

Oldham

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BOARDROOM with Chris Hamilton

Welcome back to Whitebank for this afternoon's match against already promoted Doncaster.

They have been consistent all season and we congratulate them on their achievement.

The big news for us this week of course was the departure of Tony Benson.

I felt the decision had to be made even though I wanted Tony to succeed more than anybody else.

In his time at the club he has worked hard and often - as is the case at this level - in difficult circumstances and I will always be appreciative of that. He became a friend as well as a coach in his time here and I hope that can continue. Martin Roden has been put in charge until the end of the season and is under no illusions about the task ahead and I also wish him well. I know for sure Martin will do his utmost to get the best out of the players in the remaining matches.

The task to find the new coach of the club has already started and there is a clean slate as far as we are concerned and the position will be advertised.

By making the change now it also provides the opportunity to get the new coach installed in readiness for the 2013 season and all the preparation work that needs

to be done prior to it.

Whilst we slipped out of the top six after losing last Sunday at Barrow I fully expect us to be in there come the end of the season and the players need to work hard to make that happen.

They too have lots to prove between now and the end of this current campaign whether it be to themselves, the club or future employers and nothing less than 100% will be enough. They too have lots to prove between now and the end of this current campaign whether it be to themselves, the club or future employers and nothing less than 100% will be enough. I must also thank our travelling fans again for their support of the team last week. Strange as it may seem we were playing a team top of the league in front of 1330+ people and losing but for most of the game they made more noise than the home fans and once again got behind the lads. It is much appreciated. Please keep that up today as we

go all out to get the three points.

Enjoy the game



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 singlemindedness 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

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ROUGHYEDS at your service

Roughyeds are further extending their community work by providing facilities and coaches for the preparation of Service Area town teams in the under-15 and under-16 age groups.

Top players in the town at that age will meet at Whitebank for weekly training sessions during August, at which they will be coached by Paul Ashton, Phil Costin and Mark Brocklehurst.

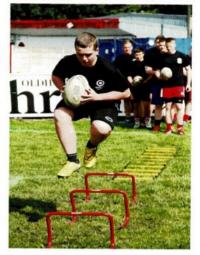
Coaching sessions will be at Whitebank from 10.30am to noon on the next three Saturdays, August 4, 11 and 18 and possibly on August 25 although that has to be confirmed because it is the day of the Carnegie Challenge Cup final at Wembley.

Roughyeds were happy to accept the invitation to lend a hand.

Said Chairman, Chris Hamilton: "The Rugby Football League is encouraging professional clubs to get involved with their local Service Areas at this age group.

"At Oldham, we believe passionately

in furthering the development of rugby league --- that's why we run



three teams --- and we will always try to help other parties if requested to do so, as we did when we were asked by other agencies to oversee the formation of a new junior club in the Limehurst Village area near our ground."

"We are keen to support the Service Area in any way we can."





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* TALK with head coach Martin

Firstly I would like to welcome everyone to Whitebank for my first game as the head coach of the Oldham Roughyeds. It will be a very proud day for me as it is an honour to be in charge at a club steeped in rugby league history as Oldham is. I would like to welcome the players, staff and fans of Doncaster here today who have had a good season thus far. After our loss up at Barrow last week it was a very quiet bus on the way home as I feel the players realised that the performance they gave was below par. Having given away too many penalties and made too many unforced errors with the ball we gifted a good Barrow team far too much possession. I mentioned earlier how proud I will be to be in charge today and

pride is the key word I will be using in training all this week. With three games to go and players unsure of their futures and some retiring, I am looking for a back lash from last week's performance and for pride to be put back into wearing the Oldham shirt. Winning doesn't just happen, you have to earn it, and that is what I will be driving into the squad over the coming weeks! Let's get behind the boys and finish the season in the play offs.



Martin Roden

Head Coach



QUIZ NIGHT & Charity Collection

A Challenge Cup quiz night organised by the Oldham Roughyeds' Supporters' Association (ORSA) will be held in the Whitebank social club on Thursday, August 16, starting at 8pm.

Admission is £1 and the event is open to everyone --- not only ORSA members. For further details contact Paul Whalley on 07796631192 or ring the Roughyeds office on 0161 628 3677.

Roughyeds will be holding a bucket collection at next Sunday's game against Workington in aid of the well-known rugby league charity, Joining Jack, which helps the son of former Wigan player Andy Johnson.

Running the collection will be Oldham-born Phil Mayall, who used to play for Waterhead and Saddleworth and who will be running in the Liverpool Marathon on October 14, also to raise funds for Joining Jack.

Full story will be given in next week's programme and also on the club website next week and in the local press.



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



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



Rob Foxen On Loan Winger Sponsor: Rob the Gardener



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



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



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



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Chris Murphy FullBack, Born 19-09-89 Sponsor:

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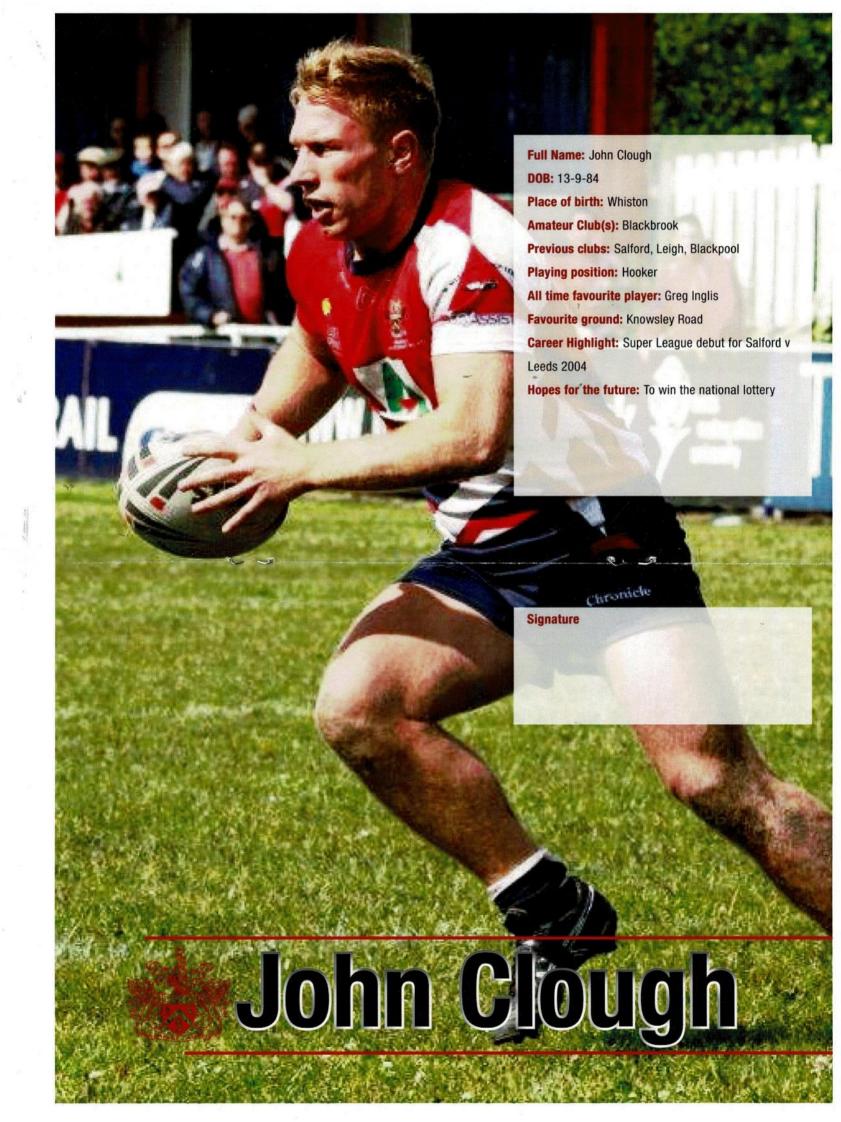
Miles Greenwood FullBack. Born 30-07-87 Sponsor: AMP Wire



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RESERVES TEAM NOMINATION				
FIRST TEAM NOMINATION				
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OUR three separate end-of-season presentation evenings for under-18s, reserves (under-23s) and first team will each be sponsored by Spindles Town

Square Shopping Centre.

Topping the bill at the first-team's big night in the Whitebank social club on Friday, September 14 (7pm for 7,30pm) will be the Jerzey Street Band, a seven-piece group well known on the Manchester musical scene and soon to have an album released in the States.

Said club chairman Chris Hamilton: "We are grateful to Spindles for their continued support.

"Mike Flanagan (Spindles manager) was keen to do what he could to support the club this year and we can now look forward to three good nights to be enjoyed by players, supporters and everyone associated with each of our three teams." The celebrations begin on Friday, August 17 at Whitebank (7.30pm) when playerof-the-year and other awards will be made to the under-18s. Admission is £4 adults (under-16s free), which includes pie and peas supper. The function for the reserves, also at Whitebank, will be on

Friday, September 7 (7.30), tickets at £5 including supper of hot-roast sandwiches and potato wedges.

The senior side's big night out will be one week later, admission £20 a head. including three-course dinner and entertainment by the Jerzey Street musicians. Tickets for the under-18s (scholarship) and reserves events are available from the Roughyeds office in Lansdowne Road, Chadderton and can also be bought from the social club bar at Whitebank before and after Sunday's home game against Doncaster. First-team tickets can only be bought at Lansdowne Road (0161 628 3677), which is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Said Spindles manager Mike Flanagan: "We've backed Roughyeds for the last few years. I was keen for our links to continue because it's good for both of us. "By sponsoring each of the three presentation nights we are spreading our support across all levels of the club.

"We've done that deliberately because we feel Roughyeds, by fielding three teams, are providing opportunities for young people to be involved in sport."



THE Reserve TEAM

Our Reserves finished third in the table behind Featherstone and Halifax ---- a worthy season's work given that we are the only Championship One club in a division otherwise comprised entirely of the second teams of Championship outfits.

We were the only side to take a point off leaders Featherstone and we came close to finishing second, although we had to beat Halifax at The Shay by 14 points and in the event we never recovered from conceding a first-half penalty count of 10-0 and were ultimately beaten 34-4.

That gave us a return visit to the The Shay last Friday night (Aug 10) in the play-off semi-final, so listen out at today's game for Nigel Marland's tannoy announcement about how we got on.

Before the game Coach Paul Ashton said he believed Roughyeds had it in them to reach the final again in defence of their title.

"As a group, we spent two hours on Monday studying the

video of last week's game at The Shay and we know where we went wrong," he said. "We can fix it, and if we do it will make a huge difference."

He has no injury worries and his semi-final squad, including new boy Sam Dowby, is unlikely to show much change although it can't be finalised until he has had his first meeting with new first-team boss Martin Roden.

Last Friday's winners will take on Featherstone at Post Office Road in the final on a date still to be fixed.

Mark Brocklehurst scored our only try in the league game

at The Shay when our reserves lined up like this: Nield; Foreman, Brocklehurst, Worrall, Mulkeen; Connick,

Nield; Foreman, Brocklehurst, Worrall, Mulkeen; Connick, Hilliard; Joy, Moran, Langtree, Cunningham, Mulhearn, Acton. Subs: Hughes, Dowby, C Noone, Wood-Hulme.

The Reserves presentation night is here at Whitebank on Friday, September 7 (7.30), admissioon £5 including hotroast sandwiches and potato wedges.

August	Friday 10th	PLAY OFF 2nd v. 3rd	
	TBA	FINAL v Featherstone	



UNDER 18's

TOM Flanagan's touchline conversion five minutes from the end gave our under-18s a 20-18 win over Halifax at Whitebank last week.

In a hugely competitive and absorbing exhibition of rugby league at this level, Oldham scored four tries to three, but were never in the lead until ice-cool Flanagan provided the winning touch to centre Richard Ward's late try.

The Yorkshire boys went 12-4 up in quarter of an hour and then led 18-10 early in the second half.

Roughyeds finished the stronger, however, to win with late tries by left-wing Tom Mallinson and left-centre Ward to add to their first-half touchdowns by right-wing Steve Woods and prop-forward Jake Boardman. Regular marksman Craig Lawton converted Boardman's try, but he was off the field injured when Ward scored near the end, so stand-off Flanagan took over to finish the job in style.

The platform for victory was established by an impressive performance from the pack, in which second-row pair Jack Ashworth and Josh Hulme were outstanding.

Team: Kenwright; Woods, Fitzsimmons, Ward, Mallinson; Flanagan, Lawton; J Morris, Ball, Boardman, Hulme, Ashworth, Ashbrook. Subs: Sherratt, A Morris, Sargent, White. Presentation night for the under-18s is next Friday, August 17, at Whitebank, starting at 7.30pm. Admission £4 adults (under-16s free), including pie and peas supper.



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FRANC Completes stadium tour at Whitebank

FOOTBALL fanatic Franc Andrews, a lifelong West Brom supporter, got hooked on rugby league as well when watching it on television at his home in Warwickshire.

A salesman for a printing company, he had already visited every professional football ground in England, Scotland and Wales so he set out on a mission to pay similar homage to rugby league grounds. That was 16 years ago, and he has recently completed the full set --- at White-

Soon-to-retire Franc ---- "I'm not going to tell you how old I am" ---- admits to knowing every motorway in Britain like the back of his hand.

He was at Whitebank for the London Skolars game to bring down the curtain on his tour of rugby league grounds, having discovered that Roughyeds no longer played at Boundary Park.

Said Franc: "This is my third trip to Oldham because I've been to Watersheddings, not long before it closed, and I went to Boundary Park to watch Oldham play North Queensland Cowboys when they had the old World Club Championship. It was blowing a gale at Watersheddings. I'll never forget that day --- they beat York.

"It wasn't long ago that somebody told me Oldham now played at Whitebank, so I had to come. It's a compact little ground. It might not be everybody's cup of tea. but I like it.

"I loved being so close to the action. The atmosphere was terrific. I like these little grounds --- much prefer them to the big modern stadiums. They've got more of a 'feel' about them.

"I never miss a Baggies game, but as soon as the football season is over I spend the summer travelling the country watching rugby league.

"Don't ask me how many grounds I've been on. Over the years a lot of clubs have changed grounds and I've followed them around, like I've now watched Oldham at three different home venues.

"I've nowhere else to go now in the UK so I guess my next stop will have to be the Catalans Dragons stadium in Perpignan . . . a far cry from Watersheddings or Whitebank."



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2012 Fixtures

Oldham RLFC Northern Rail Cup and Cooperative Championship One

FEBRUARY	NRC NRC NRC	Wednesday 15 th Sunday 19 th Sunday 26 th	Featherstone South Wales Dewsbury	H A H	L 0 - 68 D 36-36 L 28 - 30
March	NRC CC1 CC1 CC1	Sunday 4 th Sunday 11 th Sunday 18 th Friday 23 rd	Keighley Workington Gateshead Egremont	A H A	L 26 - 12 W 14 - 24 W 40 - 14 W 14 - 22
APRIL	CCC RND 4 CC1	Sunday 1st Friday 6th		H	W 32 - 26 L 18 - 10
	CC1	Sunday 15th Sunday 22 nd	Barrow London	H A	W 26-14 D 20 - 20
		Friday 27th	CCC Rnd 5 St Helens	Α	L76 - 0
Мау	CC1 CC1 CC1 CC1	Sunday 6 th Sunday 13 th Sunday 20 th Saturday 26 th	NW Crusaders Doncaster Whitehaven South Wales	H A H H	L 32 - 36 L 40 - 18 L 16 - 26 L 30 - 35
JUNE	CC1	Sunday 3 rd Sunday 10 th Sunday 17 th	Euro Weekend NW Crusaders Northern Rail Cup Quarter Final	Α	L 30 - 28
	CC1	Sunday 24th	Rochdale	Н	L 4 - 30
JULY	CC1	Sunday 1st Sunday 8th	Whitehaven Northern Rail Cup Semi-Final	Α	L 42 - 20
	CC1 CC1	Sunday 15 th Sunday 22 nd Sunday 29 th	London South Wales Northern Rail Cup Final	A	W25 - 24 W12 - 44
August	CC1 CC1 CC1	Sunday 5 th Sunday 12 th Sunday 19 th Saturday 26 th	Barrow Doncaster Workington Carnegie Challenge Cup Final	А Н Н	L42 - 1 6 3:00pm 3:00pm
SEPTEMBER	CC1	Sunday 2 nd	Gateshead	A	3:00pm
		Sunday 9 th	Co-Operative Championships Po Sunday 16th		ff Games Operative
Championsh	ips Play Off G	Sames Sunday 23 rd	Co-Operative Championships P	lav N	ff Games
		Sunday 30th	Co-operative Championships Grand Final		
Остовея		Saturday 6th	Super League Grand Final		





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