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BOARDROOM with Chris Hamilton

Welcome back to Whitebank Stadium for today's match against London Skolars. It is vitally important today that we get back to winning ways and, for once, we should have something like a near full complement of players to choose from.

We are quite clearly in the middle of a rut and it's time for everybody to stop feeling sorry for themselves and do something about it on the pitch.

There are six games to go plus potentially Play Off matches and six wins in the league should be the target. We proved at the start of the season that we are capable of that sort of form. Of course this season has turned into a very difficult one, but the nature of the beast is that it is never easy and, over the years, I think I have shown that I won't back away from the challenges that the club faces. Over the past few weeks the spotlight has been on the current situation at Bradford Bulls and their financial problems.

I think this and the rumblings about problems at other clubs, coupled with the public warnings that other Chairmen have raised, shows that rugby league is in a very difficult place at the moment. The current economic climate does not lend itself to easy solutions and I have no doubt that the game in general is in a long and bumpy road ahead as we all try to navigate our way through the current hardships. I appreciate that it is hard sometimes to see beyond your own club and what is happening there but it would be naive also to think that we, as a club without a benefactor(s), are not doing our utmost to try and take the club forward in the most difficult times that any of us have ever known.

**Get behind the lads today and
thanks for your support**



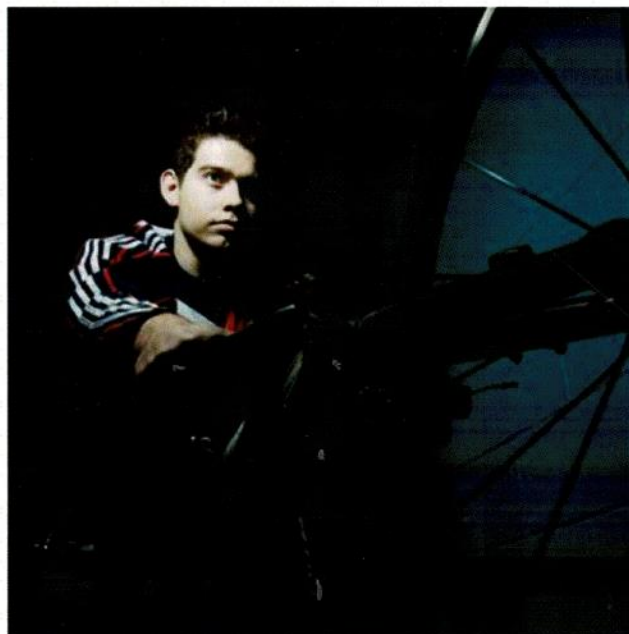
**Christopher
Hamilton**
Chairman

PURSUING A SPORTING DREAM

Wheelchair racer Louis Speight is used to overcoming obstacles to achieve his goals and the 21 year old student is aiming to compete at the Paralympic Games in London this summer as well as graduating from Leeds Metropolitan University. Louis made the draw for the fifth round of this year's Carnegie Challenge Cup and we caught up with him to find out how he combines his studies with his sporting ambitions.

Louis, originally from Doncaster, is currently the Men's European record holder at 100m-800m in his T33 class as well as the world U23 record holder at 100m-400m and is ranked in the top 2 in the world at senior level at 100m-800m. Louis explains his aims for the coming season. He said: "My ambition is to try and make London 2012 where I'll have to compete in the T34 class. I've based all of my training at Leeds Met and love the challenge that wheelchair racing presents."

Louis is currently in the final year of his BSc (Hons) Sport degree at Leeds Metropolitan University and is looking forward to graduating as he strives for selection for this year's Paralympic Games in London. He says: "I've really enjoyed my time studying at University and the opportunities that gaining a qualification have afforded me. It's been a real challenge to combine my course with my training schedule; however, I'm a firm believer that hard work pays off. I've received



great support from staff and coaches at the University which have made my studies possible and my sporting success is only possible due to the excellent support mechanisms which are in place."

"My ambition is to try and make London 2012 where I'll have to compete in the T34 class. I've based all of my training at Leeds Met and love the challenge that wheelchair racing presents."

Talking about his sporting inspiration Louis identifies Mohammed Ali as his sporting hero. He said: "During the time he competed Ali faced a lot of prejudice and obstacles which he had to overcome, yet still

went on to be recognised as one of the greatest sportsmen of all time. In my own life, I've had to overcome a lot of barriers and love the tenacity and single-mindedness Ali showed in pursuing his goal."

Louis is based at the university's Headingley Campus at what was once Carnegie College, a predecessor institution of Leeds Metropolitan. It was established after a gift from Andrew Carnegie, the Scottish philanthropist, who believed education was the key to a better society and gave millions to establish educational opportunities around the world. www.leedsmet.ac.uk



Leeds Metropolitan University -
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ART IN RUGBY

Art in Rugby is an exhibition celebrating the history of Oldham's rugby league club by featuring a selection of the Trust's fascinating collection of paintings, sculptures, and photographs. The exhibition opened yesterday at Gallery Oldham in tandem with the fabulous **Oldham's Sporting Heroes** exhibition which is featured in the adjoining gallery. The MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, Debbie Abrahams cut the tape at 1pm.

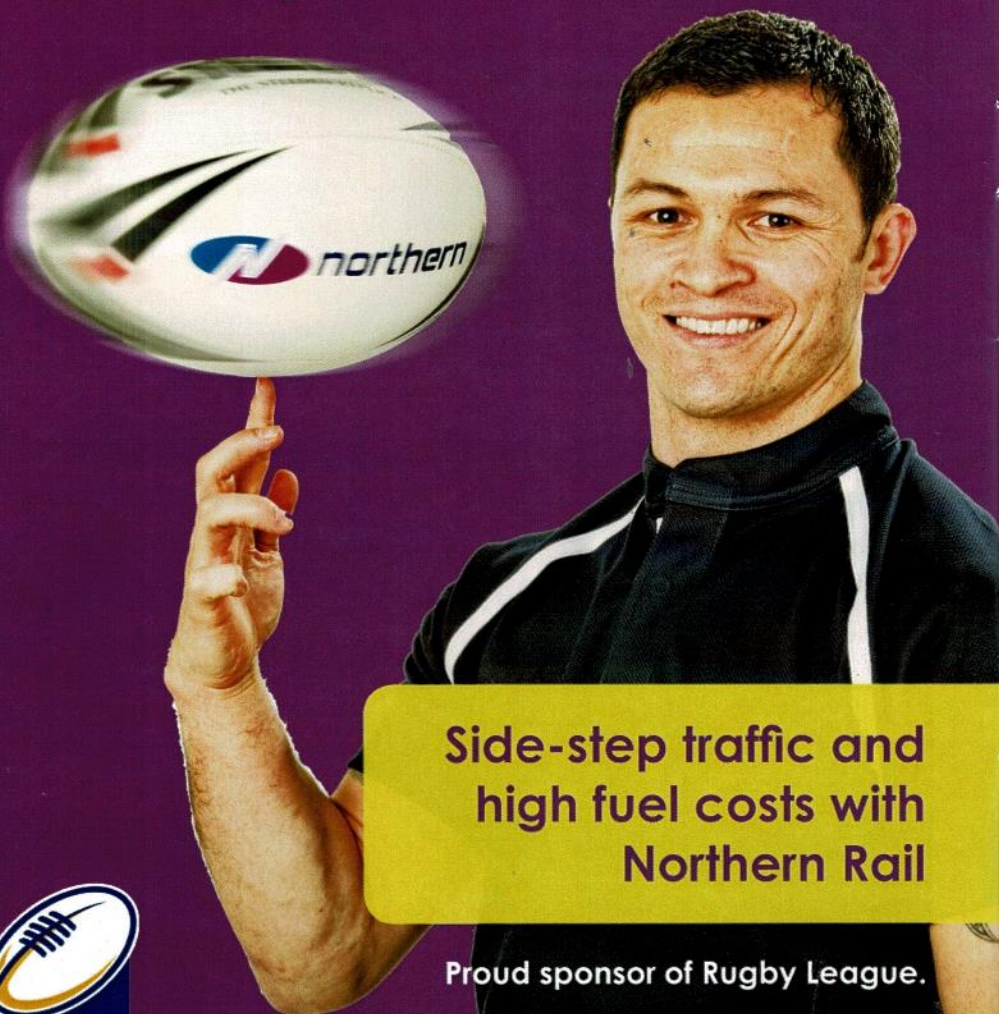
The exhibition takes a tour through the club's history and touches on both the triumphs and failures throughout the years. The exhibits will encompass the work from artists of local, national and international repute and reflects the game from its Victorian beginnings right up to the present day. From the grandeur of "The Roses Match" painted by academy artist W. B. Wollen in 1893 (see below) to a collection of watercolours depicting Oldham players through

the ages by Stephen Bennett and historic moments in the club's history from the brush of Lincolnshire artist Steve 'Smiff' Smith plus other works by local artists including Bob Littleford, Andy Pemberton, David Ford and former Waterhead RLFC player Kevin Haynes along with a collection of cartoons by Norman Taylor. Sculptures on display include works from the renowned McKenzie Thorpe and current Oldham player Liam Gilchrist! It all adds up to a feast of artistic diversity connected with the oval ball game.

This unique collection has been brought together by the Oldham Rugby League Heritage Trust, and is recognised as being a selection from one of the most important rugby club memorabilia collections in the world. **Art in Rugby** is on display in the **Community Gallery** of Gallery Oldham and runs through to the 20th of October



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TALK from the dug out

Although we didn't win up in Whitehaven last week I think we are back on track. We have most of the long term injured players back in contention apart from Lucas Onyango, Luke Stenchion and Chris Clarke who comes back into contention for today's game. It's really a case of gaining our match fitness and reforming combinations. With the high number of players out for such a long period it's a case of pulling it all together again and getting the team composure and confidence to the levels we saw a few months ago. We fought hard for 80 minutes last week and when things didn't go our way we knuckled down to solve it as a team rather than as individuals. We showed confidence throughout the game and the first try was one of the best team tries we've scored this season. The most important thing is that the players are feeling that we are back. The result came down to three exceptional Jamie Rooney kicks that were the

difference between the two teams. We're under no illusions that we have a lot of work to do and we are in a very difficult fight for promotion. However based on the improvement seen last week another jump like that this week and we're back where we should be.

Today we have a great challenge ahead of us in London Skolars and I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them, their directors and supporters to Whitebank for what should be an excellent encounter.

Enjoy the day!



Tony Benson
Head Coach

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PD	B	Pts
1 Barrow	12	11	0	1	417	229	188	1	34
2 Workington	12	10	0	2	425	194	231	2	32
3 Doncaster	12	10	0	2	507	250	257	0	30
4 Whitehaven	12	8	0	4	333	270	63	1	19
5 Rochdale Hornets	12	6	0	6	330	291	39	1	19
6 Oldham	12	3	1	8	274	331	-57	5	16
7 N. Wales Crusaders	12	4	0	8	286	432	-146	3	15
8 London Skolars	11	3	1	7	279	363	-84	2	13
9 South Wales	11	3	0	8	247	400	-153	2	11
10 Gateshead	12	0	0	12	192	530	-338	2	2

**Oldham Rugby League
Football Club**

How get in touch with us:

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Skype: Oldham.rlf

Email: janetorlf@btconnect.com

Twitter - Oldham Roughyeds

Facebook Oldham RLFC-The Roughyeds



Alex Thompson
Loose Forward
Born 11-02-90
Sponsor: WILSCAFF



Jamie Dallimore
Halfback
Born 20-08-88
Sponsor: The Junction



David Ellison
Prop Forward
Born 02-04-82
Sponsor: June & Julie Hibbert



Neil Roden
Half Back
Born 09-04-80
Sponsor: OJT Commu-
nications



Matthew Fogarty
Centre
Born 16-02-92
Sponsor: Rob the Gardener



David Cookson
Backrow Forward Centre
Born 01-10-88
Sponsor: Oldham RLFC
Players Association



Valu Bentley
Back Row Forward
Born 09-10-82
Sponsor: Sylvia David &
Margaret



Luke Stenchion
Prop Forward,
Born 15-02-86
Sponsor: Maureen &
Peter Woodhead



Shaun Robinson
Winger/ FullBack,
Born 13-07-89
Sponsor: Hillcrest
Electrical Contracting Ltd.



Mark Brocklehurst
Utility Back
Born 27-09-85
Sponsor: John Barratt



Bruce Johnson
Prop-Forward
Born 26-01-84
Sponsor:



Paul Noone
Back row Forward
Born 22-04-81
Sponsor: Levers Fish
and Chip restaurant



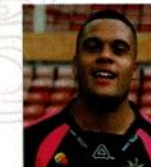
Danny Whitmore
Hooker
Born 22-12-88
Sponsor: iKreativ



Liam Gilchrist
Prop-Forward
Born 28-03-89
Sponsor: ORSA



Lucas Onyango
Winger
Born 112-04-81
Sponsor: Pam Taylor
& TTX



Colton Roche
Second Row/Centre
Born 23-06-1993
Sponsor:



Daniel Smith
Prop Forward
Born 20-03-93



Mark McCully
Centre
Born 24-10-79
Sponsor: ORSA



Miles Greenwood
FullBack,
Born 30-07-87
Sponsor: AMP Wire



Jamie Acton
Back Row Forward
Born 04-04-92
Sponsor:



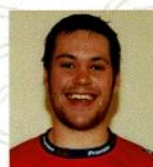
John Gillam
Winger
Born 15-10-84
Sponsor: Nigel Marland



John Clough
Hooker
Born 13-09-84
Sponsor: Mick Harrop



Michael Ward
Back Row Forward
Born 10-02-91
Sponsor: Pizza Hut
Oldham



Chris Clarke
Back Row Forward
Born 29-03-89
Sponsor: Paul Whalley &
Kyle Cook



Paul Smith
Back Row Forward
Born 17-05-77
Sponsor: John & Lynda
McAndrew



Jason Boults
Prop Forward
Born 07-09-83
Sponsor: Sue & Spanish
Roughyeds



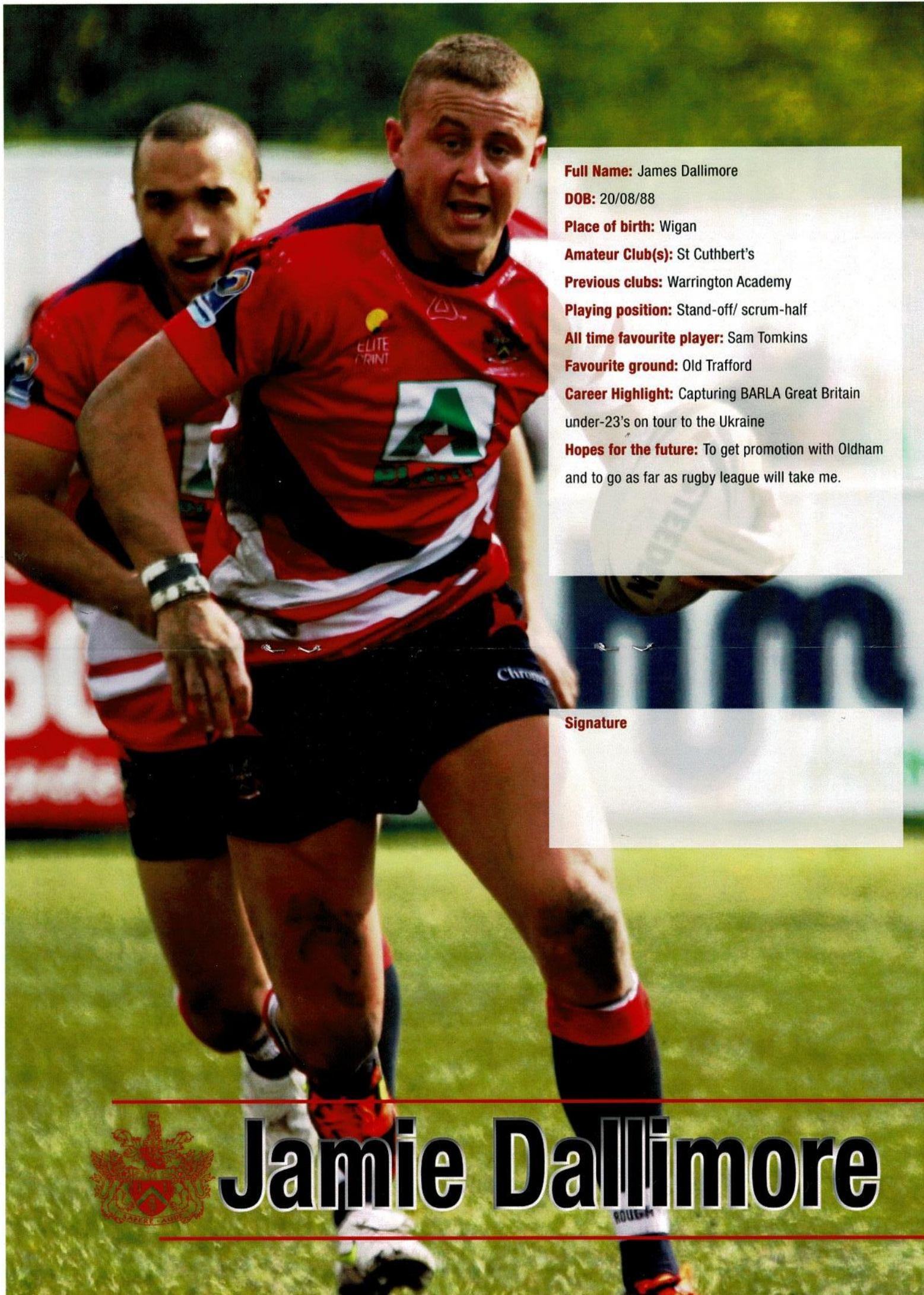
Martin Roden
Born 26-12-79
Sponsor:

Photographs by Dave Murgatroyd



Player PenPics 2012

To sponsor any of our players please contact Janet: 01616283677



Full Name: James Dallimore

DOB: 20/08/88

Place of birth: Wigan

Amateur Club(s): St Cuthbert's

Previous clubs: Warrington Academy

Playing position: Stand-off/ scrum-half

All time favourite player: Sam Tomkins

Favourite ground: Old Trafford

Career Highlight: Capturing BARLA Great Britain under-23's on tour to the Ukraine

Hopes for the future: To get promotion with Oldham and to go as far as rugby league will take me.

Signature



Jamie Dallimore

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GIVE Us a Try!

The club has set up the community project, 'Give us a try!', which offers work experience and volunteer opportunities to young people in Hollinwood who are not in employment, education or training. It was launched at a jobs fair in conjunction with Positive Steps Oldham, who are giving it their total support.

'Give us a try!' has also received the backing of Debbie Abrahams, MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth; Chuka Umunna, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills; and Jim McMahon, Oldham Council Leader.

Chuka Umunna, who was in Oldham last week, said: "At a time when there are more than one million unemployed young people, projects which help them to gain skills and find opportunities are to be welcomed.

"This scheme demonstrates the positive difference which businesses can make in their local communities." The club will offer, on a work experience and volunteer basis, office work, ground work (pitch and building maintenance etc) at its Whitebank Stadium and match-day work at Whitebank when the first team, reserves or scholarship teams are playing at home. Our club chairman Chris Hamilton, who sits on the

Failsforth and Hollinwood Economic Prosperity Working Group, said: "Hollinwood is top of the NEET (not in employment, education or training) table in Oldham

"As a professional sports club based in the area I felt we were in a unique position to enthuse those people, who maybe lacked opportunities or the desire to do something about their situation. "I think our scheme is perfect in terms of the variety and type of work it offers and, maybe vitally, in the way it provides a chance for people to undertake such roles in bite-size sessions.

"The big hope, of course, is that the scheme might help them to go out and find employment." Debbie Abrahams, MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, said: "It is extremely encouraging to see this type of initiative on our doorstep in Oldham. Full marks to Chris and Oldham RLFC for providing these opportunities for our young people in Hollinwood and around the district." Jim McMahon, Oldham Council Leader, said: "This is a fantastic initiative by the Roughyeds and one that has already received the backing of Positive Steps Oldham.

- Continued on page 17...





THE Reserve TEAM

MAKE a note in your diaries because the Roughyeds Reserves team will be appearing here at Whitebank next Thursday night, July 19, against the strongest team in the competition in Featherstone Rovers.

We have twice lost heavily at Post Office Road this season, and Thursday night will provide us with an opportunity to restore some pride and build on the good work that our under-23s have been doing this season under the tutelage of Paul Ashton.

Ashy's boys were at Sheffield yesterday (Saturday), hoping to build on the impressive and highly-encouraging performance they produced in demolishing York City Knights here at Whitebank in their last home game.

Full-back Steve Nield, who doubles up as a community coach for the Oldham and Tameside Service Area, rattled up 28 points as we trounced York 60-14 --- a win which significantly increased Ashy's hopes of guiding his side into the Reserves Under-23s Championship play-offs. It was a big night this for our under-23s, given that Ashy was able to field his strongest side for a long time following the return to the club of winger Terry Bridge, the re-appearance for the first time this season of Tom Wood-Hulme, the debut of Callum Mulkeen on the other wing, the inclusion of Mark Brocklehurst and Danny Whitmore and an appearance off the bench by Jamie Dallimore after his three-game suspension. With a hat-trick of tries and eight conversions, Nield had a game to remember in a Roughyeds side that ran in 11 tries --- seven of them down the slope in the second half. Wingers Bridge and Mulkeen, on debut, each got on the scoresheet and further tries were scored by prop Phil Joy (2), substitute hooker Kenny Hughes, centre Greg Worrall, his co-centre Chris Murphy and loose-forward Brocklehurst.

New boy Mulkeen didn't get a running chance until near the end, but he took it with great aplomb as he sped in for a length-of-the-field try after going effortlessly around two covering defenders on the outside.

Joy and Danny Langtree, the two props, were again in great form, while Hughes capitalised on the space they created around the rucks to cause consternation in the York ranks time and again. Team: Nield; Bridge, Murphy, Worrall, Mulkeen; Noone, Connick; Joy, Moran, Langtree, Foreman,

Cunningham, Brocklehurst. Subs: Whitmore, Hughes, Dallimore, Wood-Hulme. A delighted Ashton said: "We stuck to our game plan, executed well, and what a difference it made to be able to field a strong bench, something we had been struggling with in some of our earlier games. "Everybody showed up well and it was difficult to single anybody out, but I feel special mention should go to the two props, Phil Joy and Danny Langtree, both of whom are playing out of their skins and have been doing for a match or two."

A week earlier Ashy had taken his under-23s to Keighley Cougars where they were beaten 16-8, mainly because they were unable to turn sustained pressure into points. Props Jamie Acton and Joy each got through a phenomenal amount of work on a pitch holding water, but Acton blotted his copybook by getting himself sin-binned just before half-time for deliberately slowing up Cougars at a 20-metre tap restart. Roughyeds defended magnificently in his absence to keep their line intact, but the amount of tackling they had to do in the first half perhaps had an adverse affect later in the game when the visitors failed to score in the second half.

Keighley scored three tries, each of them from kicks by scrum-half Ben Stead. His kicking game, appreciably better than anything Roughyeds could produce, was the one big difference between the sides.

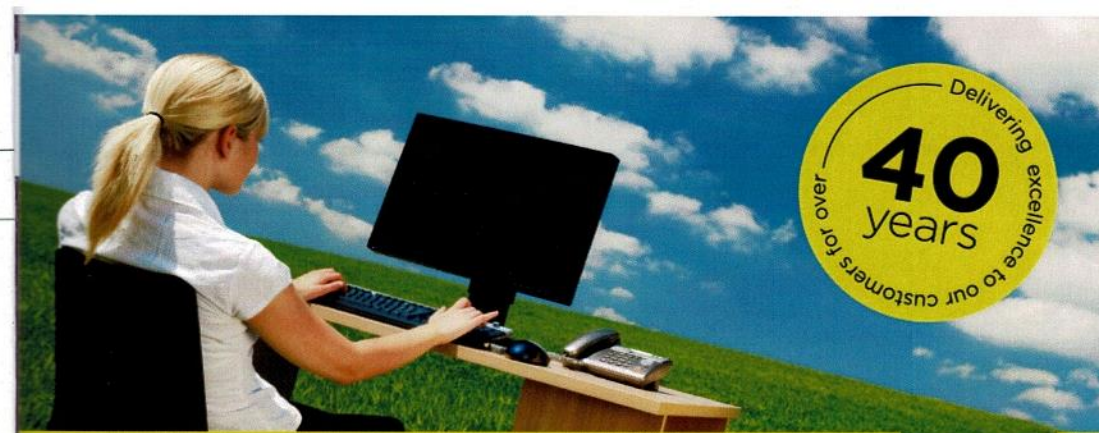
Joy, Acton, hooker Hughes and second-row pair Langtree and David Cookson didn't deserve to end up on the losing side, although Roughyeds disappointed when it came to turning pack power into points. A Langtree try and two goals by Nield gave Oldham a half-time lead of 8-6 with the benefit of the Cougar Park slope still to come, but Cougars soaked up loads of pressure and then twice struck back with tries on the counter attack.

In stark contrast, Roughyeds had two clear-cut scoring chances down the left flank, and fluffed them both.

Team: Lloyd; Worrall, Nield, Murphy, Bridge; Connick, Noone; Joy, Hughes, Acton, Cookson, Langtree, Moran. Subs: Foreman, Mansfield, Cunningham.

Don't forget to listen out today for Nigel Marland's announcement over the PA system, giving the result of the Reserves match at Sheffield yesterday.

July	Thursday 19th	Featherstone	H	7:45pm
August	Thursday 2nd	Halifax	H	7:45pm
	Saturday 11th	PLAY OFF 2nd v. 3rd		
	Saturday 18th	FINAL		



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"Work experience and volunteering are brilliant ways for young people in Hollinwood to develop their skills and also to boost their confidence and self-esteem.

"Schemes like this also provide great opportunities for people to think about how they can get involved in their community more and 'do their bit' to make the area a better place in which to live." vitally, in the way it provides a chance for people to undertake such roles in bite-size sessions.

"If successful we hope to roll out 'Give us a try !' across other areas of the borough. We are also working with a number of our partners whom we hope will also be willing to offer similar placements." Steve Murphy, a director of Positive Steps Oldham, welcomed 'Give us a try !' as a "great idea" and added: "Hollinwood is on the club's doorstep. That area has very high numbers of people who are not in employment, education or training -- one of the highest in the borough --- and we hope lots of them will be interested in what Chris and the club have to offer. "We will certainly be promoting the scheme among the young people we work with, some of

whom might also develop an interest in rugby league while being actively involved at the club.

"The big hope, of course, is that the scheme might help them to go out and find employment."

Debbie Abrahams, MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, said: "It is extremely encouraging to see this type of initiative on our doorstep in Oldham. Full marks to Chris and Oldham RLFC for providing these opportunities for our young people in Hollinwood and around the district."

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FEBRUARY	NRC	Wednesday 15 th	Featherstone	H	L 0 - 68
	NRC	Sunday 19 th	South Wales	A	D 36 - 36
	NRC	Sunday 26 th	Dewsbury	H	L 28 - 30
MARCH	NRC	Sunday 4 th	Keighley	A	L 26 - 12
	CC1	Sunday 11 th	Workington	A	W 14 - 24
	CC1	Sunday 18 th	Gateshead	H	W 40 - 14
	CC1	Friday 23 rd	Egremont	A	W 14 - 22
APRIL	CCC RND 4	Sunday 1 st	Barrow	H	W 32 - 26
	CC1	Friday 6 th	Rochdale	A	L 18 - 10
	CC1	Sunday 15 th	Barrow	H	W 26 - 14
	CC1	Sunday 22 nd	London	A	D 20 - 20
		Friday 27 th	CCC Rnd 5 St Helens	A	L 76 - 0
MAY	CC1	Sunday 6 th	NW Crusaders	H	L 32 - 36
	CC1	Sunday 13 th	Doncaster	A	L 40 - 18
	CC1	Sunday 20 th	Whitehaven	H	L 16 - 26
	CC1	Saturday 26 th	South Wales	H	L 30 - 35
JUNE		Sunday 3 rd	Euro Weekend		
	CC1	Sunday 10 th	NW Crusaders	A	L 30 - 28
		Sunday 17 th	Northern Rail Cup Quarter Final		
	CC1	Sunday 24 th	Rochdale	H	L 4 - 30
JULY	CC1	Sunday 1 st	Whitehaven	A	L 42 - 20
		Sunday 8 th	Northern Rail Cup Semi-Final		
	CC1	Sunday 15 th	London	H	3:00pm
	CC1	Sunday 22 nd	South Wales	A	3:00pm
		Sunday 29 th	Northern Rail Cup Final		
AUGUST	CC1	Sunday 5 th	Barrow	A	3:00pm
	CC1	Sunday 12 th	Doncaster	H	3:00pm
	CC1	Sunday 19 th	Workington	H	3:00pm
		Saturday 26 th	Carnegie Challenge Cup Final		
SEPTEMBER	CC1	Sunday 2 nd	Gateshead	A	3:00pm
		Sunday 9 th	Co-Operative Championships Play Off Games		
		Sunday 16 th	Co-Operative		
<i>Championships Play Off Games</i>					
		Sunday 23 rd	Co-Operative Championships Play Off Games		
		Sunday 30 th	Co-operative Championships Grand Final		
OCTOBER		Saturday 6 th	Super League Grand Final		



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