

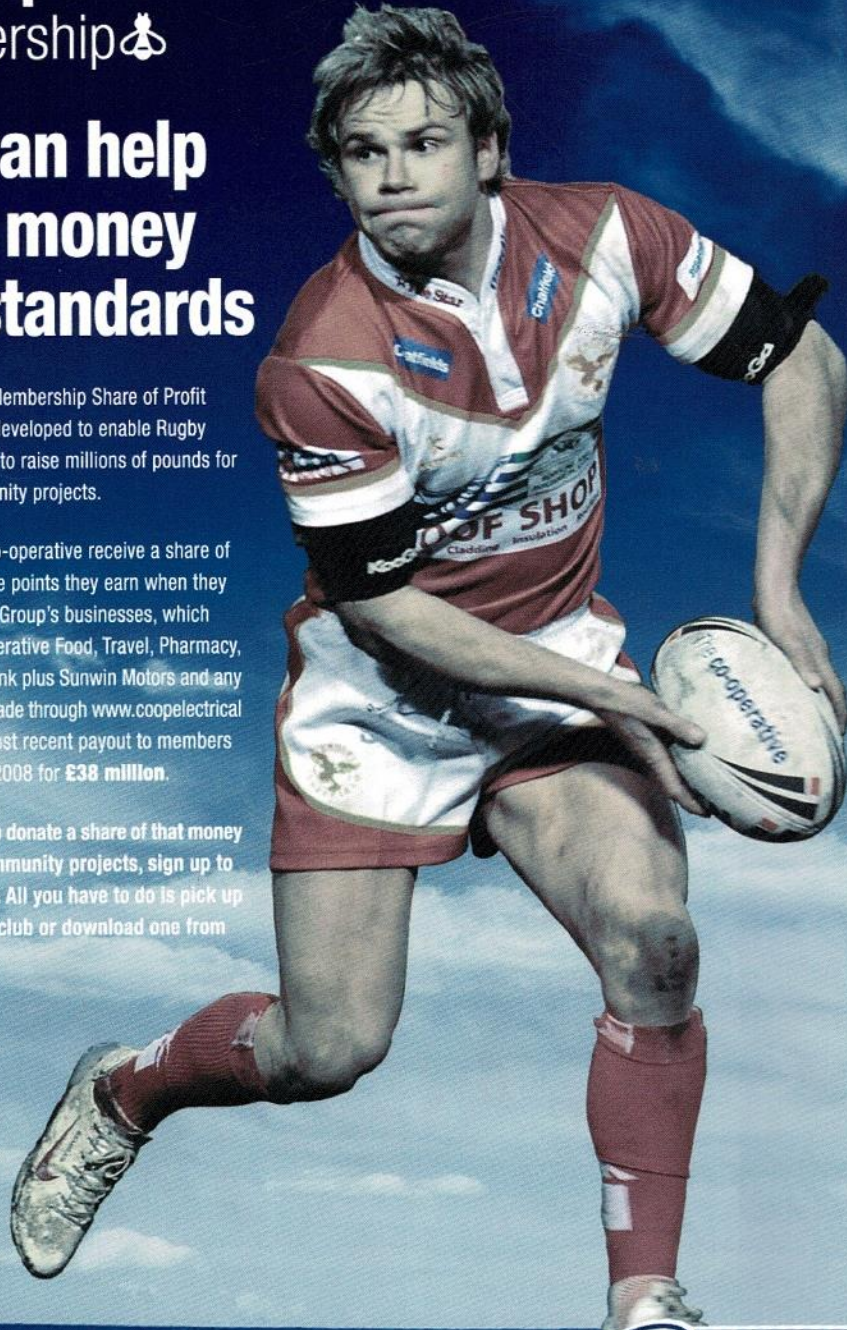
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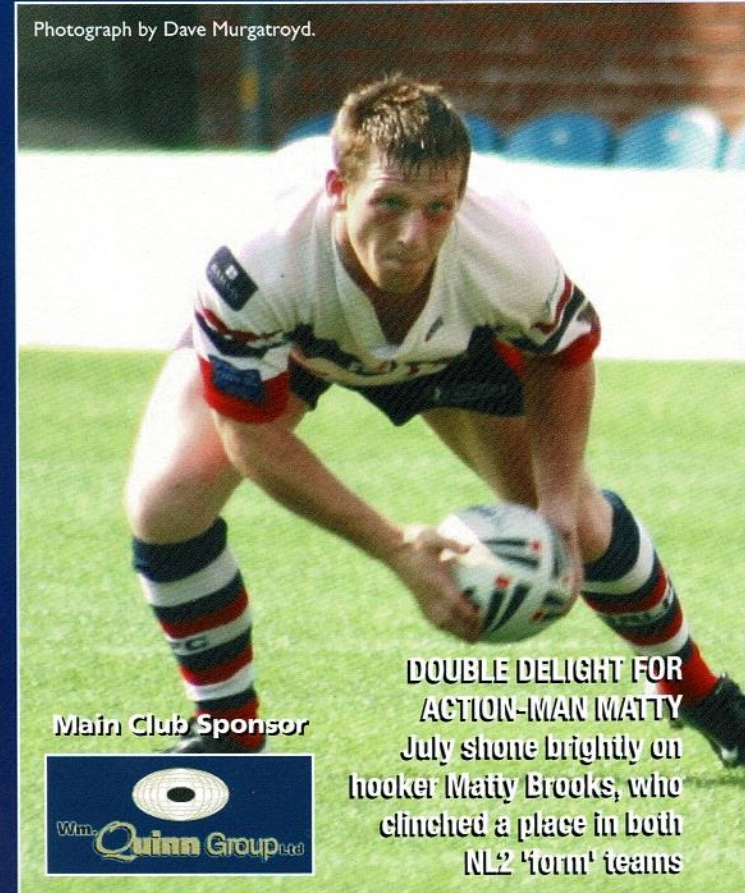
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DOUBLE DELIGHT FOR ACTION-MAN MATTY
July shone brightly on hooker Matty Brooks, who clinched a place in both NL2 'form' teams

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From the Boardroom

With Chris Hamilton...



This afternoon sees what hopefully will be a vital clash between two sides who have top two aspirations come the end of season.

I say hopefully as this has been written before the Doncaster game and after a disappointing defeat at York last Sunday. What was particularly annoying about that defeat was that York did nothing that we didn't expect them to do and we fell for the five card trick and played into their hands with the game becoming messy and disjointed.

We will have gone some way to rectifying that on Wednesday, hopefully, and like ourselves Barrow will also be desperate to get back on track after a rocky few weeks.

They have gone from looking almost certain to win the league to fighting for an automatic spot, like ourselves, courtesy of a poor run of form that has seen them win only one (against us!!) of their last four games.

With that in mind and the chance to cement their position in second place with a win today they will certainly need no motivation.

For us we must maintain our excellent home form and hope that we can keep the pressure on as we go into the last two weeks of the season.

Whatever the outcome, however, nobody

amongst the neutrals can complain about a lack of excitement in National League Two this season with more twists and turns than a game of Twister and I am sure with more to come as the regular season draws to a close.

The signing deadline will have also passed on Friday just gone and it will be interesting to see what movements there have been amongst clubs as they make their final push.

With an extra month off for the two teams that make automatic promotion there is a huge bonus to be gained for the players and staff of those clubs and you can be sure that today's game will be tight and very well contested.

At least we have had some good news this week with Robert Roberts receiving a sending off sufficient verdict at the disciplinary last Tuesday. It was certainly the right decision and watch this space for news concerning the other player involved in the incident.

We will also be hoping that there is a decent crowd in today to watch the game and we ask you, as ever, to show your support vocally. The noise you made in the second half against Keighley when we were down to twelve men and the team put in a fantastic effort to win that match was great to hear and was, once again, much appreciated by the lads.

Enjoy the game.

Chris Hamilton



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CoachesComments

With Steve Deakin...



Welcome to today's game against Barrow for what should be one of the best games of the year and certainly one of the most

important, if not the most important.

One of the most important things in the game today will be the level of support the players PERCEIVE to have from you, the fans. I say perceive because if the fans that have given such great vocal support all year are drowned out in times of adversity by the negative comments of the few, which the players were certainly conscious of during last weeks game at York, then the efforts of EVERYBODY at Oldham RLFC this year could well be negated and one reason for not having to go through the route of the play offs to get promotion.

We all feel that this year has been a great year for the club and that with one final push and effort we can get to the promised land of NFP 1 and a step closer to what would be the ultimate dream of applying for a franchise in 2010. Little wonder then, with only 240 minutes to go, we are all nervous, but it is now that mental strength and fortitude is needed by everybody as well as the ability to support each other – hence the word SUPPORTER.

I know we can trust in you to deliver and I can promise that the players will be doing all in their power to deliver on their part. This year we have made Boundary Park somewhat of a fortress and saved some of our best performances for the fans when we are at home. Today will be the defining moment of our 2008 season and hopefully a day that sees us breaking away from another contender. Play your part to the full, we WILL play ours and together we can share a drink in a few weeks time and celebrate a great year.

Enjoy the game

Deaks



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Commercial Corner

With Mick Bradshaw...



Good afternoon all and welcome back to Commercial Corner.

Next event in our social calendar is our "popular" annual golf day,

which will be held at Crompton & Royton Golf Club on 12 September, 1pm shotgun start. Our golf day offers you a fantastic opportunity to network with other companies. The day also gives you a chance to reward your special employees and/or to entertain those important clients.

The response we've had from companies entering teams in our annual golf day has been fantastic. We have both old and new companies on board this year which is most pleasing. There are still a few team places available. A full list of teams will appear in my next edition.

Cost for a team of 4 is £325 + vat or you can sponsor a hole for only £75 + vat.

If you'd like to enter a team or sponsor a hole please contact me on 0161 628 3677 or email mbradshaw.orlfc@hotmail.co.uk

Details of our "End of Season Awards Night", will be announced in our next programme.

ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

MARKETING MATTERS

Again our popular club mascot "Roary" the Roughyed has been out and about the town making loads of friends along the way.

Last Saturday "the lovable rogue" attended Park Cakes fun day and a great day was had by all. Roary entertained the public along with his close friend Chaddy and Oldham born Emmerdale star Kelvin Fletcher. Kelvin is a huge fan of the Roughyeds and he asked Roary to wish the boys all the best for the remainder of the season. If anyone out there would like Roary to make a personal appearance then please get in touch and subject to availability he'll be there!!



Our meeting with the amateur clubs at the last home game went down very well indeed. Our amateur friends are very pleased with the proposals we put in place and they are all looking forward in working closely with us. Our aim at the Roughyeds is for the whole of rugby league in the town to move forward together!

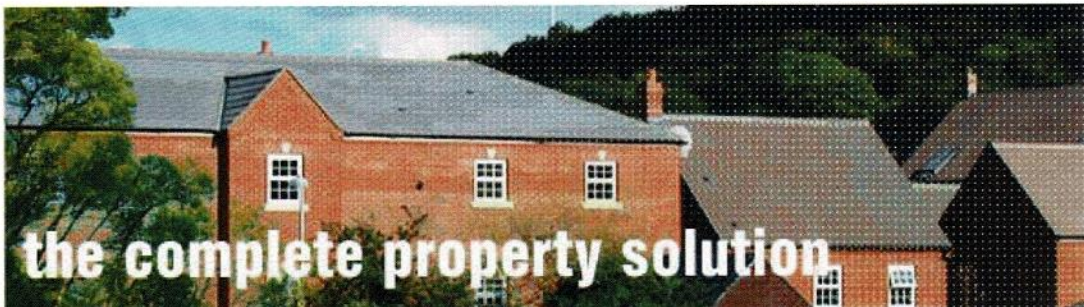
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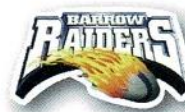
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Martin Ostler 2nd Row
Joined Barrow in

2007 and made his debut against Blackpool Panthers in. Previously played for Hull FC (1998-2001), Doncaster (2002-2007) and Sheffield in 2006 where he helped them to win the Grand Final

Andrew Beattie Full Back, Centre
Signed for Barrow in 2008 and made his debut against Warrington Academy. Previous clubs were West Mitchelton Panthers (1997-1998), North Sydney Bears (1999-2001) where he was top try scorer. Switched codes in 2002 and played for New South Wales Waratahs where he was chosen as a Australian U 21 R.U. shadow player. Went to Manly Warringah Sea Eagles & Hornsby Lions-in 2003 and then returned to North Sydney Bears (2003-2004). Went to France in 2005 and played for ASC Carcassonne X111 where he was top try scorer. Came to the UK in 2006 and joined Workington who he captained and was awarded Players' Player, New Player and Star Player of the Year awards.

Liam Harrison Centre, Full Back
Joined Barrow in 2005 and made his debut against Leigh Academy. Previously played for Barrow Island, Warrington Academy, North Walsham R.U. for whom he played in A Counties Final at Twickenham. Represented Cumbria against Tonga and USA and got his Ireland cap against Russia.

Adam Hughes, Centre
Adam joined Barrow from Oldham in 2007 and made his professional debut against London in 1997. Previous clubs, Oldham, Leigh, Widnes, Halifax, Wakefield and Leeds. Adam is a Welsh international.

James Nixon, Wing
Joined Barrow in 2004 from amateur club Dalton and made his debut against Gateshead in 2004. Was voted Barrow's most improved player in

2005 and was the top try scorer in 2006.

Darren Holt, Scrum half, hooker.
Rejoined Barrow in 2004 and made his professional debut for Carlisle against Hull KR in 1995. Previous clubs were Carlisle 1995-1997, Barrow 1998-2002 and Whitehaven 2003. He also played for RU clubs Ayr, Wigton and Furness. Darren Holt has just been granted a testimonial He is the all-time club points scorer and goal kicker and holds club records for goals in a season, drop goals in a season (held jointly with Steve Tickle) and drop goals in a career. He is the only player in 133 years to play and score in every match in a season. Darren has won numerous individual awards both for Barrow and nationally and has represented both Cumbria County and the Northern Ford Premiership select sides.

Andy Ellis, Hooker
Signed professional for Hull KR in 2003, played for GB students and was man of the match. At Hull KR was a NR Cup Final winner in 2005 and was nominated for Young Player of the Year in NL 1. In 2006 he was a NR cup runner up, finally helping HKR to Super League in 2006. Joined Barrow for the 2007 season and made his debut against Whitehaven. Was he was made vice captain and won the Young Player of the Year award.

Mick Cassidy, Utility Forward
Mick started his career out at his hometown club, Wigan and progressed through the academy ranks to make his senior debut at the tender age of 18. Mick served a total of 14 years at the club, enjoying a testimonial in 2000. Cassidy was in the Wigan team of the decade and was acknowledged as one of the games best utility players. He joined the Widnes Vikings in 2005 earning the 'Player of the Year' award in his first season there. He has represented Great Britain, England and Ireland and has been called up to the Ireland squad for the World Cup. He joined Barrow at the start of this season.

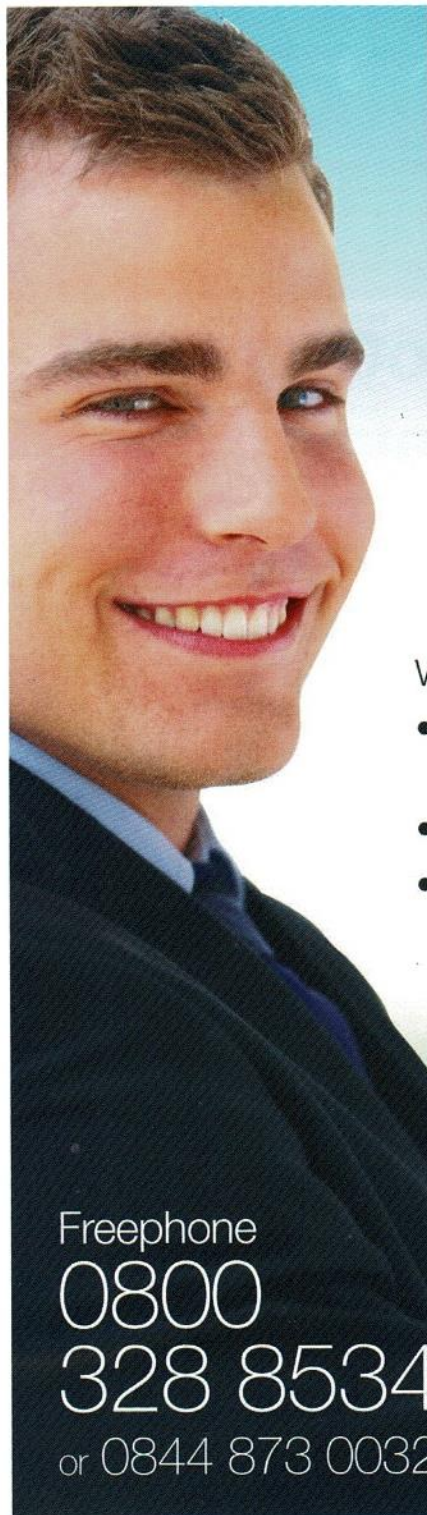
Brett McDermott, Utility
Brett is the ultimate utility player who it is said has played in every position except Full Back. Has had two spells at Barrow and also played for Whitehaven and Workington. He made his debut against Bradford Northern, and has represented Cumbria.

Dave Armistead, Loose Forward
Joined Barrow in 2007 and made his debut against Whitehaven. He was voted Player of the Year at the end of his first season with the Raiders as well as Players' Player of the Year. His career in Australia was with Penrith Panthers from 2003 to 2004 and Windsor Wolves from 2005 to 2006 where they won the Jim Beam Cup.

Brett Carter, Full Back
Brett is a product of the Barrow Academy, he represented Great Britain Amateur U18'SV Australia Schoolboys, Australia Institute Of Sport, France & Wales, and toured with Barla 18's/Open Age.

Paul Raftery
Paul made his Barrow debut against Halifax in 2005. He has represented Lancashire Schools and Lancashire at U18, U23, and Open Age level and then went on to represent Great Britain at Open Age. He was voted Evening Mail Player of the Year and Players' Player of the Year and Supporters' Player of the Year in 2006

Joe McKenna, Back Row
Joe is another product of the Barrow Academy where he was voted Academy Player of the year in 2007. He made his senior debut against London Skolars in 2007. He played his amateur rugby with Roose Pioneers.
Jamie Marshall, Utility
Jamie is another Roose graduate who signed for Barrow in 1997 and made his Senior debut against Whitehaven in 1999. He moved to Whitehaven and returned to Barrow in 2003 when he was top try scorer with 26 tries from 23 appearances, 10 as sub. He was selected for Cumbria v Kiwi A Team.



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Oldham **Fixtures '08**



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Comp	Opp	V	KO	Res	Att
January					
	Sun 13th	LEEDS RHINOS	A	3:00pm	4-50 6,340
	Sun 20th	HULL KR	H	3:00pm	Postponed
	Sun 27th	ROCHDALE	A	3:00pm	20-26 1,108
February					
NRC	Fri 1st	SWINTON	H	8:00pm	22-20 848
NRC	Fri 8th	SALFORD	A	8:00pm	12-40 4,224
NRC	Sun 17th	ROCHDALE	A	3:00pm	Postponed
NRC	Fri 22nd	SALFORD	H	8:00pm	18-14 1,350
NRC	Fri 29th	ROCHDALE	H	8:00pm	38-8 1,350
March					
ccc3	Sun 9th	BRITISH ARMY	A	1.30pm	56-10 500
NRC	Sun 16th	SWINTON	A	3:00pm	52-10 549
NL	Fri 21st	ROCHDALE	A	3:00pm	46-32 1,003
NL	Mon 24th	HUNSLET	H	3:00pm	40-12 1,168
NL	Sun 30th	YORK	H	3:00pm	36-26 1,049
April					
NRC	Sun 6th	WHITEHAVEN	H	3:00pm	16-6 966
NL	Sun 13th	KEIGHLEY	A	3:00pm	26-12 1,276
ccc4	Sun 20th	SWINTON	A	3:00pm	20-8 591
NL	Sun 27th	ROCHDALE	H	3:00pm	24-14 1,107
May					
NL	Mon 5th	BLACKPOOL	H	3:00pm	38-26 1,115
ccc4	Sun 11th	DEWSBURY	A	3:00pm	58-12 1,103

NL	Sun 18th	SWINTON	H	3:00pm	30-20 1,191
NRC	Sun 25th	BATLEY	A	3:00pm	16-24 885

June

ccc6	Sun 1st	WAKEFIELD	A	3.30pm	4-46 2,966
NL	Wed 4th	GATESHEAD	A	7.30pm	18-32 434
NL	Sat 7th	LONDON	H	6:00pm	42-20 644
NL	Sun 15th	HUNSLET	A	3:00pm	66-10 887
NL	Wed 18th	LONDON	A	7:30pm	40-6 334
NL	Sun 22nd	BLACKPOOL	A	3:00pm	44-10 640
NL	Sun 29th	GATESHEAD	H	3:00pm	40-16 823

July

NL	Sun 6th	WORKINGTON	A	3:00pm	16-14 647
NL	Fri 11th	BARROW	A	7:30pm	12-32 1,799
NL	Thur 17th	DONCASTER	H	7:30pm	36-16 2,806
NL	Sun 27th	KEIGHLEY	H	3:00pm	30-28 1,032

August

NL	Sun 3rd	YORK	A	3:00pm	24-40 1,139
NL	Wed 6th	DONCASTER	A	8:00pm	
NL	Sun 10th	BARROW	H	3:00pm	
NL	Sun 17th	SWINTON	A	3:00pm	
NL	Sun 24th	WORKINGTON	H	3:00pm	
	Sat 30th	CHALLENGE CUP FINAL			

September

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

October

	Sat 4th	S L GRAND FINAL			
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DANNY BOY A HIT IN HIS NEW ROLE AS A 2ND-ROW FORWARD

Player Profile: **DANNY HALLIWELL**

by **ROGER HALSTEAD**

Switch from backs a Master-Stroke by Team Boss Deakin



PICTURE BY DAVE MURGATROD

DANNY Halliwell's impressive performances in Oldham's second-row have been recognised by his selection at No 12 in the official co-operative National League Two team of the month for July as published in League Weekly . . . and not one Roughyeds fan will have a problem with that.

More than a few eyebrows were raised when the former Halifax, Leigh and Salford centre was picked by coach Steve Deakin in the forwards as early as the second competitive game of the season against Salford in the Northern Rail Cup, but it is fair to say that Danny boy is now one of the most accomplished second-rowers in the National Leagues.

Of his 28 appearances to date out of a possible 30 in this his first season with the Roughyeds, two have been off the bench, one has been on the right wing, 11 have been at right centre and 14 have been at right-hand side second-row where he has played consistently well and at times outstandingly so.

With 15 tries and any number of big hits and try-saving tackles on his Roughyeds CV, the 27-year-old Wiganer plays down stories that he isn't too keen on playing more in the middle.

"I don't mind where I play," he told me this week, in the aftermath of that 40-24 defeat at York that was as disappointing for Danny on a personal note -- he had to quit in the first half with a rib injury -- as it was for team, coaching staff, club, management and supporters.

"I felt like kicking myself, I was so disappointed with the way things were going. When I had to go off injured that just about said it all," he added.

Expanding on his thoughts about playing in the forwards as opposed to the backs, he said: "It's swings and roundabouts really. There are aspects of both jobs that I like. You are involved a lot more in the second-row and there's more tackling to do. On the other hand you perhaps get a bit more space out in the centre."

Whether wearing No 12 or No 3, however, Danny has been running great lines, scoring

good tries and excelling in defence; in other words playing a huge part in a successful season that sees Roughyeds pushing for promotion in order to achieve the squad's main goal for 2008.

That said, he prefers to dodge the limelight and swing the beam on to his team mates. Listen to this: "They are a great bunch of guys here. We are a really good team and I have no doubt that if we win promotion we will do well next year in NLI. We have a lot of really good players who don't get the recognition they deserve -- players like Paul O'Connor, who is a brilliant full-back, Tommy Goulden, James Coyle, Richard Mervill and Jason Boult just to name a few.

"The games that are left are now crucial. Most of the boys are on two-year contracts that depend on us getting promotion so in that respect we are playing for contracts and playing for our careers. There is a lot riding on this. For instance, the boys who were at the club last year have had two seasons in National League Two and they don't want a third year in this division. Promotion is so important to us and to the club."

Although one of the most experienced players at the club, having played in Super League, the old Northern Ford Premiership, NLI and now NL2, and having served Halifax, Leigh and Salford as well as Keighley, Wakefield and Warrington on loan, Danny says he is learning more about our great game all the time.

"You are never too old to learn. I try to learn things year on year and I try to pick up as much new stuff as I can from the coach. I'm enjoying my time at Oldham and, yes, I am learning too.

"For me, the highlights of the season so far were the great win we had against Salford in the Northern Rail and the performance we put in when we beat Gateshead 40-16 at Sedgley Park. That was very satisfying and it proved a point. Games like that, and also the wins we had against Dewsbury and Whitehaven show we are a good team.

"We've just got to prove it now and go on and win promotion."

Wigan born, Danny played for St Jude's, Leigh East and Leigh Miners as a boy, operating

mainly up to under-18s level at full-back or at stand-off half.

Leigh had shown more than a passing interest in the young Halliwell and one of his pals, Mickey Higham, but it was Halifax -- very active on the scouting front in the Leigh area at the time -- who struck first. Danny was to have four seasons with the Yorkshire outfit, moving up through the grades at stand-off, loose-forward and full-back, but settling down at centre once he hit the first team to stay.

Brief loan spells followed at Keighley, Wakefield and Warrington where he spent three months and scored eight tries in ten Super League outings.

Warrington wanted to make the deal permanent and Danny wanted to join them too, but the clubs couldn't agree a fee and Halifax stuck to their guns -- and to their asking price.

Danny takes up the story. "Warrington couldn't afford me, but the fans rallied round and said they would raise enough money to go halves with the club. It never happened because the coach at that time, David Plange, left the club and when Paul Cullen came in I didn't figure in his plans so that was that.

"At the end of that season Halifax were relegated from Super League and my contract was up anyway, so I moved to Leigh in the Northern Ford and had three seasons at Hilton Park before moving on to Salford and then back to Leigh.

"Darren Shaw came in to coach Leigh and said he wanted to build his own team, so it was time to move on again and it was then that Deaks and Oldham came in for me.

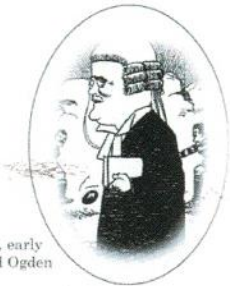
"Oldham were building a good side and looking to go places so I saw it as a new challenge for me. It's really good here and I am enjoying it. We've lost some crucial games, like the one at York last Sunday, but we believe we can go up and we are all working hard in the hope that it will happen."

Danny lives in Tyldesley with his partner Jenna, whom he plans to marry next year. They have a little boy, nine months old Harvey, while Danny also has two boys from a previous relationship, Lewis, aged seven, and Alex, aged five.

Roger Halstead



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GuestWriter..

Geoff Cooke

As the season comes to a climax the jostling for play-off places in N.L.2 is hotting up.

Last weekend's results make Gateshead favourites to top the table but after that it's wide open. Just when Oldham and their followers were thinking Gateshead had done them a big favour by defeating Barrow, York City Knights stepped into the fray to even things up again and give their own play-off hopes a boost. With Keighley breathing down their necks neither Oldham nor Barrow can feel comfortable about occupying second spot and with it the second automatic promotion place. And with York, Doncaster and a revitalised Rochdale all after a possible home advantage play-off spot there are going to be no easy games for anyone in the remainder of the season.

If the game is, as has been frequently said, all about momentum then last week's results stopped both Oldham and Barrow dead in their tracks (these notes being written before Oldham's result against Doncaster on Wednesday is known). So, for either side defeat today could see a whole season's work go up in smoke.

As regards Oldham's most recent results the contrast between the Keighley and York fixtures could not be starker. Forced to play for 50 minutes with just 12 men after the dismissal of Rob Roberts Oldham's players dug deep to produce a magnificent display in overcoming a spirited Keighley side whose goal line defence was as good as anything I have ever seen in N.L.2 (something the Roughyeds could have done with at York the following week when the Knights scored three close range tries from acting halfback). Keighley's never-say-die spirit was rewarded a week later with a last minute win over Doncaster and, listening to Coach Barry Eaton on Radio Leeds on the way back from York, you could sense a real 'all in it together' feeling in the West Yorkshire club's camp. By contrast Oldham's display at York was disappointing. Without Rob Roberts to lead the side the Knight's March twins, Paul and David, dictated the style and

pace of the game and, more importantly, the nature of the refereeing. For the Roughyeds frustration clearly set in. And if momentum really is crucial then endless penalties and a multitude of handling errors are obviously no way to achieve it. The point was proved when, having gamely battled back to 34-24 down Oldham were in with a shout only for an unnecessary penalty to throw away field position and advantage. With bonus points on offer Oldham even contrived not to obtain one, making them the only side in the league not to have a bonus. Contrast that with York's 8, Workington's 8 and Rochdale's 6 and the influence that then has on the league table. If Oldham had lost by fewer than 12 points in each of their defeats this season they would already be ahead of Barrow in the table and the pressure on today's outcome would be that much less. There has to be a serious lesson to be learned here for next season whether that be in N.L.1 or N.L.2.

To finish, an observation on the nature of refereeing and the contrast between officials in Super League and those in N.L.1 and N.L.2. Some offences penalised in the National Leagues are rarely punished in Super League, for example a defender's hand on the ball in the tackle (for which Halifax were penalised three times in their televised clash with Salford) but which is totally ignored in Super League as in last week's Warrington v. Leeds game. I would be interested in a comparison between the number of penalties awarded in Super League, where the emphasis seems to be on keeping the play flowing, and those dished out at National League level. Is it that up and coming referees (some of them very good) feel the need to make an impression? If so then the old adage of the best referee being the one you don't notice needs to come into play. Just a thought ahead of today's game.

Geoff Cooke

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

NATIONAL FOOTBALL MUSEUM UNWITTINGLY DISPLAY OLDHAM RUGBY CAP!

It's recently been pointed out to the National Football Museum at Preston that a Victorian era cap which the museum claims to be typical of the high quality of caps awarded to players by some soccer clubs of that period is in fact an Oldham rugby cap from the 1888-89 season!

The cap was part of a large collection of important 'soccer' memorabilia accumulated by London journalist Harry Langton, later



purchased by FIFA and presented to the museum when it first opened. The Oldham RLFC Heritage Trust has a number of

similar caps within its collection, all of which include the names of the players to which they were originally presented but unfortunately this one has had the label removed.

At the time the cap was awarded the club was a member of the English Rugby Football Union, playing the 15 a-side code in amber and black strip on the old Clarksfield ground and was known as Oldham Football Club which of course was later changed to Oldham RLFC.

Whilst the curator was quite surprised to learn the true history of the cap she went on to say that a cricket cap had also sneaked its way into the exhibition!

Anyone with the slightest interest in the round ball code should take time out to visit the

museum which is adjacent to Preston North End's ground. The state-of-the-art presentation is excellent and will be sure to hold your attention for at least half a day - admission is free.

And the cap? The Heritage Trust has suggested to the curator of the NFM that it should be allowed to come home!

STUART McDONOUGH

A rugby league fanatic from Oldham, and a keen Roughyeds fan, who has watched every Challenge Cup final at Wembley since 1948 has called time on his annual excursion to London. Aged 78, Stuart McDonough will watch this year's final in August on television at his home in Larch Grove, Lees. "I've got wonderful memories of Wembley, going back all those years, but it's time to call it a draw," said the former Oldham RL Club official, who was also a founder member of BARLA.

Over the years, he has made the trek south on cup final day by train, coach, car... and even plane. There was a rail strike at the time and, having left it too late to book on a coach, he went to a local travel agent in desperation. "I was one of 18 from a local pub who looked like we were going to be disappointed," recalled Stuart. "We didn't have cars in those days and we couldn't get enough seats on coaches. Getting desperate, I went to the travel agent and told him we would do anything to get to London for the big match.

"Not to be beaten, he chartered three aeroplanes for us --- two to carry eight passengers and one to carry the other two. We flew from Barton Aerodrome, near Salford, and landed at Luton where a coach was waiting to take us on to Wembley."

But even that was nothing like the adventure he had when going to Wembley for the first time. He hitch-hiked solo from Oldham to Croydon, where he then met up with an uncle, who took him across London to the famous stadium on his motobike.

Added Stuart: "I was 18 at the time. I didn't realise then that I would never miss another Wembley final until 2008. What memories! When the final had to be taken to other venues in more recent years I stayed at home. I vowed I wouldn't go if the big game wasn't at Wembley, and I never did. But I was back down there last year for the Saints v Catalans match and, to be honest, I decided then that it would be my swansong.

"It was a struggle walking from the tube station to the stadium and when we got to the top of Wembley Way we were told our seats were on the other side of the stadium.

"I'm often asked which the best final I ever saw was. There have been a lot of great games. The 1965 Wigan v Hunslet final was a cracker, but for me the best ever final was the Peter Ramsden final of 1953 when the young Huddersfield stand-off won the Lance Todd Trophy with a stunning performance against St Helens. That final will live in the memory for ever.

"All good things come to an end. And when I sit down in front of the television with my wife Emma on August 30 I'm sure to be a bit emotional, especially when they sing, 'Abide With Me'".

LINKS WITH THE PAST

OLDER fans will be interested to hear that Arthur Tomlinson, who played at Watersheddings in the fabulous fifties, sends his best wishes to everyone at the club from his home in Auckland, New Zealand.

Arthur (Pictured far right



back row) is 84 now, but he has very fond memories of his Oldham days. His brother wrote to us from his home in Winnick, Warrington, explaining that Arthur's wife passed away last Christmas. He said his brother played at Watersheddings with Sid Little, captain Bryn Goldswain, Bernard Ganley and Terry O'Grady. He left England in 1958 to follow his future wife to New Zealand and they settled in Auckland.

In fact, Arthur joined Oldham from Warrington side Bewsey Imps in 1947 and featured in the Oldham pack on 176 occasions before he retired in 1957. He played in the 1954 Lancashire Cup final against Barrow and the 1955 Championship final against Warrington at Maine Road, Manchester.

On arrival in New Zealand, he was given clearance to play and coach and he was selected ahead of the favourite -- Cec Mountford -- to coach the Kiwi Test side against the 1962 British tourists (our thanks for this information on Arthur to Brian Walker and his book, 'Roughyeds ... the story', published by the Oldham Rugby League Heritage Trust).

Our thanks go to Arthur's brother for keeping us in touch and our best wishes go across the world to Arthur -- a leading forward at the club in one of the most successful periods in Oldham RL history.

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Savvas Eleftheriou	Lansdowne Roofing
Totalplus	Supplies (Sean
Communications	Whitehead)
(P Gough)	Lansdowne Roofing
Clarice Stevens	Supplies (Sean
	Whitehead)



PARACHUTE JUMP FOR GENESIS

So soon after the PINK PARTY at Boundary Park for Genesis Breast Cancer Charity and Dr Kershaw's Hospice another member of the Roughyeds band is determined to do her "bit" for the Genesis Appeal.

Actually it's a lot more than a 'bit' as it entails a parachute jump on the 19 September. It's being done by Jenny Smith who all of you will know by sight but probably not by name. As Jenny so modestly wrote to me, "In case you don't know I'm the person who helps the physiotherapist, Rachael, at training and on match days and I also do all the massage."

Jenny, who has been a Roughyed supporter all her life is paying for all the training and the actual parachute jump out of her own pocket and is keen to point out that every penny raised through sponsorship will go to Genesis. Jenny chose Genesis as it is a charity that means a lot to her for personal reasons as well as it being the Club's official Charity.

People can sponsor Jenny by visiting www.justgiving.com/jennysmith81 and she's going to leave sponsorship forms at the club office as well. So please get behind Jenny and support her in this brave challenge for such a worthy cause by sponsoring her for this parachute jump.

THREE PEAKS FOR RFL BENEVOLENT FUND

Last week as we were all complaining on the bad weather we are having this summer five other Roughyed staff and supporters were battling against 70 mph winds and lashing rain in the THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE in the Yorkshire Dales for the RFL Benevolent Fund charity. Community Development Officer, Sean Mellor and Roughyed assistant coach, Mark Cass managed to finish the 25 mile trek across some of the roughest terrain in the UK.

Kit man 'Colonel' Paul Hulbert, Lottery manager John McAndrew and avid supporter Charlotte

Deakin (Oldham Girl) bravely managed the first two peaks, over 18 miles before the terrible weather conditions took their toll and they were forced to stop.

I'm sure you will join with me in congratulating all these people who give their time, paid or unpaid for the club outside of their normal work and still find time to do their bit for charities attached to the great game of rugby league.

KEN FISHER

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of the Saddleworth Rangers president and former Oldham Rugby League Club chairman Ken Fisher. Ken, who was 82, died at his home in Shaw in the early hours of yesterday (Monday) morning after a long illness. He is the third Saddleworth Rangers official and long-standing club stalwart to pass away in recent times, following the deaths of the then chairman Ronnie Hardaker and, even more recently, the club secretary Colin Clare.

His son-in-law Ray Hicks, licensee of The Three Crowns at Scouthed, said: "Ken passed away in his sleep. He had been ill for some time. Coming so soon after the passing of Ronnie and Colin it brings to an end an era in the history of Saddleworth Rangers."

Ken was a keen supporter of Oldham Rugby in his younger days and, while licensee of the Hen and Chickens in Miles Street, off Huddersfield Road, he was voted on to the committee in the 1960s and ultimately became a very young chairman of the club at a time when he had some legendary club officials under his wing such as Jack Errock, Herbert Jones and Percy Carter.

In those days, pre-motorways, the direct trans-Pennine route between Yorkshire and Lancashire was through Oldham and the Hen and Chickens became a regular stopping off place for rugby league referees, regular visitors being famous referees of that time such as Billy Thompson and Eric Clay.

Ken later became heavily involved with Saddleworth Rangers and, alongside Ronnie and Colin, he helped to build Rangers into the ambitious, go-ahead club it is today. He had an official connection with Rangers which spanned 30 years, most of them spent as club president with Ronnie as chairman --- a partnership that became legendary throughout the whole of BARLA and amateur rugby league in this country.

The funeral will be next Tuesday at 1pm at St James's Church, Barry Street, Oldham and then at Oldham Crematorium at 2pm.

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BOULTSY – SPINDLES PLAYER OF THE MONTH

by ROGER HALSTEAD



Somebody once said, can't remember who, that Jason Boultsy had "a good engine".

Well, he has certainly proved it over the past

two seasons, hasn't he? Last year, his first with the Roughyeds, he played in 25 games (and of the forwards only Richard Mervill, Simeon Hoyle and Simon Tamghart had more) and this season he had played in all 28 matches until he missed the Keighley game because of a knee injury.

That's a terrific record of consistency and stamina for a prop forward in the modern game -- and the former Bradford and Halifax prop was duly rewarded when coach Steve Deakin named him as the club's Spindles Town Square Shopping player of the month for July. Jason is pictured here receiving his cheque for £100 from the club chairman Bill Quinn before the kick-off last Sunday in the unavoidable absence of Spindles Town Square manager and good friend to the Roughyeds, Mike Flanagan.

The period under review took in some tough matches -- wins against Gateshead at Sedgley Park, Workington Town at Derwent Park and Doncaster at Boundary Park as well as the defeat at Barrow.

Boultsy has been a model of consistency, durability and reliability throughout this long, hard and demanding promotion-seeking campaign and I'm sure most fans would agree that there was no more worthy recipient of the monthly award. Hopefully, he will be back in action by now given that a scan revealed no serious damage to the knee, just a strain.

CROWD TREMENDOUS AT KEIGHLEY GAME

by ROGER HALSTEAD

WITH the exception of the Doncaster game (attended by 2,806 fans at only £1-for-charity to get in) Roughyeds officials are hoping they will get their best crowd of the season when Co-operative NL2 title and promotion rivals Barrow come to Boundary Park in the next home game on Sunday, August 10 (3pm kick off).

Not only is the Barrow game likely to be crucial in the fight for the championship and for automatic promotion, but it will give the Roughyeds the opportunity to make amends for their 32-12 defeat at Craven Park on July 11 and also to stretch their unbeaten run in all home games to 18.

Supporters have enjoyed some cracking performances in home games this year, but few better than the last two against Doncaster and Keighley Cougars, providing 36-16 and 30-28 wins respectively. Fans, captured in this picture by the club's photographer, DAVID MURGATROYD, were particularly supportive and vociferous at the Keighley match and Deaks and the boys hope for more of the same when the Raiders come to town.

Take away the Doncaster match and the best BP crowd this season was 1,350 when Salford were beaten 18-14 in the Northern Rail Cup on February 22. It would be nice to think that, come August 10, we could pull in as many as Barrow did when we played up there, and that was 1,799.



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Oldham Amateur League Scene

with Mick (Braddy) Bradshaw

This page is dedicated to all the amateur clubs. enjoy the read!!

Fancy playing Rugby league or training first to see how much you'll enjoy it? If the answer is YES then simply pick up the phone and contact one of the amateur clubs who'll be more than willing to help.

Fitton Hill Bulldogs (u6's to u14 year olds)
Call Dave Hughes on 0161 626 3954 or 07786555639.

Higginshaw Eagles (u13 14 & 1 open-age team).

Call Paul Deakin on 07506725310 or John Mellor on 07970100606 .

Hollinwood (are looking to start a youth section soon and currently have 1 open-age team)

Call Fred Halliwell on 0161 624 3524 or 07786468833.

Milnrow Cobras (u8's, u11's and u12 year olds)

Call Paul Mellors on 07795667395.

Oldham St Annes (u7's to u18's & 2 open-age teams)

Call Dave Charlesworth on 07986761556.

Saddleworth Rangers (u7's to u18's , 2 open-age teams & girls teams from u12's to u16's)

Call Alan Bolton on 07786062106 or Mick Healy on 07802200947.

Shaw Rhinos (u9's 10's and 15's)

Call Andy White on 07900951803.

Waterhead (u8's 9 10 12 13 15 16 18 & 2 open-age teams)

Call Andy Dean on 07764183129.

Meanwhile this season Oldham St Annes under 10's are looking to local businesses to sponsor their kit. They are currently selling prize draw tickets for £25. All the tickets will go into a hat and the draw will take place on the pitch at half-time during the Oldham v Workington match on sun 24th August.

Winning ticket will allow your company logo to appear on the front of the shirt and St Annes club website. Any individual or company who'd like to purchase a ticket please contact

Rachel or Lee on 07972 177 802.

Enjoy the game

Braddy



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Today's Squads



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- Chris **BAINES**
- Jason **BOULTS**
- Matty **BROOKS**
- Daryl **CARDISS**
- James **COYLE**
- Tommy **GOULDEN**
- Tommy **GRUNDY**
- Danny **HALLIWELL**
- Ian **HODSON**
- Simeon **HOYLE**
- Phil **JOSEPH**
- Gareth **LANGLEY**
- Craig **LITTLER**
- Luke **MENZIES**
- Richard **MERVILL**
- Mick **NANYN**
- Paul **O'CONNOR**
- Lucas **ONYANGO**
- Rob **ROBERTS**
- Adam **ROBINSON**
- Neil **RODEN**
- Marcus **ST HILAIRE**
- Luke **SUTTON**
- Said **TAMGHART**
-
-

Barrow Raiders



- Chris **ARCHER**
- Dave **ARMITSTEAD**
- Mike **BACKHOUSE**
- Nick **BEACH**
- Andrew **BEATTIE**
- Jamie **BUTLER**
- Jamie **CALLON**
- Mick **CASSIDY**
- Richard **CHATFIELD**
- Michael **DARBY**
- Lee **DUTTON**
- Andrew **ELLIS**
- James **FINCH**
- Liam **FINCH**
- James **GORDON**
- Liam **HARRISON**
- Darren **HOLT**
- Anthony **HORTON**
- Adam **HUGHES**
- Scott **KAIGHAN**
- Chris **LARKIN**
- Brett **McDERMOTT**
- Joe **McKENNA**
- Callum **NELSON**
- James **NIXON**
- Brad **NICHOLLS**
- Lee **NORMAN**
- Martin **OSTLER**
- Paul **RAFTERY**
- Matthew **STOREY**
- Mike **WHITEHEAD**

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