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v Oldham

Friday 18th April 2014
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From The Chair...



Good afternoon everyone and an especially warm welcome to all players, coaching staff, officials and supporters from today's visitors Oldham.

The first thing I want to say today is that whilst Cup fever rampages through the Club given next week's 5th round tie at Wigan, it's important that we keep our feet firmly on the ground and maintain 100% focus on the league. That is our main driver this year and we should not let anything distract us from trying to achieve our goal. Oldham are unbeaten at the time of writing and will be a real test for us today and no doubt they will seize the opportunity to maximise any lapses in concentration. There's no doubting that Barry has instilled this into the players so let's get behind them to produce the result we want today and ensure we go into next week's game with confidence.

Turning to the Cup game I'm pleased to say that ticket sales have gone incredibly well and an added bonus is that we have seen a number of friendly faces return to the Club with renewed enthusiasm over the game. Let's hope their return to the fold is made permanent and we begin to see

them regularly again here at South Leeds Stadium. Tickets and coach travel are still available, so if you haven't sorted yours out yet there's still time. Today we should have on sale our new #IAMHUNSLET T-Shirts and retro Phoenix pin badges so take the opportunity to pick them up and wear them with pride.

No doubt you will have seen in the press this week that Barry Eaton has accepted the offer to extend his contract by 2 years. This is fantastic news for the Club and helps stabilise our medium term future on the coaching side. Barry is a highly regarded coach throughout Rugby League and he is absolutely integral to what we are trying to achieve here. Players, sponsors and Business partners have all cited Barry as one of the key reasons they wanted to get involved with us and his work in the community, with local schools and particularly with Leeds College of Building has been outstanding. There's no doubt that Barry wants to coach at the highest levels of the game and we will work with him to hopefully achieve that ambition with us.

Finally I'd like to wish you all a happy Easter and I hope you all get chance to relax and eat the odd bit of chocolate of course!

Enjoy the game

Neil

Club Officials

Honorary Club President - Grahame Liles
Honorary Vice Presidents - Sean Cludera, Margaret Liles
Club Patron - The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP
CEO/Chairman - Neil Hampshire
Operations Director - Ian Johnson
Director of Rugby - Darren Williams
Finance Director - Phillip Clapham
Marketing & Media Director - Gareth Evans
Commercial Director - Andy Hemingway
Community Director - Phil Hodgson / Peter Todd
Associate Directors - Councillor Kim Groves
Board Secretary - Lewis Hyde
Hawks Lifeline Promoter - Trevor Brown
Scholarship - Ian Johnson
Welfare Officer - Nicola Johnson
Timekeeper - Tony Holmes
Matchday Safety Officer - Tige Nnando
Video - Ken Yates / Scott Johnson
Hawks TV - Scott Johnson
Matchday Announcer - Chris Jones
Matchday Reporter - Naimh Wilson
Matchday Photographer - Steve Gaunt

Coaching Staff

Director of Rugby - Darren Williams
Head Coach - Barry Eaton
Assistant Coach - Jonny Wainhouse
Assistant Coach - Mark Cass
Conditioner - Steve Morton
Physio - Ryan Carmody
Doctor - David Maynard
Kit Manager - Trevor Brown

Community Staff

Foundation Manager - Peter Todd
Cheerleader Coach - Fran McKnight
Community Development Manager - Martin Flynn
Phoenix Bar Manager - Jane Hopkins
Phoenix Bar Staff - Sarah Hopkins, Joan Sorren, Dawn Caley

Club Address / Details

Hunslet Hawks RLFC
South Leeds Stadium
Middleton Grove, Beeston
Leeds LS11 5DJ
0113 271 2730
www.hunslethawks.co.uk
info@hawksl.com
Club Office Hours:
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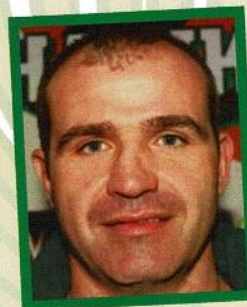
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Coach's Corner...



Good afternoon and welcome to Scott Naylor and all his staff players and supporters and Directors of Oldham for Good Fridays league fixture.

Oldham are going really well

this year and are going to be right up there challenging at the business end of the season, so today will be a real test for both teams. Oldham have developed a number of their own players through their Scholarship and reserve under 20s team over the last couple of years which is now bearing fruit and should be commended. They had a great result at Gateshead last Sunday so will be confident.

We came through a stern test on Sunday at Gloucestershire All Golds and early in the 2nd half we defended 7 sets on Goal line and came out and managed to get some momentum which

indicates our fitness levels are in good shape to withstand that and not let it take its toll in the later stages, so to keep them scoreless in the 2nd half was pleasing. We are looking forward to today's game and only after the game will we start to look at the challenge cup game at Wigan which is something we will all be looking forward to after today's game.

Enjoy the game

Barry





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Today's Visitors...



Today we welcome to the South Leeds Stadium the team, staff and supporters from Oldham for round 6 of the Kingstone Press Championship 1.

Oldham currently sit 2nd in the table 2 points behind us but with a game in hand. Last week they played Gateshead Thunder at home. The game was tough for Gateshead as Oldham opened the scoring early when Dale Bloomfield got over the line after

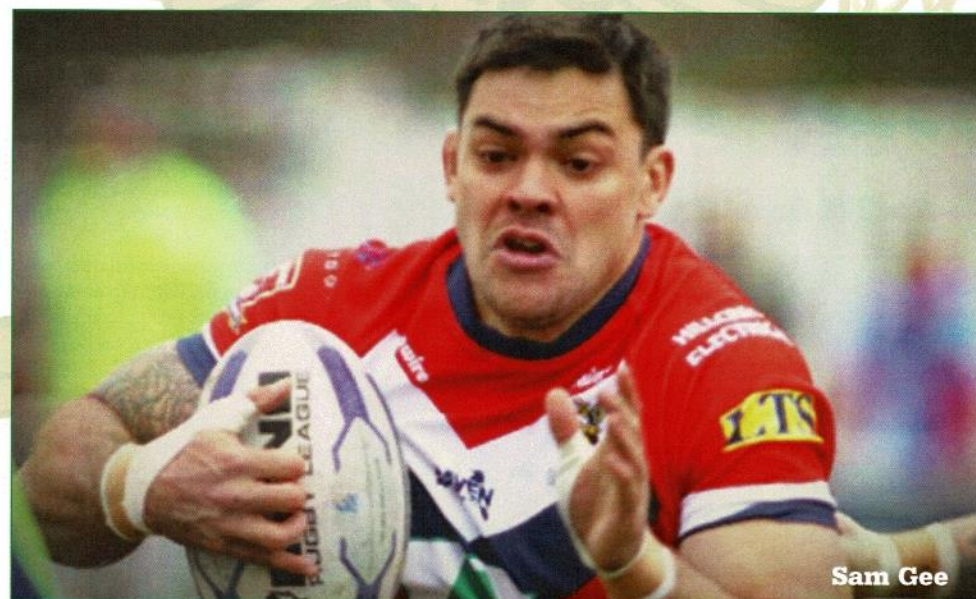
just 3 minutes which went unconverted. The next try came just minutes later when Gee got over for Oldham's second try which also went without the extras. Gateshead, however, never gave up the fight with Blades getting over for them on 13 minutes but unfortunately Crawley, Langtree and Hughes scored a further 3 tries for Oldham before the half time hooter blew, 2 of which were converted leaving Oldham in a commanding position 24-6. The 2nd half wasn't any better for Gateshead as Oldham got over the line just 2 minutes in which Palfrey then converted. Oldham then scored at will with Wood and Boults getting a try a piece before Crawley, Bloomfield and Langtree all added their second of the game. Gateshead gained nothing more than consolation

in the last 10 minutes when Ollett and Payne got over the line leaving the final score 52-16

The player we have chosen as the one to watch is Sam Gee. He is an experienced player, and knows his way around a playing field. He has previously played for Warrington, Wigan, London Skolars and Whitehaven. He is currently in his second season for Oldham where he can play hooker, loose-forward or centre.

We wish both teams the best of luck and welcome all supporters in to the Phoenix bar.

**Kimberley
Johnson**



Sam Gee



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Player In Focus...



Danny Ansell

Danny Ansell is the player in focus this week. This season he is brimming with confidence and has made himself no stranger to getting involved in the big games. He has impressed with his accurate goal kicking since taking over from an injured Andy Ballard and has also seen himself cross the white wash. Danny has a contagious passion for rugby and is the type of player who doesn't like to take himself too seriously. He will often be found tying his left boot first minutes before the game and takes inspiration from the playing career of St Helens star Sean Long.

The youngster is no stranger to the game of rugby league starting out at the Stanley Rangers playing with the Rangers until he got his shot at 16 for the Huddersfield Giants, he spent years with Superleague club before his move to Wakefield Wildcats playing in the Under 20's. However Ansell has links much closer to home, with current Hunslet Hawks coach

Barry Eaton as his uncle the half back is not short of any encouragement.

It was in fact Barry who recommended the Hawks when Ansell was looking and ready to make the step up from academy to senior. The championship in Danny's eyes acts as a great stepping stone and is a league full of exceptional young players. Having always known that rugby league is his passion and wanting to do nothing else but make it a career, he is making it his goal to cement himself a place in the Hawks team every week.

Ansell is also passionate about the club as a wider community, he wants the fans to be able to watch a winning team every week and is eager to bring home some silverware at the end of the year. He recognises that the Hawks are a fan owned club and says that the spirit they show on the away travels are invaluable to the club.

Ansell is one of Barry's younger plays and the things we have seen this year it would be no

surprise to see teams looking to snatch him up but as Danny expresses that playing in the Super League full time would be the ultimate career for him he has not ruled out working hard on getting himself that opportunity. With that in mind the dual registration system was bound to come up in conversation and Danny was very clear in his opinion and said that it would be a shame to get rid of a system that benefits both the players and the club as a whole however personally being hit by the effects of it last year bringing back reserves would be something to consider.

It's always encouraging and positive to hear Danny talking about his team mates, with feelings in camp high after an outstanding start he describes his side as a great bunch of players on and off the field who have taken a massive stride from pre-season and who all believe that as a squad they can get back into the league above where they feel they belong.

Niamh Wilson



The City of Leeds Diving Club



Contact Details:

The Secretary

City of Leeds Diving Club
Sports Development Unit
John Charles Centre for Sport
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e: helen.j.lee@ntlworld.com

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Match Report...

Hunslet Hawks 44 Gloucester 4

A convincing victory in sunny Cheltenham for the Hawks this weekend. It was no easy challenge as Barry's side faced a physically strong All Gold's side but the Hawks productive start to the season continued with a 44-4 win, to maintain their position at the top of the table.

After an exciting cup game last week in the Challenge Cup minds were back and focussed on the league. The Hawks were quick off the mark when Brooke Broughton got his arm free in the tackle and managed to get the offload away to James Coyle on his first appearance of the season who then put Houston through under the posts. The Hawks defence has been consistently good across the opening games and today was no different Watson, Stenchion and March muscling up and creating the solid line that left the home side pointless for so long. Jamaine Akaidere continued to prove himself worthy of the spot in the team when he latched on to Danny Maun's pass and dived over in the corner. Despite Barry's side looking reasonably in control they suffered from ill-discipline and some dubious decisions. Akaidere was accused of stripping the ball and the All Golds were granted possession but the Hawks scrambling defence relieved them of conceding one in the corner. Hunslet went on to score their

third try courtesy of Lee Mapals as the winger added the finishing touches to Danny Ansell's cross field kick. 5 minutes later the Hawks were at it again this time James Houston barged his way over for his second. Gloucester looked to narrow the gap slightly and got themselves a try. Fullback Marcus Elliot sent Phil Cowburn half the field to reward his side with a fine try as the visitors headed to the break with the upper hand at 24-4 they still had 40 minutes left to maintain stranglehold.

It took either side time to get back into it but when Gloucester pounced on an uncharacteristic Kain error it was left to Lyons to make the try saving tackle on the line. The second rower got his side out of danger, the Hawks made sure they stamped their authority back on the game. Enjoying plenty of possession the Hawks grabbed the first try of the second half Ansell made no mistakes weaving his way in and out of defenders he scored and converted his own. The boys were just doing what they had to do; Grimshaw drew defenders in before a change in direction saw him fly over the line. Casey Canterbury had some game time in pre-season but making his league debut he was able to show the potential he has, quick from half back he was catching the All Golds off guard. The visitors thought they had put the game to bed but tempers flared as both sides were still wrestling for the victory. Gloucester would fight until the end and were

attacking the line with intent and had another try disallowed for a knock on. The threat of any kind of comeback fuelled the Hawks momentum and prop forward Houston charged through and put it down to seal his hat-trick this afternoon. Maun touched down in the corner and rounded things off at 44-4.

A good steady game for the Hawks this afternoon another win under the belt will continue to add to the confidence the Hunslet outfit are gaining. A quicker turn around than usual for Barry's side as we face Oldham at The South Leeds Stadium on Good Friday.

Hunslet Hawks: Stuart Kain, Lee Mapals, Jimmy Watson, Danny Maun, Jamaine Akaidere, James Coyle, Danny Ansell, James Houston, David March, Luke Stenchion, Brooke Broughton, John Oakes, Danny Grimshaw. Interchanges - Lewis Reed, Aaron Lyons, Casey Canterbury, Matthew Cook

Scorers: Houston (3), Akaidere, Mapals, Ansell, Grimshaw, Maun

G: Ansell (6)



PLAYERS WANTED

Hunslet Warriors Junior Rugby Club



Hunslet Warriors, one of the most successful clubs in recent history in the amateur game are now commencing recruitment for the new summer 2013 season with the biggest and best league in the country, Yorkshire Juniors.

The Warriors are running teams from under 7's through to under 16's at all age group which are well established. With training facilities second to none, Clubmark Gold accredited, and qualified coaches you can be assured the players will meet their potential in a safe friendly environment.

The Warriors are also proud to announce as part of their development plan a CUB section will start shortly involving juniors aged 4 and 5 years old.

The emphasis will be based on fun and enjoyment 100%.

Interested? call down to the club opposite Hunslet Morrisons, or call Secretary Steve Bisby on 07833182875 or email s.bisby@sky.com

Good luck to the mighty Hawks this season!



The Old Boys having gone from strength to strength over the last couple of seasons are now running a reserve team as well as going into partnership with the Hunslet Club and Hunslet Parkside to develop Junior rugby in the local area. The club are now actively seeking players at under 7, 8 and 9 with a view to running teams for the 2013 summer season. We are also on the lookout for new players of all abilities for our open age section where all new players are given a warm welcome.

Training times are as below.

Open Age - Tuesdays 7.30pm at the club, Thursdays 7.00pm, beza street pitch

Tots (3 to 5 yrs old) - Fridays 4.00pm to 4.45pm at the club

Years 1,2,3 & 4 5 to 8 year olds - Fridays 4.30pm to 5.30pm at the club

For further information contact the club on 0113 2716489

From the archives...

Sunday 30th Jan 1994 Challenge Cup 4th Round

Hunslet 20 Oldham 30
HT 8-12 Att 1,257

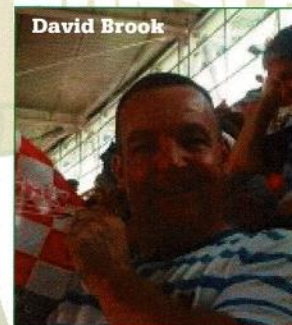
Hunslet: Burrow 1 Try, Bartliff 2 Goals, Daniels 1 Try, Boothroyd, Mwololo 1 Try, Brook, Clark, Currie, Sampson, Ellis, Precious, Hughes, Beath 1 Try, Subs - Coyle, Liles.

Oldham: Ranson, Jones 2 Tries, Irwin, Heslop 2 Tries, McAlister, Mitchell 1 Try, Kerry 5 Goals, Sherratt, Stephenson, McDermott, Green, Tupaea, Kuiti. Subs - Goodway, Bradbury.

Season 93-94 was one to forget, winning only 3 games and drawing 1 in a 30 game season, with only Bramley and Highfield below Hunslet in the table. On top of that was the worsening relationship between Leeds United and Hunslet over the state of the Elland Road pitch.

The highlight, although in defeat, was the performance against first division Oldham in the cup, Paddy Mitchell opened the scoring for the visitors, going over from the scrum. Hunslet hit back with Alan Daniels going over from a David Brook break. David Jones got Oldham's 2nd try, but a Eugene Currie break gave Kenyan wingman Bramwell Mwololo room to go over. A fine individual try by recently rugby union convert Nigel Heslop gave Oldham a 18-8 lead.

Hunslet rocked the visitors with 2 spectacular tries in 5 minutes with Paul Beath going over after



David Brook

bewildering from Boothroyd, Brook and Burros, and then again Paul Burrows after a fine break from former Oldham Australian favourite Brett Carter put Hunslet 20-18 ahead. Unfortunately, 2 tries in the last 12 minutes from Jones and Heslop gave the visitors a passage into the 5th round.

Today's The Day 18th April

**1978 Division One
Championship**
Hunslet 10 Warrington 28
Goals: Davies 4

Drop Goals: Davies, Dean
Tries: Bevan 2, Wilson 2, Lester, Hesford

Goals: Hesford 5
Referee J McDonald HT 5-10 Att 1,750

**1999 Northern Ford
Premiership**
Hunslet 36 Whitehaven 16

Tries: Walker 2, Plange, Patnowna, Baker
Goals: Fletcher 8

Tries: Wilson, Seeds, Frazer
Goals: Kitchen 2
Referee G Shaw HT 4-16 Att 1,004

2010 Challenge Cup 4th Round

Hunslet 42 Oldham 12

Tries: Mark 2, D March, Lowe, Chapman, McHugh, Knight
Goals: Knight 5, McHugh 2
Tries: Brocklehurst, O'Conner
Goals: Ashe 2

5 To Tackle

1) What was the name of the ground where Oldham played their home games up to 1996?

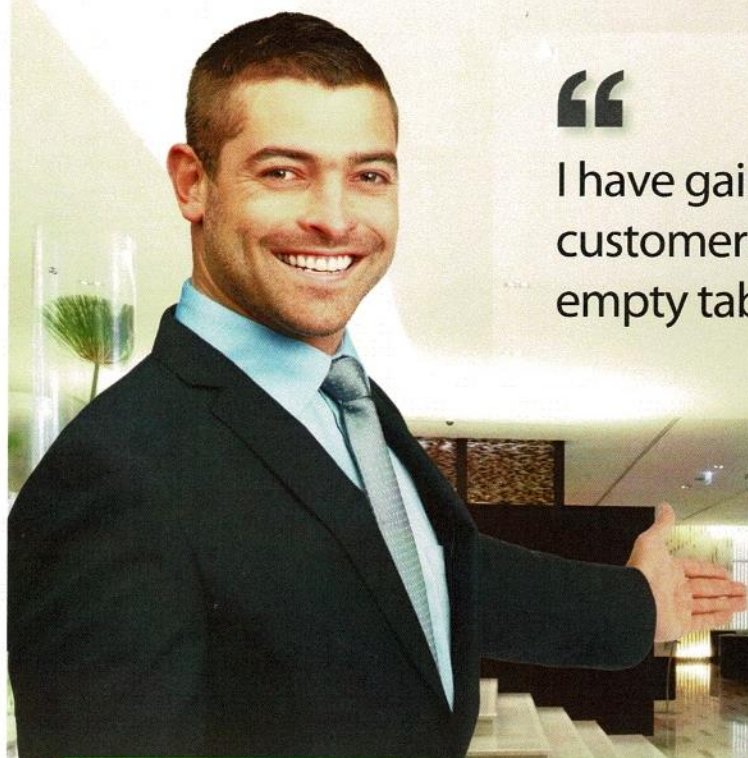
2) Can you name the player who played and scored in every game in a season for Hunslet in 1979-80 and then Oldham in the 1981-92 season?

3) What was Oldham's nickname when they played in Super League in 1996 and 1997?

4) Which current Wakefield player played one game for Hunslet last season on dual registration?

5) Des Hasler coaches which Australian team?

1. Watersheddings, 2. Mick Parrish, 3. The Bears, 4. Paul McShane, 5. Canterbury Bulldogs



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Hawks In The Community...

Harry's Harriers



Harry the Hawk and community director Peter Todd joined 111 other runners to participate in the 5km Cross Flatts Parkrun run which takes place every Saturday morning in Beeston.

As ever Harry proved a big hit encouraging runners, posing for photographs and handing out discount tickets for our match against the London Skolars.

Congratulations to organiser Mark Hodgkinson and everyone involved in on breaking the 100 barrier on their 1st anniversary.

Hawks director Phil Hodgson, who is a regular volunteer at the run commented "A big thank you to Harry and Peter for coming along and supporting the anniversary celebrations. Getting involved with community events like this is what we are all about. It helps to raise the profile of the club and fits with our commitment to encourage the people of South Leeds to get active and stay fit".

Sponsored WALKS to Oldham

Whilst on the subject of getting active and staying fit a couple of dates to get in your diary are the 26th and 27th July for this year's sponsored walks.

In the same way as the "I am Hunslet" memberships were tailored to supporters' requirements we have done the same with the annual sponsored walk.

1. Harry's Heroes

For the more athletic amongst you Geoff Creswick and Ruth Conway will be leading a 2 day expedition from South Leeds to Oldham's Whitebank Stadium.

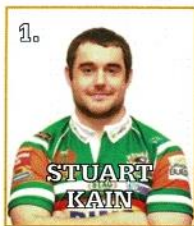
2. Marchy's Marauders

Recognising not all fans want to put their body through a punishing 36 miles on a hot summer's day Jonathon Turner has come up with an alternative walk on the 27th involving a train, a number of real ale pubs and a 7 mile walk. Full details will be announced in the Gateshead programme but in the meantime get training - that's walking not drinking real ale!!!

All proceeds will go to the Hunslet Rugby Foundation and SITraN



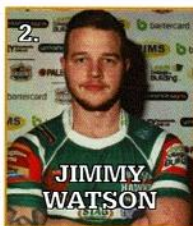
Meet The Team...



1.

**STUART
KAIN**

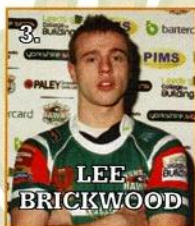
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2.

**JIMMY
WATSON**

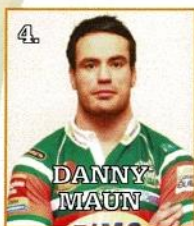
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3.

**LEE
BRICKWOOD**

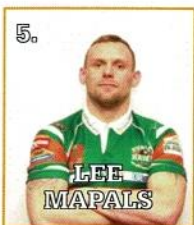
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4.

**DANNY
MAUN**

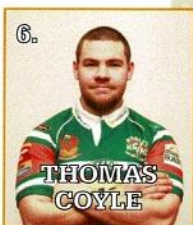
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5.

**LEE
MAPALS**

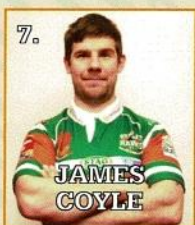
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6.

**THOMAS
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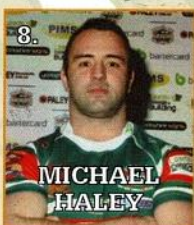
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7.

**JAMES
COYLE**

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8.

**MICHAEL
HALEY**

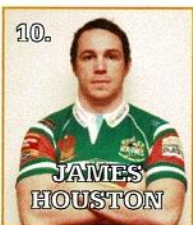
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9.

**DAVID
MARCH**

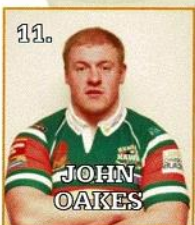
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**JAMES
HOUSTON**

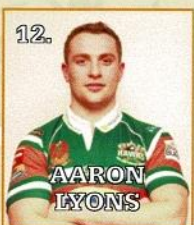
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11.

**JOHN
OAKES**

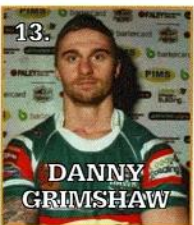
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LYONS**

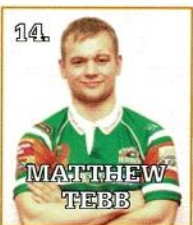
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**DANNY
GRIMSHAW**

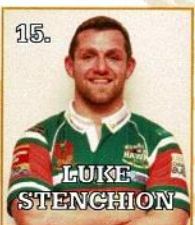
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14.

**MATTHEW
TEBB**

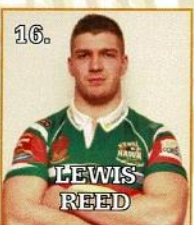
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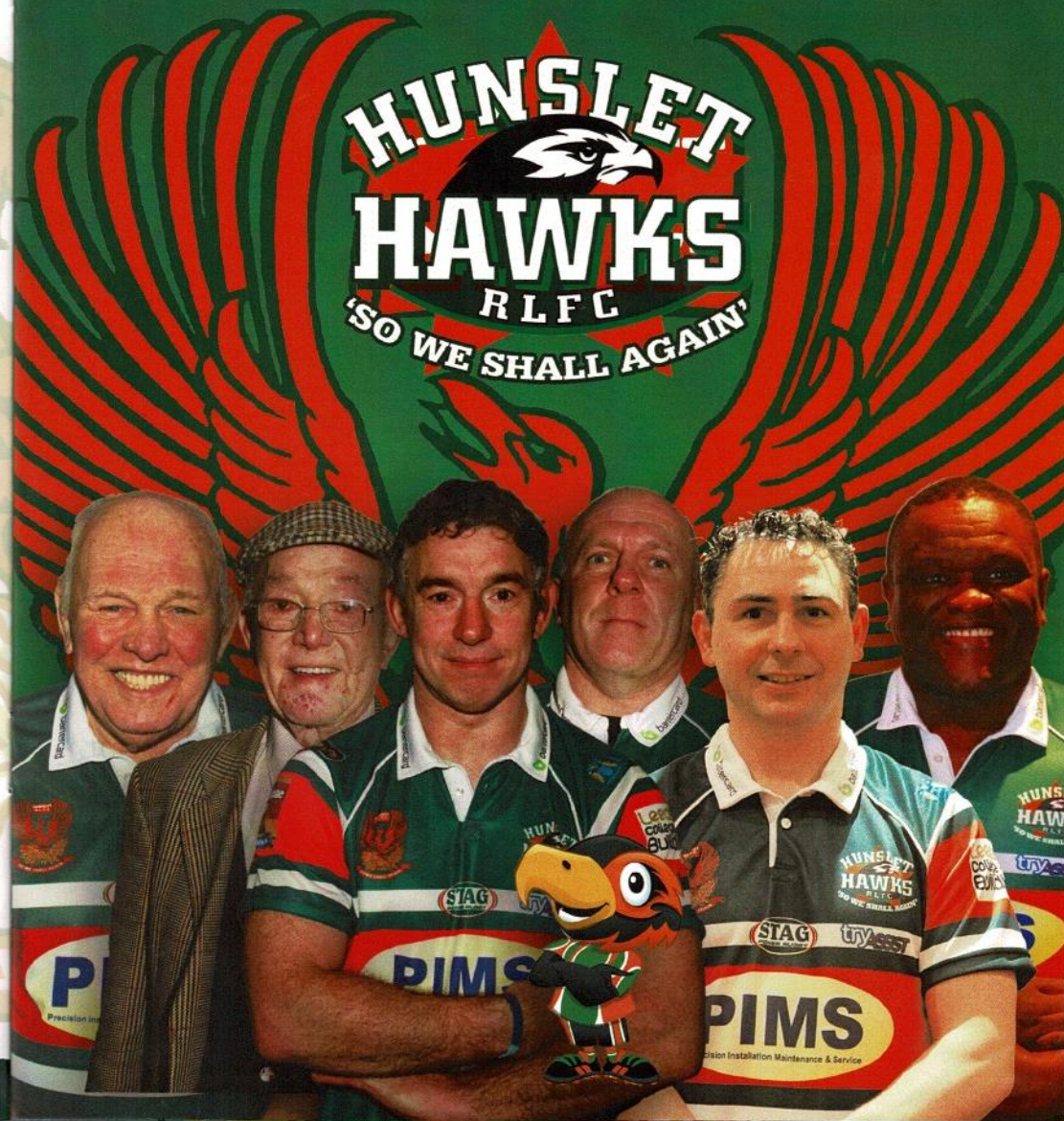
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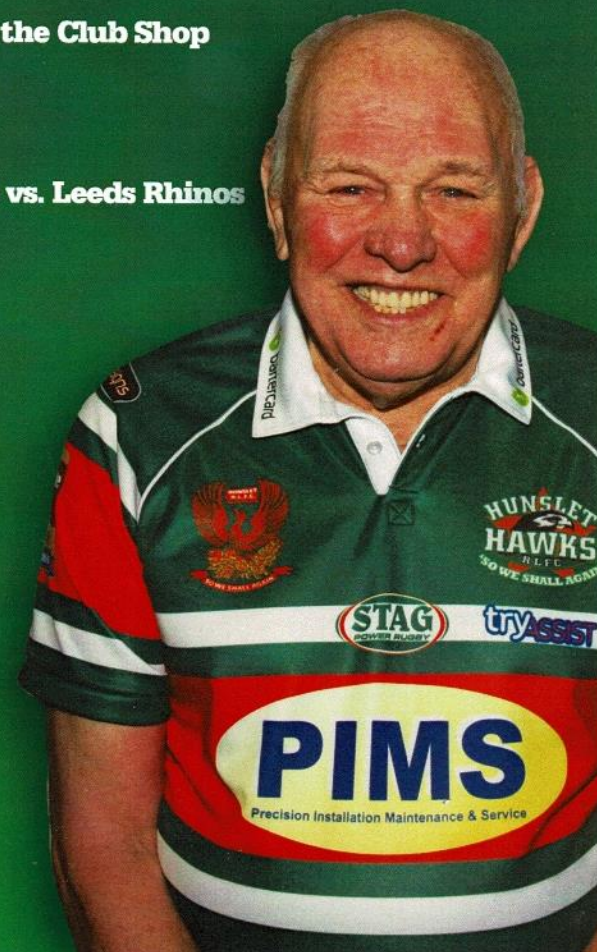


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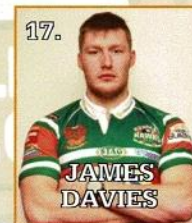
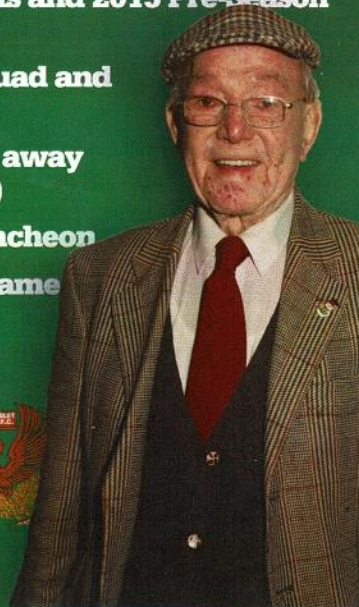
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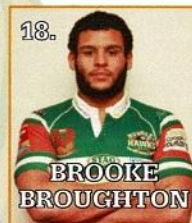
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- **Framed shirt, signed by 2014 First Team Squad and Coaching Staff**
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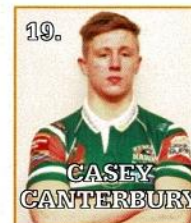
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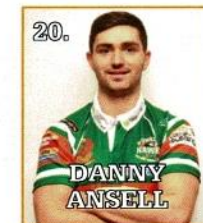
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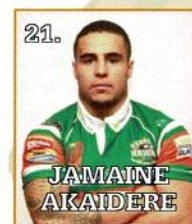
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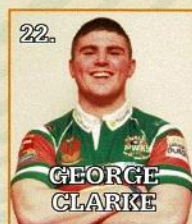
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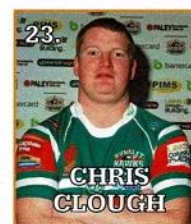
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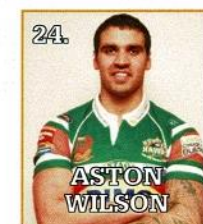
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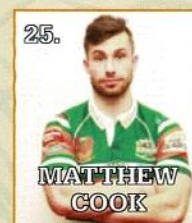
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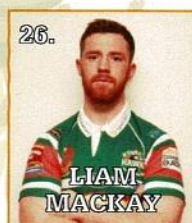
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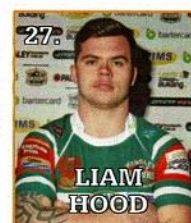
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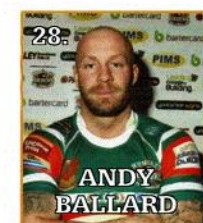
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Junior Hawks...



Good afternoon everyone.
Welcome to Harry, the Hawk's page.

Food Fun!

Did you hear about the fight in the chip shop?
Two fish got battered!

Did you hear about the farmer who ploughed his field with a steam roller?
He wanted to grow mashed potatoes!

Why were there screams coming from the kitchen?
The cook was beating the eggs!

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the nickname of Roughyed given to Oldham supporters comes from about 1756? Back then the town used to be a centre for making hats from rough felt from the local sheep, thus Rough Head. The club started off as a football team founded back in 1876, and has won the Challenge Cup 3 times in its history. Oldham was most famous for spinning cotton and in the 1850s there were 360 mills



Today's Mascot

Kye Robinson attends East Ardsley Primary School.

He is 7 years old and enjoys watching and playing rugby. He started playing rugby for Stanley Rangers under 7's and wants to play for the Hawks when he's old enough.

His favourite past and present players are Charlie Wabo and Jimmy Watson.

He loves going swimming and walking the dog.

spinning day and night. In fact in 1909 Oldham factories spun more cotton than France and Germany put together. It's reckoned that Oldham had more than 16million spindles winding cotton! All that came to an end in 1998 when the last mill closed down. Famous people from Oldham include the first woman to go to jail for protesting about getting the vote, Annie Kenney.

Also Philip Schofield from 'Dancing on Ice,' and Cannon and Ball, comedians, are from there. Best thing started in Oldham, though, has to be the first chip shop in 1858. By 1900, Oldham had the highest concentration of chip shops in the UK - 1 for every 400 people! Now, I wonder what happened to all those 16,400,000 spindles?

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One Short of a Front Row...

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In just over a week's time the lads will be boarding the coach for our glamour cup tie against Wigan Warriors. The question is, will they look as smart as the team from 1948, and does the 2014 squad have someone who can wear a tartan blanket with the same panache as Frank Watson. Rumour has it that very same blanket was cut up to make Shanks' trade mark flat caps.



Hunslet team boarding the bus in Leeds City Centre for the 1948 challenge cup replay at Widnes. Hunslet won the match 3-0 and eventually went on to play Bradford Northern in the semi-final.

Players L/R - Clarkson; Bennett; Alf Burnell; Rooks; Walt Burnell; Metcalfe; Rushton; Britton; Graham; Russell; Carroll; Watson; Davies; Griffiths; Newbound; Geo Richardson (Sec); Harry Harrison (physio) and Jack Walkington (coach) looking out of bus window.

Also in the picture is Ted Carroll, who went on to Hollywood fame playing the King of the Birdmen in the 1980 Flash Gordon movie - once a Hawk always a Hawk.



Jarvo & Old Mother Benson



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2014 Fixtures/Results...

Wed 1st Jan	1.30	Featherstone Rovers (F)	A	L	26-0
Sun 26th Jan	2pm	Leeds Rhinos (F)	H	W	20-16
Sun 2nd Feb	3pm	Wakefield Trinity Wildcats (F)	H	L	20-40
Sun 2nd Mar	2.30	Hemel Stags	A	W	28-0
Sun 9th Mar	3pm	York City Knights	H	L	28-26
Sun 16th Mar	3pm	Oxford - Challenge Cup	H	W	68-6
Sun 23rd Mar	3pm	Oxford RLFC	A	W	46-20
Sun 30th Mar	3pm	London Skolars	H	W	60-4
Sun 6th Apr	3pm	Workington Town CC	H	W	27-10
Sun 13th Apr	3pm	Gloucester All Golds	A	W	44-4
Fri 18th Apr	2pm	Oldham RLFC	H		
Sun 27th Apr	3pm	Wigan Warriors CC	A		
Sun 11th May	3pm	South Wales Scorpions	A		
Sun 18th May	3pm	Gateshead Thunder	H		
Sun 25th May	3pm	York City Knights	A		
Sun 1st Jun	3pm	Oxford RLFC	H		
Sun 15th Jun	3pm	Hemel Stags	H		
Sun 29th Jun	3pm	Gloucester All Golds	H		
Fri 4th Jul	7.30	Gateshead Thunder	A		
Sun 13th Jul	3pm	South Wales Scorpions	H		
Sun 27th Jul	3pm	Oldham RLFC	A		
Sun 3rd Aug	3pm	Oxford RLFC	H		
Sun 10th Aug	2.30	Hemel Stags	A		
Sun 17th Aug	3pm	York City Knights	H		
Fri 22nd Aug	6.30	London Skolars	A		
Sun 7th Sep	3pm	South Wales Scorpions	A		

Gibbs & Dandy

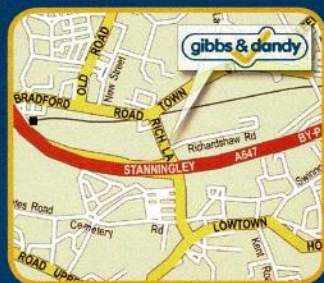
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Where are they now?...



Hunslet in the 1980s began playing at Elland Road. "The facilities were very good. We had a good cup run, beating Hull KR, who were the Challenge Cup holders. I have many happy memories from my days at Hunslet (on & off the field) and Paul Briars was one of the funniest guys in & out of the dressing room. He's a great character. My other memories are of Bryan Murrell, who found it difficult to keep his clothes on outside the dressing room (No changes there; he's still the same now)."

As a lad who started playing at age 10 with his primary school, Bramley St Peter's, Neil maintains his love of rugby in Leeds and is hoping to come to more matches at Hunslet this season. Looking forward he says, "Realistically, I believe Hunslet have a very good chance of promotion. I look back on my time at Hunslet with pride and fond memories, for all the great times that we had, both on & off the field. I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to play there."

Pat Benatmane

There are not too many players who played for all 3 professional clubs in Leeds – Leeds, Hunslet and Bramley – but Neil Lean is one who did. He was persuaded by Paul Daley to come to Hunslet in the 1980-1 season, playing his first game on 1st August 1980 as a sub v Hull in a benefit match. He'd been transfer listed from Leeds, where he'd admired the greats such as John Holmes, Dave Heron, David Ward and Kevin Dick. "John Holmes is the one in my memory who stands out above them all." He came in to a team with equally-admired players – Graham King, Mark Burgess, Johnny Welford, Phil Gibson, Bryan Murrell and a couple of Kiwis, Akland and Brown. Paul Daley was the Hunslet coach. "He was a great motivator and he knew how to get the best from all the players. At the time two other clubs were interested. I am pleased that I made the right choice by coming to Hunslet."

Playing mainly at no 8, Neil stayed till the mid-80s, appearing 78 times and scoring 8 tries, before moving on to Bramley, where he played alongside Karl Harrison and Paul Fletcher, both well known rugby coaches. Neil only packed in rugby when his job as an overhead linesman in the power industry began to take him all over the country and abroad. It's a job he has still. He's kept up with rugby though, as his son played, and now 2 grandsons play, and his daughter is an avid supporter 'and has a very good knowledge of the game.' Typically as a forward, he plays down the extent of injuries – "None of my injuries stand out in my memory, however I did have quite a few: several sets of stitches, a broken nose, a broken jaw, dislocated shoulder, hamstring injuries, twisted knees etc." I'm sure all were painful at the time.

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Tales from the treatment room...



He will train this week and if he comes through unscathed then he will be available for selection for today game.

Liam Hood is progressing well as he returns from a finger injury, he has been back to see the specialist and been given the all clear to start training again.

Andy Ballard is another player nearing full fitness. Andy sustained a grade II ligament sprain and has been receiving treatment for this. We hope to have Andy back in training this week.

Thomas Coyle is making good strides as we step up his recovery from a pectoral (chest muscle) injury. Thomas is working hard on his fitness as well as his strength. Friday may come too soon for Thomas but he is certainly progressing well in his recovery.

It was good to see James Coyle back on the pitch and getting a vital 80 minutes under his belt after a long injury lay off. He looked fit and sharp which is a

testament to all the hard work he has been putting in on the training pitch.

A special mention must go to our new student Katy. It can be very difficult to find students willing to travel some of the distances we are this season and to have Katy present at away

games can free myself up to sort other prep work out pre match. She has only been with us a few weeks but has slotted really well, the staff and players have taken to her really well and with now Katy and Georgia, we have some keen students willing to learn who are a big chink in our chain keeping the guys out there fit and ready.

Let's hope for some support from the stands today as we face our next challenge.

All the best, hope you enjoy the game!

Ryan Carmody



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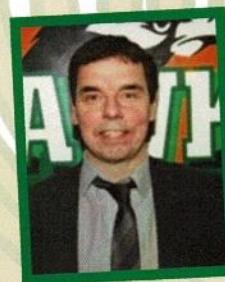
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Direct from the board...



Good afternoon everyone and a
Happy Easter to one and all.

This is the first time I've featured
in this article so I'll start by
sharing how my love affair with
the club started. That was back
in 1973 when my Dad took me to
the first match at the Greyhound
Stadium against Huyton. I was
hooked immediately. At the age
of 9 it was the first time I'd ever
been in a crowd and I loved the
atmosphere and the chanting
"Hunslet, Hunslet" (we really do
need a more extensive
songbook). A few years later I
was ball boy down there and
used to help the secretary open
up the turnstiles and put the
advertising hoardings out.
Anything to be involved.

It was fair to say that I had an
unhealthy obsession with the
club. The low point came
around 76/77 when my favourite
player was sold. "£8,000
Crampton joins Hull" was the
headline on the back of the
Evening Post. On reading it I
broke into tears and didn't stop
crying for 2 days. I missed a day
of school and so bad was it that
my Dad got Jimmy Crampton to
ring me and explain that these
things happen in sport. I've met
Jimmy a few times since and

although a little embarrassed
I'm still star struck. That's
allowed though, as first and
foremost I am a fan.

So how did I get involved with
HIST? Well, following the Super
League debacle of '99 I fell out of
love with rugby and stopped
coming to matches. However,
being a Hunslet fan is in the
blood and I always looked out for
the results. I started coming
back regularly just as HIST was
forming and decided to make up
for lost time by volunteering. A
management accountant by
trade, it wasn't long before I was
doing the HIST accounts and
last year I had the role of
Finance Director. To be honest
the real work on the finances is
done by Peter Todd and Darren
Williams who run a very tight
ship. I was able to support them
in terms of how best to present
the financial information to the
rest of the Board.

Recognising we need all the
help we can get, I introduced

Phil Clapham to the club and
Phil took over the mantle of
Finance Director allowing me to
move onto the community side
of things. It's fair to say I am out
of my comfort zone at the
moment but I am enjoying being
involved and learning all the
time. Being at the heart of the
community is something that is
key to the long term success of
the club and the recent
appointment of Martin Flynn as
Community Development
Manager emphasises our
commitment to this. He comes
with a wealth of experience and
will be an invaluable asset over
the coming months as we look to
launch the Hunslet Rugby
Foundation.

There will be more news of the
Foundation in a few weeks' time.
In the meantime enjoy the
match and start thinking of a
few more songs for Wigan away.

Phil Hodgson



