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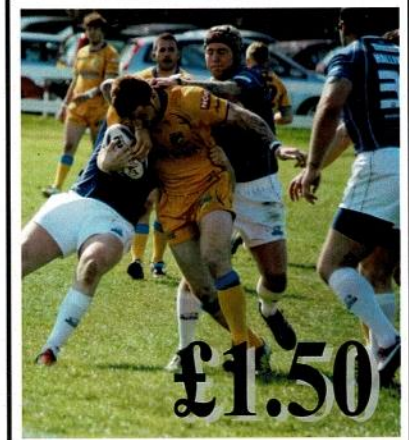
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Oldham return to Pennine Way



Sunday 12th May, 3pm Kick Off



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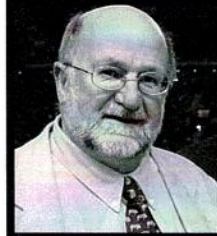
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Pennine Ramblings

With Chairman: Bob Brown

Established 1981



Pennine Way, Hemel

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Acknowledgements:

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Check out our Website

www.hemelstags.com

A special welcome to all rugby league fans to a big day for the sport at Pennine Way.

Topping the bill is the Championship 1 clash between the Stags and Oldham. While our other opponents this season have been newcomers to Pennine Way our playing links with Oldham go back to the early 90's. Hemel Hempstead (we weren't called the Stags in those days!) played Oldham in the RFL Alliance League made up of the pro clubs' reserve teams plus Hemel. We joined the Alliance back then as we saw it as the pathway to the pro ranks. We warmly welcome the players, officials and supporters of Oldham back to Pennine Way.

Today, both club's reserves are also in action at U20 Championship Merit League level—an indication of both the growth of Hemel as a club and the commitment of both clubs to develop their own player pathway.

Even more encouraging today is the abundance of mini rugby players on display—having come from all over London and the South East for the Hemel Festival. This is truly the future of rugby league. The finals at half time in the main game should provide great entertainment for all those present.

With a fine day forecast let's hope that today truly launches summer rugby at Pennine Way this season.

Bob Brown (CEO)

Squads

Referee: D Sharpe, Touch Judges: J Abimelech, P Parker

	Hemel Stags		Oldham RLFC	
1	Mike Forgham	Full Back	Richard Lepori	1
2	Ash Fyson	Right Wing	Mo Agoro	2
3	Aaron Small	Right Centre	Danny Samuel	3
4	Mason Caton-Brown	Left Centre	Steven Nield	4
5	Tobias Rochester=Bremmer	Left Wing	Dale Bloomfield	5
6	Jermaine Coleman	Stand Off	Lewis Palfrey	6
7	Mike Bishay	Scrum Half	Neil Roden	7
8	James Howitt	Prop	Liam Gilchrist	8
9	Joel Miranda	Hooker	Sam Gee	9
10	Aiden Pritchard	Prop	Jason Boults	10
11	Barry-John Swindells	Second Row	Josh Crowley	11
12	Jake Hobbs	Second Row	Danny Langtree	12
13	Eddie Mbaraga	Loose Forward	Mark Hobson	13
14	Ian Keevil	Sub One	Adam Files	14
15	Dan Ljazouli	Sub Two	Chris Tyrer	15
16	Jimmy Phillips	Sub Three	Kenny Hughes	16
17	Chris Stevenson	Sub Four	Callum Marriot	17
18	Austin Aggrey	Sub Five	Phil Joy	18

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Date	Opponent	H / A	Kick Off	Result
03/03/2013	Gloucestershire All Golds	A	3.00pm	W18-36
10/03/2013	London Skolars	A	3.00pm	L26-4
17/03/2013	South Wales Scorpions	H	3.00pm	L20-22
29/03/2013	London Skolars	A	3.00pm	W8-26
07/04/13	Ince Rose Bridge (CC)	A	TBC	W18-50
14/04/2013	Gateshead Thunder	H	3.00pm	W21-20
21/04/2013	Wakefield Trinity Wildcats	A	6.00pm	L66-6
23/04/13	North Wales Crusaders	H	7.00pm	L24-36
28/04/2013	Gloucestershire All Golds	H	3.00pm	W28-8
05/05/2013	Oxford RLFC	A	3.00pm	L23-22
12/05/2013	Oldham RLFC	H	3.00pm	
19/05/2013	Northern Rail Cup Playoff			
26/05/2013	South Wales Scorpions	H	3.00pm	
02/06/2013	Rochdale Hornets	A	3.00pm	
09/06/2013	BYE			
16/06/2013	North Wales Crusaders	H	3.00pm	
23/06/2013	Oldham RLFC	A	3.00pm	
30/06/2013	South Wales Scorpions	A	3.00pm	
07/07/2013	Rochdale Hornets	H	3.00pm	
14/07/2013	Gloucestershire All Golds	A	3.00pm	
28/07/2013	BYE			
04/08/2013	Oxford RLFC	H	3.00pm	
11/08/2013	North Wales Crusaders	A	2.30pm	
18/08/2013	London Skolars	H	3.00pm	
01/09/2013	Gateshead Thunder	A	3.00pm	

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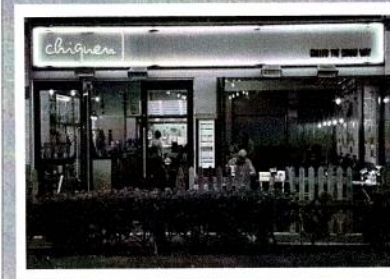
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Ernie's View

Ernie fills us in on a bit of everything.

Well it should be a great day of Rugby League here at Pennine Way today. We have a mini's festival which will end up with a final being played at half time and there is also an Under 20's game and a league match. So enjoy today.

How in the hells name can you keep 3 women locked up for ten years and nobody knows about it? I can't keep mine quiet for 10 minutes. But seriously I can't begin to feel how those young girls coped. I just hope they can readjust to life.

It was good to go to Oxford last week, even though the result wasn't in our favour, as their ground at Iffley Road where Bannister broke the four minute mile) is a very pretty ground. It has good facilities and lots of grass for kids to sit or play, hopefully we will get our ground back to being as child friendly as it used to be.

Had my first train journey this week for about 30 years, after it took me 3 days to work out the best ticket deal to get. I boarded the train which was clean and on time. I thought, 'I could get used to this instead of being stuck in traffic on the motorway.'

Then the return journey; after missing my train by 3 minutes I grabbed a coffee to wait for the next train which was due an hour later. Then, however, the dreaded announcement came that there was a points failure and trains would be delayed.

Other trains were arriving but apparently I didn't have the right ticket to get on them so I sat on the platform for 2 hours before embarking on a 3 hour train journey which consisted of 3 changes. I think that will be the last time I let the train take the strain.

Samantha, our lovely hospitality manager, has gone away for a weeks holiday. When she asked if I would drop her off at Luton airport I said no problem. Then she told me she had to be there at 4am! Why don't I keep my big gob shut.

Enjoy the game today and please remember to respect all our fans, staff and players by not using foul or abusive language.

Ernie Howell.

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Rugby League news

A selection of Rugby League news and comments from Tom Williams

News: Warrington's Harrison lined up for Swinton

The reality of the Super League Club and Championship club partnerships in action here. I just feel that it does degrade the competition when players such as Harrison are 'coming back from injury' by playing for Swinton. There are some huge positives to the dual-registration system but there are some big down sides as well.

News: Daryl Powell has a bright future as Castleford coach

It'll remain to be seen how he copes with the situation at Castleford but he has done some good things with his teams in the past. It will be interesting to compare his impact to the one of Noble's at Salford. They are both in similar re-building situations but are the polar opposite in terms of profile. It will be intriguing to see how they both get on.

News: Leuluai signs fresh Leeds deal

Re-signing players is a testament to a well run club. It shows that players want to stay where they are because they are well looked after and respected. In the case of Kylie Leuluai it is proof that it works both ways. Players must respect the club, work hard and earn their contracts and this man does just that. I feel that the players, on the field this season, are earning their right to stay and lets make sure we give them as much support as the Leeds fans give 'Kylie Kylie Kylie Leuluai...'

News: Wakefield role for Fozzard

Having recently visited Wakefield we found they were fantastic hosts and all in all it was an amazing experience. They are a clear case of a club that needs to earn its own money to stay alive and it seems that their ambition is to do that and do it well. Nick Fozzard has come from Castleford and it will, as with Powell and Noble, be very interesting to see the impact that he has there.

News: Challenge Cup

I wanted to just make a small comment on the Challenge Cup as there has been a lot of discussion about it. The fact that there will be a Championship club in the Quarter Finals is fantastic for everyone. The Challenge Cup is a special competition and it brings all of the rugby league family together and long may that continue.



PLEASE PLACE LITTER IN BINS PROVIDED

Development Diaries

London Primary League Festival here today

Today we are hosting all the London Primary League teams at Hemel Stags for a festival over the morning and afternoon. The finals of the festival will be played at half time of the Championship game and will hopefully be a fantastic experience for all the young players involved.

This age group of players are truly our 'Future Stars' and it is a special day when we get to see all the great talent and development work going on in the London and South East area. With the loss of Community Coaches it is a testament to our volunteers that these teams are still running and it is vitally important that we continue this in the future.

Our 'Future Stars' programme which we are developing in primary schools is aimed at developing the future players and fans of the club by giving them a really enjoyable experience when playing rugby league. If your children are in primary school and you want rugby league taught in the school then put them in touch with tom.williams@hemelstags.com.

We hope the Primary festival has been enjoyable today and that all the players and parents go away with a fond memory of Hemel Stags and what we do here.

Hemel Team Contacts

A Team	Matt Cannon	mathew.cannon@uk.bp.com
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U14's	Matt Donovan	Matt.donovan95@yahoo.co.uk
U12's	Trish Drummond	trish.drummond@hemelstags.com
U11's	Gareth Swindells	garethswindells@hotmail.co.uk
U9's	Dan Stocks	dan.stocks@hemelstags.com
U7's	Claire Wells	ClaireW@yewtree.herts.sch.uk

If your interested in playing Rugby League please get in touch with one of our coaches for more information, or visit our website www.hemelstags.com

Fan Zone

Let us know what you want to see: info@hemelstags.com

Kingstone Press Championship 1 Table

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	PTS
1	North Wales Crusaders	4	4	0	0	12
2	Hemel Stags	4	3	1	0	10
3	Oxford RLFC	4	3	1	0	10
4	South Wales Scorpions	4	2	2	0	6
5	Oldham RLFC	3	1	2	0	5
6	Rochdale Hornets	3	1	2	0	4
7	Gateshead Thunder	3	1	2	0	4
8	London Skolars	3	1	2	0	3
9	Gloucestershire All Golds	4	0	4	0	1

Top 10 Try Scorers 2013

Name	Try's scored
Mike Forgham	4
Harry Mostyn	4
Mike Bishay	3
Mason Caton-Brown	3
Aaron Small	3
Aidan Pritchard	2
Alex Ingarfield	2
Ash Fyson	1
Chris Stevenson	1
Joel Miranda	1

Troy's Talk

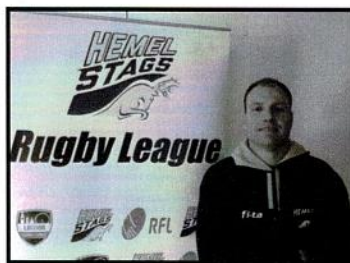
Read our Head Coach's update on playing matters

Today we welcome one of the most famous names in rugby league to Pennine Way. Oldham were formed in 1876 and have won several Challenge Cups over the years. All of the players are looking forward to this historic match and both teams will be looking to build on the start of the season with Oldham sitting in fifth spot and ourselves in second spot. Both teams were narrowly beaten by Oxford in their last match so I think it will be a pretty tight match.

We have had a good week of training and although it has been tough we have all just about got over the loss against Oxford last weekend. I thought our performance was outstanding and having dominated the opposition for thirty minutes and built up a lead of 18-4 I didn't think there was any chance of losing. However, I didn't expect to lose influential hooker Gareth Honor and half back Chad Sharp with ankle injuries before half time having already lost Ash Johnson with a dislocated shoulder. All the players showed tremendous character and courage to play the last fifty minutes with one fit substitute and to still be in front with three minutes to go.

The whole squad played an important part in last weeks game but especially the forwards who had to play longer minutes than normal and full credit to Aidan Pritchard playing eighty minutes at prop with the other forwards such as James Howitt, Eddie Mbaraga, Dan Ljazouli and Alex Ingarfield supporting him well.

We had a very good start to the season and to have ten points from a possible twelve points is really pleasing. We know that we have plenty of quality teams to play in the next month starting with today's opposition followed by South Wales, Rochdale and Crusaders. We will need a couple of wins over this period to maintain a presence in the top four. We can take plenty of confidence from our last couple of performances and hopefully we can put the disappointment of last weekend behind us and get back to winning ways today.



Enjoy the game,

Troy Perkins, Head Coach



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