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#dale-con

THE BUZZ

Match Day Programme £2.00

ISSUE 2

Sunday 17th February 2013

3pm Kick Off
Spotland Stadium

Today's Match Sponsor
Alpha Photography

PAGE 6: Championship Talk

PAGE 8: History of the Law Cup

PAGE 10-11: Meet the Players

PAGE 18: Under 20s Fixtures

Rochdale Hornets RL v Oldham Roughyeds

2013 ANNUAL LAW CUP FIXTURE

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FIXTURES

FEBRUARY

Warm Up Matches - Sun 17th Feb KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Oldham RLFC

MARCH

Northern Rail Cup - Sun 3rd Mar KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Gateshead Thunder
Northern Rail Cup - Sun 10th Mar KO: 15:00, Whitebank Stadium
Oldham RLFC v Rochdale Hornets
Northern Rail Cup - Sun 17th Mar KO: 14:30, Glyndwr University Racecourse Stadium
North Wales Crusaders v Rochdale Hornets
Northern Rail Cup - Sun 24th Mar KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v London Skolars
Championship 1 - Fri 29th Mar KO: 15:00, Whitebank Stadium
Oldham RLFC v Rochdale Hornets

APRIL

Championship 1 - Sun 28th Apr KO: 15:00, The Gnoll, Neath
South Wales Scorpions v Rochdale Hornets

MAY

Championship 1 - Sun 5th May KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v North Wales Crusaders
Championship 1 - Sun 12th May KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v London Skolars
Championship 1 - Sun 26th May KO: 15:00, The Prince of Wales Stadium
Gloucestershire All Golds v Rochdale Hornets

JUNE

Championship 1 - Sun 2nd Jun KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Hemel Stags
Championship 1 - Sun 9th Jun KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Oxford RLFC
Championship 1 - Sun 16th Jun KO: 15:00, Gateshead International Stadium
Gateshead Thunder v Rochdale Hornets
Championship 1 - Sun 23rd Jun KO: 15:00, New River Stadium
London Skolars v Rochdale Hornets
Championship 1 - Sun 30th Jun KO: 14:30, Glyndwr University Racecourse Stadium
North Wales Crusaders v Rochdale Hornets

JULY

Championship 1 - Sun 7th Jul KO: 15:00, Pennine Way
Hemel Stags v Rochdale Hornets
Championship 1 - Sun 28th Jul KO: 15:00, Iffley Road
Oxford RLFC v Rochdale Hornets

AUGUST

Championship 1 - Sun 4th Aug KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v South Wales Scorpions
Championship 1 - Sun 11th Aug KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Gateshead Thunder
Championship 1 - Thu 15th Aug KO: 19:30, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Oldham RLFC

SEPTEMBER

Championship 1 - Sun 1st Sep KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v Gloucestershire All Golds

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



Hello and welcome to the traditional Law Cup fixture with our nearest rivals Oldham.

I didn't use the phrase annual as the weather and history has a habit of intervening on regularity of the clash.

I think both coaches will be looking forward to today's game as it makes for the ideal preparation for the forthcoming League and Cup campaigns.

With the weather causing the cancellation of our pre-season game against our Super League partners St. Helens the game against Oldham is now even more important in our preparations for the 2013 season.

For that added bit of spice (as if it needed it), today sees the return of three former Hornets in the shape of Dale Bloomfield, Mark Hobson and Danny Samuel. I am sure that the Hornets faithful will give them a warm reception.

Its one of the beauties of Rugby League that players can change clubs and still come and have a pint with their former clubs supporters after the game. Long may that continue.

If we look back the Law Cup has produced some great games and I am sure everyone hopes today's game will be a classic. It could be like the first ever Law Cup game which produced a draw, though I some how doubt it will finish 0-0 like that game!

With a few of our first choice players unavailable, today's Hornets team will have an experimental feel to it. But thankfully with the advent of our under 20's and the partnership with Saints i am sure Ian and his coaching staff will be able to put out a very competitive team. I am also sure that Scott Naylor over at Oldham will also be looking to sharpen his squad up. So we have all the ingredients for a very entertaining fixture.

Its just great to be back at home and cheering the lads on.

Mark Wynn
Chairman
Rochdale Hornets

FROM THE DUG OUT

Good afternoon and welcome everybody to Spotland for the traditional law cup 'friendly' game.

I'm not too sure that you will be seeing a friendly match as I'm sure both teams will be going all out to earn the pre season bragging rights.

May I take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and volunteers that worked around the clock to clear the snow for the saints game, only to be defeated by a frozen pitch. Although the game didn't go ahead all of the help was greatly appreciated.



With the super league and the championship already underway all of the boys are chomping at the bit to get started after an extended pre-season period, we all want to put our practices into game situations now.

Last weekend saw a practice match over at hopwood hall, it was a combination of first team players and the newly formed Hornets under 20's with over 45 players on show.

I was pleasantly surprised with both the amount of players and the quality on show, this is testament to the hard work of matt Calland and his assistant with the under 20's, Sam butterworth.

With all of this in mind I'm sure that there are exciting times ahead for all involved at the hornets.

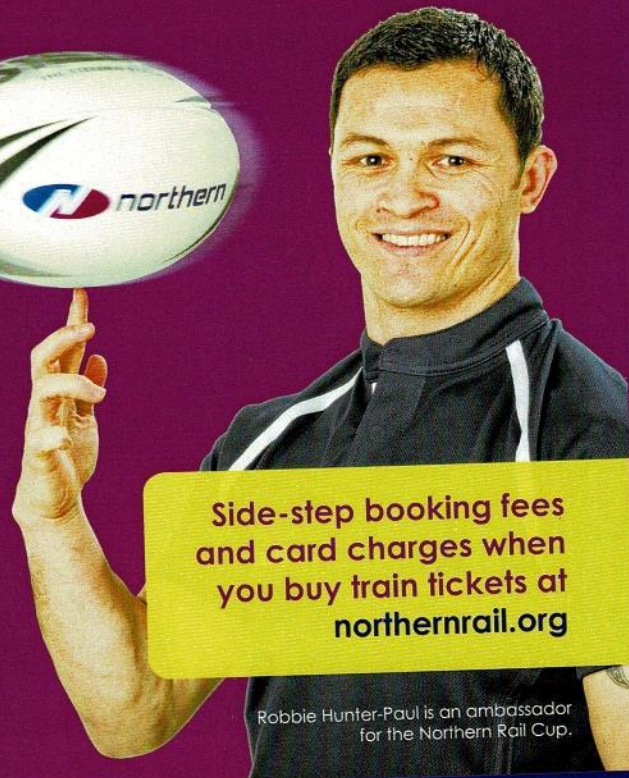
With a long season ahead of us your support is essential, so get behind the boys and cheer them on, thanks for your continued support.

Ian Talbot
Head Coach
Rochdale Hornets

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Training tip



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Robbie Hunter-Paul is an ambassador
for the Northern Rail Cup.



northernrail.org



By GARETH WALKER of *League Express*

ANOTHER week, and more dual registration controversy. The debate has certainly intensified since the start of the season, and looks set to rumble on for some time yet. *League Express* covered both sides of the argument on Monday.

The likes of Swinton chairman John Kidd and Hunslet coach Barry Eaton defended their clubs' stance on the matter, saying that neither of them have broken any rules, and that they are just doing the best thing both for their own clubs and for the development of young players. Kidd said: "This partnership with Warrington is about keeping young players in the game, because the Super League under-20s was abandoned."

"The seven players that we've signed (permanently) from Warrington would have come from other clubs, so what's the difference between signing them from different clubs or from one? "Where would these young players be playing at the moment if it wasn't in the Championship?"

Eaton expressed similar sentiments, while the likes of Gary Thornton at York and Glenn Morrison at Dewsbury have also said that the system can work if managed properly. But there has been strong criticism from elsewhere.

Sheffield coach Mark Aston has labeled the current use of the system by some clubs "morally wrong", while his Leigh counterpart Paul Rowley says it is "disrespectful" to the competition. Featherstone's Daryl Powell has called for RFL intervention on the matter before it has a further impact, while Halifax issued a club statement saying that Super League clubs' decision to scrap their under-20s, which has led to this situation, was "foolish and short-sighted".

The RFL became involved when they issued their own detailed statement on Sunday morning, charting how they had recommended that the too flight runs an under-23s competition, but had been vetoed by the Super League chief executives and chairmen.

One thing appears clear – that the current cloudiness of the system needs clearing up, because there is far too much confusion for supporters at the moment.

How can one player be dual registered at one club, then switch to a season long loan with another? When will we know who will be playing for our club this week? And the opposition?

There at least seems to be agreement among all Championship parties that further discussion is needed – even those using the system at present have stated that. It needs to be made clearer, more transparent, and in my opinion, be scaled down, if it is to have any chance of success.

But wouldn't it just be easier all round if everyone went back to running reserve/Alliance teams in the future?

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HISTORY OF THE LAW CUP

The Infirmary Cup was first contested between Rochdale Hornets and Oldham in May 1921. The trophy was donated by Rochdale M.P. the Right Hon A.J. Law with proceeds to be split between the infirmaries in both towns. The trophy first became known as the Law Cup in 1949 to recognise it's original benefactor.

The first match, on May 7th ended in an inauspicious 0-0 draw with Oldham winning the replay 12-2 and therefore being the first recipients of the trophy. The competition then became an early or pre-season event. Hornets' first success came on September 8th 1923 with a 13-5 victory over the old enemy at the Athletic Grounds. It's interesting to note that the first team to win away was Oldham at the 10th time of asking and in those 10 meetings the away team failed to score in double figures on 9 occasions!

Oldham's first win at the Athletic Grounds was in 1929 whilst Hornets had to wait until 1947 to record their first win at Watersheddings.

Oldham's record win was in 1961 when they won 53-13 at home whilst Hornets' record win was in 1933 when they won by 48-8 closely followed by Derrick Fox's team in 1999 with a 48-10 triumph. The 48-10 win also brought to an end a run of seven successive victories by Oldham. Hornets longest winning run in the history of the trophy was six consecutive wins between 1947 and 1952. The scorers in that 48-10 triumph for Hornets were Shaw and Swann with a brace apiece with Wild, Hilton, Coussins and Coult also crossing the whitewash and the ever-reliable boot of Fox providing 8 goals.

One other notable record saw Tommy Rees play in 11 consecutive matches between 1928 & 1938

After Hornets' 13 - 5 win in 1966 the Law Cup was not contested again until 1973 with Oldham claiming the games were getting 'too torrid'. Since that time we've seen both clubs change grounds with Hornets moving to Spotland and Oldham on to Boundary Park and more recently Whitebank.

A recent addition to the pleasantries has been the Karl Marriott Trophy. Karl, a Young Lion, ex Hornet fans favourite passed away following training in October 1998. Everyone at Hornets fondly remembers Karl and as such has dedicated the Karl Marriott Trophy to the Law Cup man of the match.

PREVIOUS RESULTS

YEAR	HOME	AWAY	RESULT	YEAR	HOME	AWAY	RESULT
1921	HORNETS	OLDHAM	0 - 0	1959	OLDHAM	Hornets	28 - 11
Replay	OLDHAM	Hornets	12 - 2	1960	Hornets	OLDHAM	11 - 35
1922	OLDHAM	Hornets	12 - 8	1961	OLDHAM	Hornets	53 - 13
1923	HORNETS	Oldham	13 - 5	1962	Hornets	OLDHAM	2 - 24
1924	OLDHAM	Hornets	15 - 4	1963	OLDHAM	Hornets	29 - 13
1925	HORNETS	Oldham	27 - 15	1964	Hornets	OLDHAM	7 - 39
1926	OLDHAM	Hornets	34 - 0	1965	Oldham	HORNETS	14 - 19
1927	HORNETS	Oldham	11 - 0	1966	HORNETS	Oldham	13 - 5
1928	OLDHAM	Hornets	18 - 0	1972	OLDHAM	Hornets	18 - 16
1929	Hornets	OLDHAM	2 - 15	1973	HORNETS	Oldham	30 - 14
1930	OLDHAM	Hornets	14 - 7	1974	OLDHAM	Hornets	27 - 15
1931	Hornets	OLDHAM	11 - 29	1975	Hornets	OLDHAM	2 - 29
1932	OLDHAM	Hornets	24 - 3	1976	OLDHAM	HORNETS	21 - 21
1933	HORNETS	Oldham	48 - 8	1977	HORNETS	Oldham	14 - 5
1934	OLDHAM	Hornets	20 - 7	1978	OLDHAM	Hornets	26 - 8
1935	Hornets	OLDHAM	14 - 15	1979	Hornets	OLDHAM	9 - 14
1936	OLDHAM	Hornets	12 - 4	1990	OLDHAM	Hornets	32 - 15
1937	Hornets	OLDHAM	4 - 9	1991	Hornets	OLDHAM	15 - 31
1938	OLDHAM	Hornets	18 - 8	1993	OLDHAM	Hornets	28 - 26
1946	Hornets	OLDHAM	8 - 14	1994	Hornets	OLDHAM	24 - 52
1947	Oldham	HORNETS	17 - 18	1998	Hornets	OLDHAM	16 - 36
1948	HORNETS	Oldham	9 - 2	1999	HORNETS	Oldham	48 - 10
1949	Oldham	HORNETS	2 - 35	1999	Hornets	OLDHAM	18 - 30
1950	HORNETS	Oldham	10 - 9	2001	HORNETS	Oldham	27 - 14
1951	Oldham	HORNETS	7 - 18	2002	Hornets	OLDHAM	22 - 28
1952	HORNETS	Oldham	25 - 8	2004	OLDHAM	Hornets	26 - 24
1953	OLDHAM	Hornets	31 - 19	2005	HORNETS	Oldham	24 - 8
1954	HORNETS	OLDHAM	17 - 17	2006	HORNETS	Oldham	42 - 8
1955	OLDHAM	Hornets	23 - 17	2008	HORNETS	Oldham	26 - 20
1956	HORNETS	Oldham	34 - 5	2010	HORNETS	Oldham	36-10
1957	Oldham	HORNETS	5 - 31	2011	OLDHAM	Hornets	34 - 28
1958	HORNETS	Oldham	25 - 10				

MAKING THE GRADE



The under 20's have prepared for their first game of the season against Halifax at the Shay on the 27th February with two trial games- one with the first team and another with Mayfield's first team. They took a lot out of both games with all 24 players given a hit out.

The squad is made up of a few of last years under 23's- Will Chadwick, Ryan Brown, Jack Knowles and Fraser Jones

Lake; some players from Hopwood Hall's Rugby League academy- Sean Mulcahy, Jake Boardman, Luke Kavangh, Kieran Harmer (son of former Hornet Dave Harmer) Todd Whittle, Josh Maskew, Jason Rigby and Liam Whalley.

From Oldham St Annes there is James Shaw, Michael Lockwood who is a giant 6ft 7 inches tall and still growing, and full back Dom Bryan. We have a few lads from Oldham rugby union with us, namely Josh Watson, Zac Strudwick and Tom Hannon. We also have an exciting half back from Saddleworth Josh Bradbury along with back rower Jake Eastwood. There is also giant prop Brandon Mills from Rochdale Cobras.

We have also managed to sign young Jack Ashworth who is on dual register with St Helens and ex St Helens player Lewis Sheridan who is a Rochdale lad and is currently training with the first team.

This team is a very young team with a lot of the lads still being 16 and 17 so this first season might be a tough learning curve for them but this team is very important to the club and a long term development plan is in place to provide a pathway now for local lads to start pushing for a first team place.

Long term that is the plan- that the first team is filled full of local youngsters that have come through our own system. We are taking things slowly to make sure everything is done correctly and we intend to eventually have our own youth system with a 13's 14's 15's 16's in place.

We hope you fully get behind the under 20's this season, both home and away, as they are the future of Rochdale Hornets.

Matt Calland

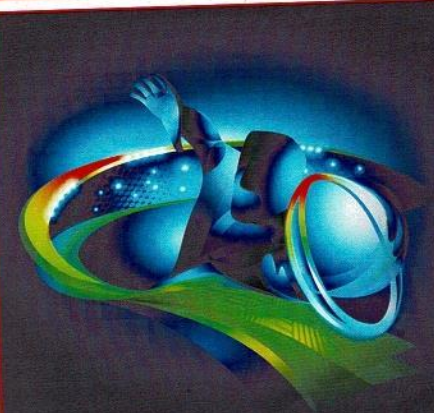
Head of Youth - Rochdale Hornets



Jason Rigby playing for the Rochdale Service Area u18s in 2011

UNDER 20S PROVISIONAL FIXTURES

HALIFAX	Away	27-Feb	The Shay
OLDHAM	Home	09-Mar	Kingsway
SALFORD	Away	23-Mar	Salford City Stadium
OLDHAM	Away	05-Apr	Whitebank
SOUTH WALES	Home	27-Apr	Spotland Stadium
KEIGHLEY	Away	02-May	Cougar Park
FEATHERSTONE	Home	22-Aug	Spotland Stadium
HEMEL	Home	26-May	Spotland Stadium
OLDHAM	Home	09-Jun	Spotland Stadium
YORK	Home	20-Jun	Spotland Stadium
HEMEL	Away	07-Jul	Pennine Way
LEIGH	Away	13-Jul	Leigh Sports Village
YORK	Home	01-Aug	Spotland Stadium
YORK	Away	08-Aug	Huntington Stadium



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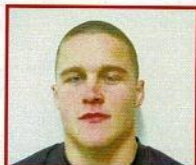
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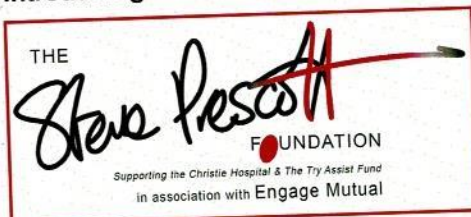
Dave Sutton



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to sponsor a
player!

Introducing the Steve Prescott Foundation



Steve Prescott played Rugby League for St Helens, Hull, Wakefield, Ireland and was a GB Lions Tourist.

In September 2006, Steve was diagnosed with Pseudomyxoma Peritonei a rare form of Cancer, he was told that he would not see his two children grow up; he was given months to live. He underwent a major operation in Basingstoke Hospital and tumours were removed from his abdomen. After surgery Steve was transferred

to The Christie Hospital in Manchester for chemotherapy treatment to try to control the remaining disease.

The concept of undertaking fund-raising took shape in August 2007, after Steve was Guest of Honour at a Wigan Supporters versus St.Helens Supporters Charity Rugby League match. The game signified the starting point of the Steve Prescott Foundation, with two organisations close to his own heart set to receive the benefits of his own fund-raising activities:

- The Christie: The Christie Cancer Hospital in Manchester is one of Europe's leading cancer centres, treating over 40,000 patients a year. This is where Steve is currently being treated. It is one of only two national specialist hospitals that specialises in Pseudomyxoma Peritonei in GB.
- Try Assist: Previously known as The Rugby League Benevolent Fund, and aims to support players whose lives are affected by serious injuries while playing the game of Rugby League. SPF Donates 25k to Try Assist Fund

Backed by an enthusiastic Committee, the first major event was a 199 mile walk, beginning in Hull and finishing at Old Trafford, Manchester, before the Grand Final. All together, thirteen rugby league clubs were visited en route, with a total of £60,000 raised for the Foundation. Supporters from rival clubs walked side by side with each other for the cause, with twelve supporting Stephen the full distance of the walk itself. It was a difficult scenario for Stephen, who had only just finished a course of chemotherapy. Yet sheer grit, determination, plain stubbornness and the great camaraderie of friends and supporters enabled him to succeed.

Stephen also had the privilege of kicking off in the special 'All Golds' versus 'Northern Union' match to celebrate the Centenary of the first-ever Test Match between England and New Zealand in 1907. The game was held at Warrington's Halliwell Jones Stadium and for Stephen to be Guest of Honour was indicative of his high profile within the rugby league game itself.

In May 2008 there was another challenge for Stephen. After months of hard training, punctuated by chemotherapy, he attempted the London Marathon, together with three former Rugby League

players and team-mates: Chris Joynt, Dave Lyon and Terry O'Connor. Despite suffering from intense cramp along the way, he finished the run in 4 hours 32 minutes. He was disappointed not to beat his father Eric's time from the same race some years previously! The event was a huge success, however, receiving extensive regional media coverage and raising £8,000 for the Foundation.

Bardon Concrete, one of the leading companies in their field in the North West identified the Stephen Prescott Foundation in its Community Engagement Plan for further and on-going support, donating £10,000 in 2008. A major publicity coup for the Foundation came in March 2008, when it was announced that Hymix Ltd, in conjunction with Bardon Aggregates, were prepared to display the Stephen Prescott Foundation logo, together with Christies and the Rugby League Benevolent Fund, on several of their readymix drums. The launch, at the British Commercial Vehicle Museum in Chorley was a huge success and those vehicles with the Foundation logos emblazoned on their 'drums' can be seen regularly plying the road and motorway networks of the North West of England.

In July 2008 the Steve Prescott Foundation attempted it's most ambitious project to date with Stephen playing a major role in organising a unique boxing event for former Rugby League players at the Reebok Stadium, Bolton. Former team-mates and opponents such as Steve Hampson, Garry Schofield, Anthony Sullivan were more than willing to undertake weeks of training to take part in the contest. As part of the training, the contestants even visited Ricky Hatton's gym in Manchester, when Ricky himself gave his full support for the event. Such activities have done much to bring together the Rugby League community in particular, who have always been extremely supportive in all of Stephen's ventures. On the night itself, Stephen could not sit back and watch. He entered the ring and took on former European Middleweight Champion Herol 'Bomber' Graham in an exhibition bout which delighted the audience. The event raised £32,000, together with further awareness and publicity for the Foundation.

A second Trans-Pennine walk was planned for October 2008, but once again Stephen looked upon it as an opportunity to increase the level of challenge involved – to push the boundaries further. This time, the Trans-Pennine walk encompassed 23 Rugby League clubs visited during a fortnight. The Grand Final match ball was also carried along the way. Several people took time off work to 'go the distance' to help make the walk a huge success. The National League clubs, in particular, embraced the participants and the Foundation concept with great hospitality. At Dewsbury, youngsters from Thornhill Community School greeted the walkers; at Batley, there was a strong compliment of juniors from the famous Batley Boys club. The walk had once again done much to unite communities on both sides of the Pennines and raised £40,000 for the Foundation. The match ball was delivered to Old Trafford on Grand Final day, after the walkers made the final approach to the stadium led by a Scots piper. Stephen was greeted by Mike Stephenson of Sky Sports at the end of the walk and as a result maximum publicity for the Foundation was ensured.

Another boxing tournament was proposed for Batley's Frontier Club on 1st April 2009 essentially

2013 OFFICIAL PARTNER CONT . . .

for players from National League clubs such as Featherstone, Batley, Hunslet and Bramley. Stephen managed to persuade the respective Chairmen of these clubs to release their players for this event, a near-impossible task in the first instance. Yet he received full support for his proposals and the event is set to raise £16,000 for the Foundation. Once again local communities were brought together for such a worthy cause.

Stephen has always wanted to push back the barriers for each successive challenge undertaken by the Foundation. In August 2009 comes the most demanding of them all. This involved an international challenge, starting with cycling from Perpignan across France to the English Channel; with further cycling back in England up to Uxbridge and then paddled 24 miles up the River Thames in a Dragon Boat. The participants then undertook a half-marathon before entering Wembley Stadium with the match ball for the 2009 Challenge Cup final. Needless to say an event of this nature required 'blue chip' sponsorship to the tune of £9,000, which was provided by Carnegie of Leeds, who also sponsor the Challenge Cup competition itself. Like with the walks, disability is no barrier to participation. Pete Stephenson and Jimmy Gittins, who were both seriously hurt playing Rugby League, were delighted to put themselves forward for the challenge. The look of satisfaction and achievement after their first session of dragon boat training in Liverpool said it all!

Stephen has developed into the perfect 'front man' and is an accomplished speaker when introducing his various challenges to the media on behalf of the Foundation and has undoubtedly helped to increase awareness of not just his own condition, but the valuable work of The Christie Hospital and the Rugby League Benevolent Fund. He has encompassed several different sports and activities for his challenges and this has included participation from a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds, who maybe would not have taken part in charity work but for his influence. Stephen is also a member of a strong, caring family, including his wife, Linzi and sons Taylor and Koby, who have been totally supportive throughout his illness. Indeed, his older brother, Neil, not only helped him with his preparation for the Marathon but also stepped into the ring for one of the bouts in the boxing spectacular at Bolton!

Steve at the moment is having a break from the intense Chemotherapy and is having 3 monthly scans to monitor the remaining disease. Having a terminal illness does not stop him from trying new challenges that pushes his body to the limits.

Steve was awarded with an MBE in the 2010 New Years Honours List for his services to Rugby League and Charity work.

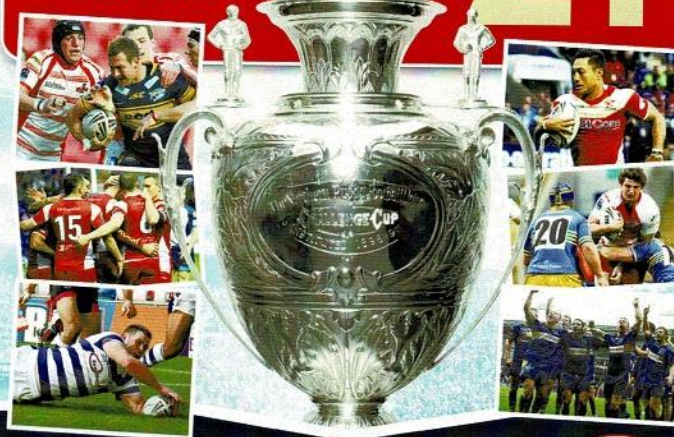
Rochdale Hornets look forward to supporting the Steve Prescott Foundation throughout 2013

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SPRINGHILL HOSPICE EVENTS CALENDAR 2013

THURSDAY 7TH FEBRUARY - SPRINGHILL HOSPICE SWISH

The clothes swapping phenomenon. You bring up to five unwanted garments that are new or nearly new, and swap them with other ladies' unwanted items. Check in starts at 6.30p.m, with the Swish starting at 7.45p.m, following the Fashion Show. Tickets £5.00 pp including a glass of wine.

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH - SPRING FAIR

A fantastic day out for all the family at Springhill Hospice. Over 45 stalls and attractions, free entry for all! 10a.m to 3p.m.

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL - WOMAN OF ROCHDALE

An annual ladies luncheon to celebrate the achievements of the new Woman of Rochdale in the beautiful Great Hall, Rochdale Town Hall, 11.30a.m. for a 12.30p.m. luncheon. Tickets £37 pp including a four course meal.

SUNDAY 12TH MAY - WELLY WALK

A sponsored walk setting off from Springhill Hospice, dogs allowed, entry £10.00 pp including a medal for completing this 6 mile walk. A good way to freshen up after the FA Cup Final the day before!

FRIDAY 17TH MAY - SPRINGHILL HOSPICE ANNUAL GOLF DAY

£200.00 for a team of 4 at Rochdale Golf Club including dinner and entertainment. Book early to avoid disappointment!

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE - SPRINGHILL HOSPICE SUMMER GALA DAY

On land at Collop Gate Farm, Heywood, 10a.m. -3p.m. With Craft Tents, Military Exhibits, and a Fair - a lovely way to round off the 1940's Day in Heywood on Saturday 29th June.

SUNDAY 7TH JULY - SPRINGHILL HOSPICE OPEN GARDEN DAY

A chance to come and take a look around the beautiful grounds at Springhill Hospice, including a plant sale. Refreshments available, free entry for all.

SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER - LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

More details to follow.

OCTOBER 7TH TO 13TH - HOSPICE CARE WEEK

An action packed week to celebrate and raise awareness of the work of Hospices.

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER - SPRINGHILL HOSPICE CHRISTMAS FAIR

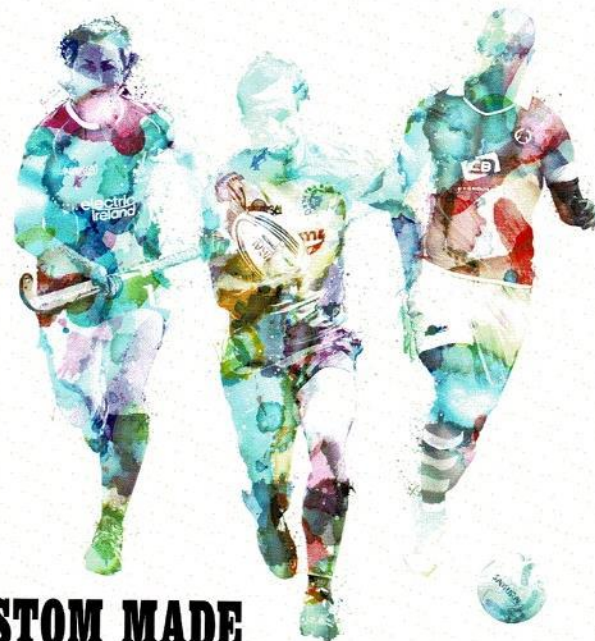
A fabulously festive day out for all the family. Over 50 stalls and attractions, with something for everybody and free entry for all! 10a.m. to 3p.m.

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER - MAN OF ROCHDALE LUNCHEON

An annual luncheon for the men of Rochdale to come together and celebrate the achievement of the 2013 Man of Rochdale in the Great Hall, Rochdale Town Hall. Tickets £37 pp including a four course dinner and entertainment, starting with a Beer Reception at 1.00p.m.

***** All events will be held at Springhill Hospice, Broad Lane, Rochdale, OL16 4PZ unless otherwise stated. For further details about any of the above, please contact the fundraising department on 01706 649920 or by e-mail fundraising@springhillhospice.nhs.uk *****

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Samurai Sportswear is proud to be the official kit supplier to Rochdale Hornets.

Hornets Power Past Amateurs

Rochdale Hornets got there assault on the Championship 1 title on the way as they powered past the 'best of the amateurs' Rochdale And District ARL Town Team.

Paul Crook collected a personal tally of 30 points with 2 tries and kicking 11 from 11 to rack up a punishing scoreline, which doesn't truly reflect the effort and determination of the amateurs.

The game started at a frantic pace, as the Town Team looked to ruffle some feathers, none more so than Fijian Jo Quanicui who welcomed Garreth Frodsham to the game with a big hit in the opening moments.

Impressive Hooker McClurg opened the scoring, darting in close to the sticks.

The impressive Hornets pack then took a hold on the game, creating good field position and a platform from which Crook and Roper could work with.

On the ten minute mark, a break by English and a neat behind the back pass from Livesey put Hornets within striking distance, allowing Frodsham to power over.

A mistake from Rochdale and District player of the year Eric Johnson allowed Croke an easy score under the posts shortly after, then Roper through a wide miss pass which gave Sutton a walk in to cap an impressive first 20 for Hornets.

The Town Team then got a hold of the Hornets pack as Mayfield's Gleeson, Littlebroughs ARLFCs Sweeney and Cobras West entered the fray.

It took a piece of brilliance from Croke, with a cheeky show and go to break down Town again, before 3rd generation Fijian Mike Ratu sped through a gap out wide just before the half to give Hornets a 36-0 lead.

Town Team and Ireland coach Ged Corcoran chose to keep his troops out in the snow at half time, laying down the law and giving crucial coaching advice.

The tactic paid off as the flood gates closed and the amateurs went back to hitting hard and testing the Hornets pack.

Again the Hornets front row proved the difference, as the impressive, slender looking Cookson wrestled the Hornets into a position from which Roper was able to weave his way through the line.

Gaz Langley then finished off a neat training ground move, where the ball went through several pairs of hands to create a good overlap out wide, followed by Frodsham completing his brace with another short crash over the line.

Rochdale lad Lewis Sheridan, playing for the Hornets through the partnership deal with St Helens, showed quick footwork to dance through tackles and find the supporting Davies to crash in from 20 meters.

The afternoons scoring was complete when hooker McClurg showed pace and neat footwork to break the line and cruise in from 40 meters.

The Town Team still didn't lie down, and forced a repeat set from which they were unlucky not to ground the

ball from the kick on fifth and last.

With the howling snow coming in, the full time whistle blew with the Town Team knowing they had put up a fight against an impressive Rochdale Hornets Team.

Hornets Coach Ian Talbot commented 'We have put together new systems, new combinations and today was our first real chance to test them. I think we played really well and there is plenty to build on ahead of the game with St Helens a week on Friday.'

Town Team Corcoran added 'I thought we did well today. We have had a few sessions together as a squad but not as many as I would have liked, and quite a few of the boys have had to double up from yesterdays Pennine League fixtures so we are battered and bruised, but I think we put up a fight and made ourselves count'.

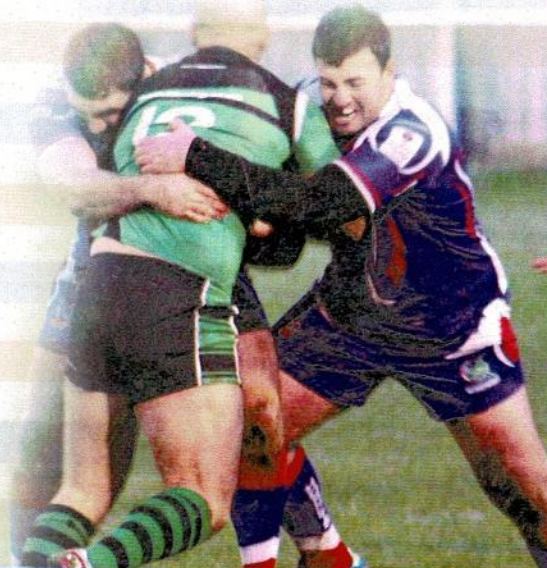
Town Team

Ieuan Higgs
 Rob Kershaw
 Kunai Nuamalata
 Nick Hargreaves
 John Foy
 Eric Johnson
 Chris Hough
 Tom Morris
 Joel Hinchcliffe
 Aidy Gleeson
 Napoleon Good-Vinaka
 Luke Sampson
 Joe Quanicui
 Daniel Sweeney
 Garreth Sharrocks
 Steven Holton
 Peter Marland
 David Mills
 Jack Ashworth
 Callum Buckley
 Fereti Bau
 Semisi Cocker
 David Tierney
 Alex West

Rochdale Hornets

Wayne English
 Gaz Langley
 Tony Stewart
 Owen Livesey
 Dave Sutton
 Paul Croke
 Steve Roper
 Garreth Frodsham
 Alex McClurg
 John Cookson
 Dayne Donoghue
 Alex Trumper
 Jordan Casey
 John Walker
 Jordan Sandford
 Martin Waring
 Danny Davies
 Jack Knowles
 Mike Ratu
 Lewis Sheridan
 Will Chadwick
 Fraser Jones-Lake
 Ryan Brown
 Andy Ainscough
 Joe Bate

Attendance 255
 Venue: Rochdale, Mayfield
 MOM: McClurg



FANS RAMBLE

G.B. OR ENGLAND?

Lee Gilmour has re-opened the topic of whether the national side should be a Great Britain one or a series of nations England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Gilmour reckons that breaking from the traditional G.B. Model has weakened the national sides. He says that as four nation if a player qualifies for England he'll choose them so he can play in the bigger international matches but players would still be able, if not up to G.B. Standard they revert to the other four nations and could still have some caps to retire with. To illustrate his point he reckons that players like Dale Ferguson, Danny Brough and Daryl Clark could all join him in playing for Scotland in this year's World Cup and in so doing weakening the possible England choices.

Gilmour suggests looking back to the 2000 World Cup when the home nations shone and they could do so again if England wasn't taking some of their players who qualify for both. He also points out that the home nations series' could restart giving the national coaches valuable trial games to view possible new players. I guess we'll all have to wait until the World Cup later this year to see if the England team can finally break into the Aussie/New Zealand club or will the status remain.

DRUGS IN SPORT

This week has the issue with drugs in sport raising its ugly head again with the news that serial drug-cheat cyclist Lance Armstrong agreeing to an interview with Oprah Winfrey in which he was expected to 'come clean' about his past.

At time of going to press it would seem that Mr. Armstrong is still trying to string everyone along a bit by being coy while revealing a few bits and pieces. He probably thinks he will make enough money from 'doing the after dinner circuit' by just drip-feeding the public the odd tit-bit of what he actually did.

Personally I'm disgusted by the whole idea of cheating in sport by using anything whether it is performance-enhancing drugs or diving in the penalty area like our 'wendy ballers'.


I asked our head coach for his thinking on this and his views are forthright and to the point. He said. Drugs in Sport, it's interesting to see the publicity surrounding the Lance Armstrong appearance on the Oprah Winfrey show following his use of drugs and 'cheating' in sport.

I guess that he will be given plenty of Airtime and publicity across the world, but at the end of the day he has broken the rules and in my opinion doesn't deserve the attention or sympathy.

I feel for his opponents, or any other sportsmen, that have been runners up throughout their careers, their honest hard work, endeavor and sticking to the rules never seeing the rewards and adulation that proven "cheats" receive. I hope that his competitors now receive the recognition that they deserve.

So Hornets' players know that should they fall foul of the doping unit they will not have a friend in the dressing room that some professionals seem to have been able to rely on.

Andy 'Pugwash' Birch
Hornets Fan

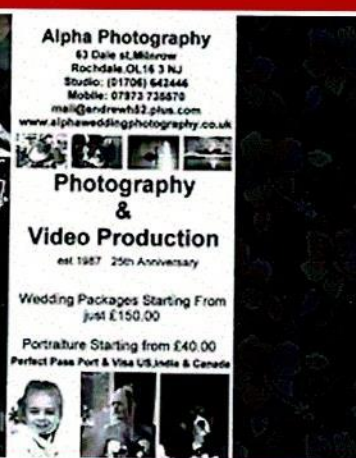


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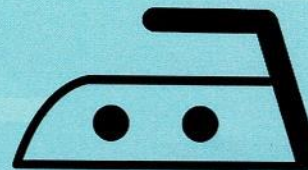
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ROCHDALE HORNETS vs. OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS

2013 LAW CUP
Sunday 17th February
3PM Kick Off
Spotland Stadium

Match Sponsor: **Alpha Photography**

HORNETS	SPONSOR	SQUAD NUMBER	OLDHAM	SQUAD NUMBER
Benji Lloyd		1	Richard Lepori	1
Gareth Langley		2	Mo Agoro	2
Alex Trumper		20	Danny Samuels	3
Tony Stewart		3	Ste Nield	4
Dave Sutton		5	Dale Bloomfield	5
Gary Wheeler		6	Lewis Palfrey	6
Steven Roper	Jim Stringer	7	Jamie Dallimore	7
John Cookson	Cameron Heap	8	Liam Gilchrist	8
Dom Speakman		9	Sam Gee	9
Warren Thompson	Oliver Vining	10	Jason Boults	10
Chris Baines (Capt)	Buzzline	11	Josh Crowley	11
Danny Davies		12	Michael Ward	12
Jordan Case		13	Mark Hobson	13
REPLACEMENTS				
Joe Bate		16	Adam Fildes	14
Martin Waring		25	Kenny Hughes	15
Dave Hull	BDL	27	Phil Joy	16
Gareth Frodsham		23	Callum Marriott	17
Ant Walker		26	Chris Tyrer	18
Jordan Hand		17	Danny Langtree	19
Lewis Sheridan		24	Neil Roden	20

Coaching Staff:

Ian Talbot
 Dave Ramsbottom
 Matt Calland
 Glyn Walsh
 Ste Prescott
 John Walker
 Physio: Kay Bower

Today's Match Officials

Referee
 Peter Brooke

 Touch Judges:
 Ian Scott
 Danny McNeice