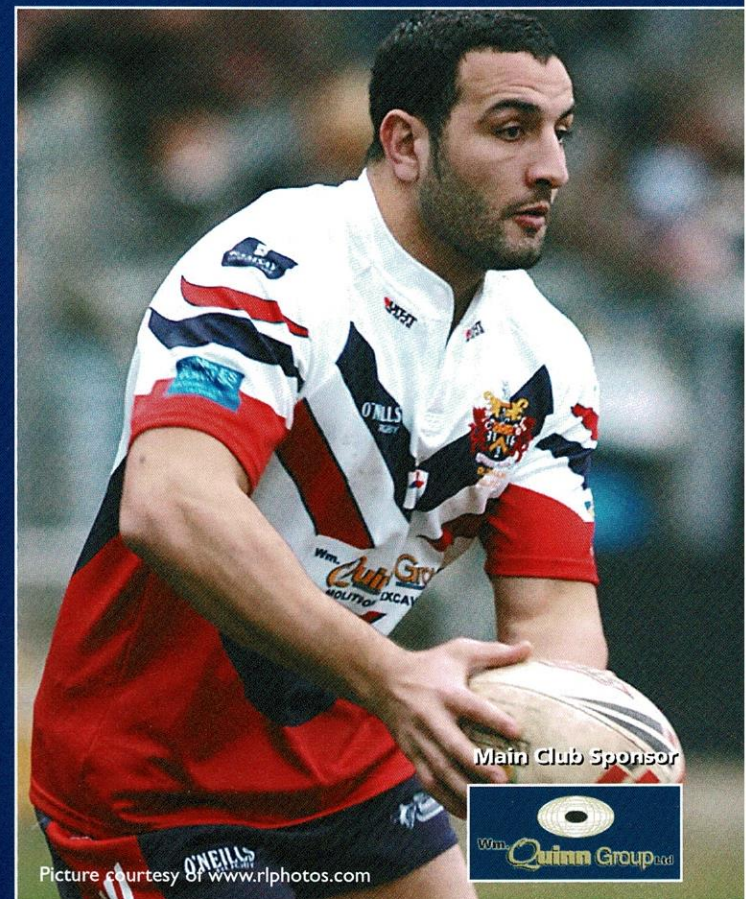
## OFFICIALS

Referee: P. Bentham Touch Judges: J. Farrell C. Sharrard

# RILEY

The Official Programme of  
Oldham Rugby League  
Football Club

Price £1.00



Picture courtesy of www.rlphotos.com

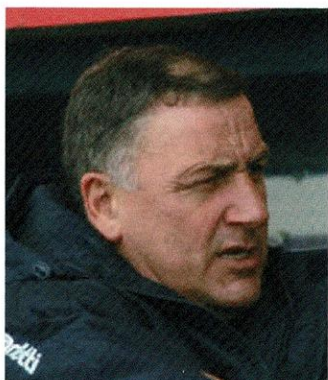
v Hull KR

Pre-Season Friendly

Sunday 20th January 2008 Kick-Off 3.00pm







**Welcome to all our fans for the first home game of the 2008 season, albeit in the guise of a pre-season game but**

**one that I feel whets the appetite of every rugby fan in the town - Hull KR and the vast array of talent they have assembled for the new super league campaign.**

Their coach, Justin Morgan has brought in members of last year's NRL winning team the Melbourne Storm, West Tigers, Gold Coast Titans and also added Chev Walker - ex Leeds - and several other Super League players to present a squad as strong as their club has had for many a day. It will be a big challenge for us as a club but one we are relishing and one that will give me plenty of pointers as to what we need to be doing over the next few weeks leading into the NR Cup.

The game also comes on the back of a very physically demanding game for Kevin Sinfield's testimonial match last week but all the players know that if we are to be successful in our aims this year then these type of games are an integral part of the preparation for our future fixtures in both

the Northern Rail Cup and the league campaign. In reviewing the Leeds game it is well worth noting that we only conceded two clean line breaks in the first half - two tries from kicks and one when we ran out of numbers as they played basketball almost - and ran at a completion rate of 82% with the ball in possession, statistics which I thought were very impressive against one of, if not the best club side in the world. We also achieved this without the services of seven of the squad who are short to medium term absentees, indeed some of them should be playing today as we continue to ready all our players.

In concluding I would like to reiterate what has been said previously in this column, that we are all involved in the future of the club, each with his / her own responsibilities and that we should execute them responsibly, vocally, visually and enthusiastically for the better of the club. I know that we can count on YOU, the fans to do so but help us do more by encouraging others to come and see the brand of football we can deliver and take us to the next level.

I look forward to seeing you this year and hope you enjoy the game

*Deaks*

**Welcome back to Boundary Park for the first time this season as we entertain Super League opposition in Hull Kingston Rovers.**

After coming so close last season to gaining promotion the club has made its intentions to be serious contenders again this year with the close season singings brought to the club and the retention of a large part of last year's squad.

We have also tried to look ahead by signing a good deal of those players on two year deals which gives both the player and the club some security.

We effectively started the season with a nice easy game last week against Leeds Rhinos where we were robbed by some poor refereeing decisions!

Seriously though although the scoreline looked one sided we can take a lot from that game knowing that the level of opposition we will face this season will be nowhere near the same level of the Super League Champions and we performed well especially in defence where we showed great determination and persistence.

If we can maintain that sort of commitment throughout the year we won't go far wrong.

Our opponents today were one of the surprise packages of last season as not only did they avoid relegation after being the bookies favourites but also showed they are capable of not only holding a position in Super League but of becoming a force to be reckoned with.

Their close season signings have again demonstrated their intent and ambition and I don't think anybody would be saying this time round that they will finish in

bottom spot.

The Hull KR club are of course a great example of what clubs currently in National League can achieve and their rise over the recent three seasons or so has been remarkable. It just goes to show what hard work and dedication can bring and we for one would certainly love to emulate their recent achievements.

There have of course been several connections in recent seasons between the clubs with Jon Goddard signing for them after leaving us and then of course last season we had Matty Brooks, Byron Ford and Gareth Morton on loan from them and we all know what an important contribution they made.

It will no doubt need another massive effort from the lads today to match the full time professionals from over the hill but it is also a sign of the development of the club that our first two pre season friendlies have been against such high quality teams - a position which I am absolutely sure many other clubs would gladly swap to be in.

Finally it goes without saying that we wish Marcus St Hilaire, Mick Nannyn, Danny Halliwell, Daryl Cardiss, Simon Baldwin, Matty Brooks, Phil Joseph, Tommy Grundy and Tommy Goulden well in their Oldham careers as well as welcoming to the club Mark Cass and Rachael Johnson our assistant coach and physio respectively.

As ever please get behind the team and make as much noise as possible!

Enjoy the game

*Chris Hamilton*





## EIGHT NEW MEN IN A 24-STRONG SQUAD

**Roger Halstead looks at the players who carry Oldham hopes into 2008**

**ROUGHYEDS have assembled a 24-man squad for the 2008 campaign, including eight new signings.**

**CHRIS BAINES** (back-row): Signed on a two-year deal for 2008 and 2009 following the good impression he made on Roughyeds in the previous two seasons. Aged 23, he joined the club originally on loan from Warrington. Toured New Zealand with Great Britain Young Lions in 2003 after representing his country at youth level against Australia and France. A product of Wigan St Pat's.

**SIMON BALDWIN** (prop): One of the most experienced forwards in the squad, formerly with Leigh, Halifax, Sheffield, Salford, Rochdale Hornets and Whitehaven. Having ended last season at Whitehaven and having had two spells with hometown Leigh, Simon has made his seventh move in a long career to sign a one-year Roughyeds deal. Made 127 Super League appearances, mainly in the second-row, but now widely regarded as a prop.

**JASON BOULTS** (prop): This 24-year-old former Bradford and Halifax workhorse was a real stalwart of the Oldham pack in 2007. He played in 25 games and for much of the season he was first-choice No 8 after producing an outstanding performance in the win at Celtic Crusaders in May. A wholehearted grafter with a huge engine, Jason never takes a backward step.

**MATTY BROOKS** (half-back/hooker): Joined Roughyeds last season on loan from Hull KR, scoring two tries in 17 appearances and ending the campaign with a terrific show as a substitute in the NL2 Grand Final against Featherstone at Headingley. Now a fully-fledged Oldham player on a one-year deal he will have to make the adjustment from full-time pro with Rovers to part-time footballer with Roughyeds. Turned pro for Bradford, then on to Hull KR. A native of East Hull.

**DARYL CARDISS** (utility back): Aged 30, this hugely experienced utility back has played for Wigan, Halifax, Warrington and Widnes. Joined Wigan from Hunslet Boys Club in 1994. Made a total of 142 Super League appearances and scored 46 tries in the elite competition. Enjoyed a fine stay at Halifax, for whom he scored 39 tries in 99 outings.

**JAMES COYLE** (scrum-half): Now contracted to Roughyeds until November, 2009, this talented 22-year-old joined the club from Wigan midway through last season and made an immediate impact. His 14 appearances yielded six tries, but it was the vast number of tries he made for others that underlined his real potential. Another product of Wigan St Pat's, he was a shooting star in Wigan's academy system before spending the whole of the 2006 season on loan at Widnes.

**TOMMY GOULDEN** (back-row): Equally at home in the



Inset (top left) Simon Baldwin; others (left to right): Marcus St Hilaire, Danny Halliwell, Phil Joseph, Mick Nanyin, Daryl Cardiss, Tommy Grundy, Tommy Goulden.

second-row or at loose, 26-year-old Tommy was a key member of the Rochdale Hornets pack in 2006 and 2007, having been signed from amateur rugby in Leigh by Bobbie Goulding in 2005. Leigh born, he picked up every possible honour as an amateur, including captaincy of BARLA Great Britain, before turning pro for Rochdale.

**TOMMY GRUNDY** (back-row): Aged 22, Leigh-lad Tommy is one of the younger members of the Roughyeds squad. Can play equally well in any of the back-row spots as well as centre. Turned pro for Warrington as an 18-year-old, then played for Leigh and Blackpool before returning to his hometown club, Leigh, for 2006 and 2007. Joined Roughyeds on a two-year deal.

**DANNY HALLIWELL** (centre): One of eight new signings, 26-year-old Leigh-born Danny was on loan at Leigh, from Salford, last season and he has also worn the colours of Halifax, Warrington and Wakefield. Can play anywhere across the back division and, like many of his Oldham colleagues, has considerable Super League experience. His 43 top-flight outings comprise three for Wakefield, 10 for Wigan, 25 for Halifax and five for Leigh.

**SIMEON HOYLE** (hooker): Edinburgh-born Simeon is half-way through a two-year contract with Roughyeds. Aged 28, and formerly with Keighley Cougars and Halifax, he is a hooker of the old school, tough in defence but with an ability to make things happen from dummy half. In 2003 he helped Keighley to win promotion to NL1 by beating Sheffield in the NL2 Grand Final.

**PHIL JOSEPH** (utility): Turned pro with Huddersfield Giants and, as a teenager, played 14 Super League games for the Giants in 2004. Moved to Swinton Lions in 2005, scored 11 tries in 29 games, and was named NL2 player of the year. Suitably impressed, Hull KR signed him on a two-year deal, but after one season at Craven Park he left the Super League-bound Robins to join Halifax, from whom Oldham signed him on a two-year contract.

**GARETH LANGLEY** (wing): Pacy, and a good finisher, 'Gaz' joined Roughyeds prior to the 2007 season after five seasons at

St Helens. He was Saints academy player of the year in 2005 and runner-up in 2006. Played at Salford as a teenager before joining his hometown club at Knowsley Road. In 30 games for Oldham last season, he scored 13 tries and kicked 35 goals for a points haul of 122.

**RICHARD MERVILL** (prop): Formerly with Halifax and Keighley, Richard had a superb season in his first for the Roughyeds in 2007. Walked off with two major awards at the end-of-year Awards Night and was rewarded with a two-year contract for 2008 and 2009. Suffered a broken hand in one of his early games in 2007 and was similarly unlucky in the build-up to the 2008 campaign when he dislocated an elbow in training. There will be no complaints from the fans if he bounces back this year like he did last.

**MICK NANYN** (centre): A points machine - one of the best goalkickers in the English game - Mick has starred for Swinton, Rochdale Hornets, Whitehaven and Widnes and has smashed club scoring records wherever he has been. He took the Widnes record off Jonathan Davies in 2006. He played 29 games for Widnes last season, scoring 28 tries and kicking 161 goals for a points haul of 434. Also has the distinction of having played in each of the last four NL1 Grand Finals, two for Whitehaven and two for Widnes.

**PAUL O'CONNOR** (full-back): A Great Britain Students international, Widnes-born Paul played briefly on loan for Oldham in 2006, then returned in 2007 on contract having let it be known to the club that, in the May, he would be leaving for a pre-arranged sabbatical in the southern hemisphere. He had a great first half of the season but he didn't play again for the club until he reappeared in the first pre-season friendly of 2008 at Leeds. Having signed a new two-year deal he is set fair for a long association with the Roughyeds.

**LUCAS ONYANGO** (wing): A real flier, aged 26, Lucas grew up in rugby union in his native Kenya. Has played for Sale Sharks, Manchester and Leigh in rugby union, and Widnes Vikings in League. He had a great season for Oldham in 2007 when he scored 18 tries in 23 outings only to damage a shoulder at the end of the year. He entered the 2008 season waiting for an operation on that shoulder and was expected to be sidelined at least until the start of the NL2 campaign at Easter.

**ROB ROBERTS** (back row): Joined Roughyeds in late July, 2007 and landed a match-winning drop goal at York in a 15-14 win on his debut. Played Super League with Hull, Halifax and Huddersfield and also represented several clubs in the National League. Known as 'Two Bobs' - for obvious reasons - he put his career back on track with Oldham after a difficult time at Leigh and revelled in his new responsibilities as captain.

**ADAM ROBINSON** (back row): A tough-as-teak young Yorkshireman, Adam played much of his early rugby at Wakefield. Aged 21 he turned down Featherstone in order to sign for the Roughyeds last year from Doncaster. A product of the Stanley Rangers amateur club in Wakefield, Adam thrives on his defensive duties but his first campaign in an Oldham

shirt was cut short by a shoulder injury on which he had an operation. He is determined to bounce back, having signed a new two-year deal.

**NEIL RODEN** (stand-off): Neil rejoined Oldham from Leigh in 2007 after leaving the club initially to go to Batley in 2004. In his first stint here he scored 290 points (68 tries and 18 drop goals) in 142 games over four and a half seasons. He has overtaken Mark Sibson as the 'new' club's leading all-time try scorer. Last season, he was an influential midfield organiser, playing in all 34 games and forming a more-than-useful half-back pairing in the second half of the season with his fellow Wiganer James Coyle.

**LEE SANDERSON** (half-back): One of the unluckiest players in the game, Lee is currently on extensive rehab after a major knee reconstruction -- and it wasn't the first time he had been under the knife. Extremely talented, and a gifted footballer and goalkicker, his father, Mark, played for Rochdale Hornets and his uncle, Ian, was a hooker at Oldham in Watersheddings days. Lee has previously played for Leigh, London, Rochdale and Barrow.

**WARREN STEVENS** (prop): Yet another vastly experienced performer with more than a century of Super League outings on his CV. This former Warrington and Leigh stalwart was playing with Blackpool last season on a match-to-match basis when Roughyeds boss Steve Deakin invited him to accept a more permanent arrangement with the Roughyeds. He played only a handful of games at the back end of last season, but Deaks has a load of faith in him as underlined by his new two-year contract.

**MARCUS ST HILAIRE** (wing/full-back): A star with Leeds Rhinos, Huddersfield Giants and Bradford Bulls, 30-year-old Marcus has joined Oldham on a two-year deal. He played 24 Super League games last season, 2007, representing Bradford 19 times on the wing, once as a substitute and four times as fullback when deputising for Michael Platt. His record speaks for itself -- 39 tries in 111 outings for Leeds; 37 tries in 74 games for Huddersfield; and 14 tries in 39 games for Bradford.

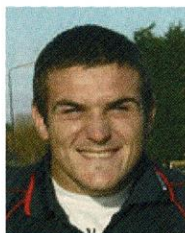
**SAID TAMGHART** (back row): A French international, Said has represented his country at every level, including full Test matches against Australia and New Zealand. Came under the influence of Oldham coach Steve Deakin when both were at UTC, better known now as Perpignan-based Catalans Dragons. Said was popular with fans in his first season at Oldham when he made 29 appearances, most of them coming off the bench as an impact forward.

**LEE WINGFIELD** (utility): Played for Great Britain at amateur level in Russia, France and Australia, but desperately unlucky with injuries since he turned pro for Oldham on a two-year deal for 2006 and 2007. In top form early last year until he broke a hand and then suffered a serious knee injury against Swinton in his first game back. Currently on rehab after an operation, but hoping to be fit to make his comeback in the next few weeks.

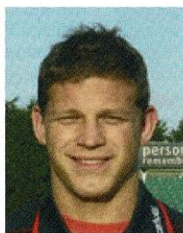




PRIDE OF  
EAST HULL



Ben Cockyane



Peter Fox



Shaun Briscoe



Chris Chester



David Mills



Ben Fisher



Stanley Gene



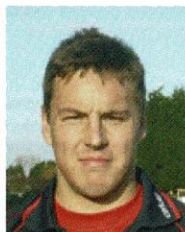
James Webster



Jason Netherton



Jon Steel



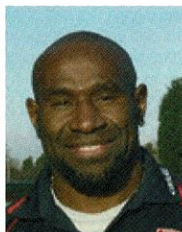
Kirk Netherton



Chaz l'Anson



Rhys Lovegrove



Makali Aizue



Luke Menzies



Scott Murrell



Paul Cooke



Kris Welham



Daniel Fitzhenry



## January

|                 |                |          |               |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|---------------|
| Sun 13th        | LEEDS RHINOS   | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>Sun 20th</b> | <b>HULL KR</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| Sun 27th        | ROCHDALE       | A        | 3:00pm        |

## February

|                     |                 |          |               |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|
| <b>NRC Fri 1st</b>  | <b>SWINTON</b>  | <b>H</b> | <b>8:00pm</b> |
| NRC Fri 8th         | SALFORD         | A        | 8:00pm        |
| NRC Sun 17th        | ROCHDALE        | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>NRC Fri 22nd</b> | <b>SALFORD</b>  | <b>H</b> | <b>8:00pm</b> |
| <b>NRC Fri 29th</b> | <b>ROCHDALE</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>8:00pm</b> |

## March

|                    |                     |          |               |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sun 9th            | CHALL CUP 3rd ROUND |          |               |
| NRC Sun 16th       | SWINTON             | A        | 3:00pm        |
| NL Fri 21st        | ROCHDALE            | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>NL Mon 24th</b> | <b>HUNSLET</b>      | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| <b>NL Sun 30th</b> | <b>YORK</b>         | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |

## April

|                    |                      |          |               |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sun 6th            | NORTHERN RAIL CUP QR |          |               |
| NL Sun 13th        | KEIGHLEY             | A        | 3:00pm        |
| Sun 20th           | CHALL CUP 4th ROUND  |          |               |
| <b>NL Sun 27th</b> | <b>ROCHDALE</b>      | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |

## May

|                    |                     |          |               |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------|
| <b>NL Mon 5th</b>  | <b>BLACKPOOL</b>    | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| NL Sat 10th        | LONDON              | A        | 3:00pm        |
| Sun 11th           | CHALL CUP 5th ROUND |          |               |
| <b>NL Sun 18th</b> | <b>SWINTON</b>      | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |

|             |                      |   |        |
|-------------|----------------------|---|--------|
| NL Sat 24th | GATESHEAD            | A | 6:30pm |
| Sun 25th    | NORTHERN RAIL CUP QF |   |        |
| NL Fri 30th | DONCASTER            | A | 8:00pm |

## June

|                    |                      |          |               |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sun 1st            | CHALL CUP QF         |          |               |
| <b>NL Sun 8th</b>  | <b>LONDON</b>        | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| NL Sun 15th        | HUNSLET              | A        | 3:00pm        |
| Sun 15th           | NORTHERN RAIL CUP SF |          |               |
| NL Sun 22nd        | BLACKPOOL            | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>NL Sun 29th</b> | <b>GATESHEAD</b>     | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |

## July

|                     |                      |          |               |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| NL Sun 6th          | WORKINGTON           | A        | 3:00pm        |
| Sun 6th             | NORTH RAIL CUP FINAL |          |               |
| NL Fri 11th         | BARROW               | A        | 7:30pm        |
| <b>NL Thur 17th</b> | <b>DONCASTER</b>     | <b>H</b> | <b>7:30pm</b> |
| <b>NL Sun 27th</b>  | <b>KEIGHLEY</b>      | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| Sun 27th            | CHALLENGE CUP SF     |          |               |

## August

|                    |                     |          |               |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------|
| NL Sun 3rd         | YORK                | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>NL Sun 10th</b> | <b>BARROW</b>       | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| NL Sun 17th        | SWINTON             | A        | 3:00pm        |
| <b>NL Sun 24th</b> | <b>WORKINGTON</b>   | <b>H</b> | <b>3:00pm</b> |
| Sat 30th           | CHALLENGE CUP FINAL |          |               |

## September

|          |  |  |  |
|----------|--|--|--|
| Sun 7th  | ELIMINATION PLAY OFFS                  |  |  |
| Sun 14th | QUALIFYING/<br>ELIMINATION SEMI-FINALS |  |  |
| Sun 21st | FINAL ELIMINATOR                       |  |  |
| Sun 28th | N L GRAND FINAL                        |  |  |

## October

|         |                 |  |  |
|---------|-----------------|--|--|
| Sat 4th | S L GRAND FINAL |  |  |
|---------|-----------------|--|--|