

THE CENTURIONS



2/2016 PRICE **£2.50**

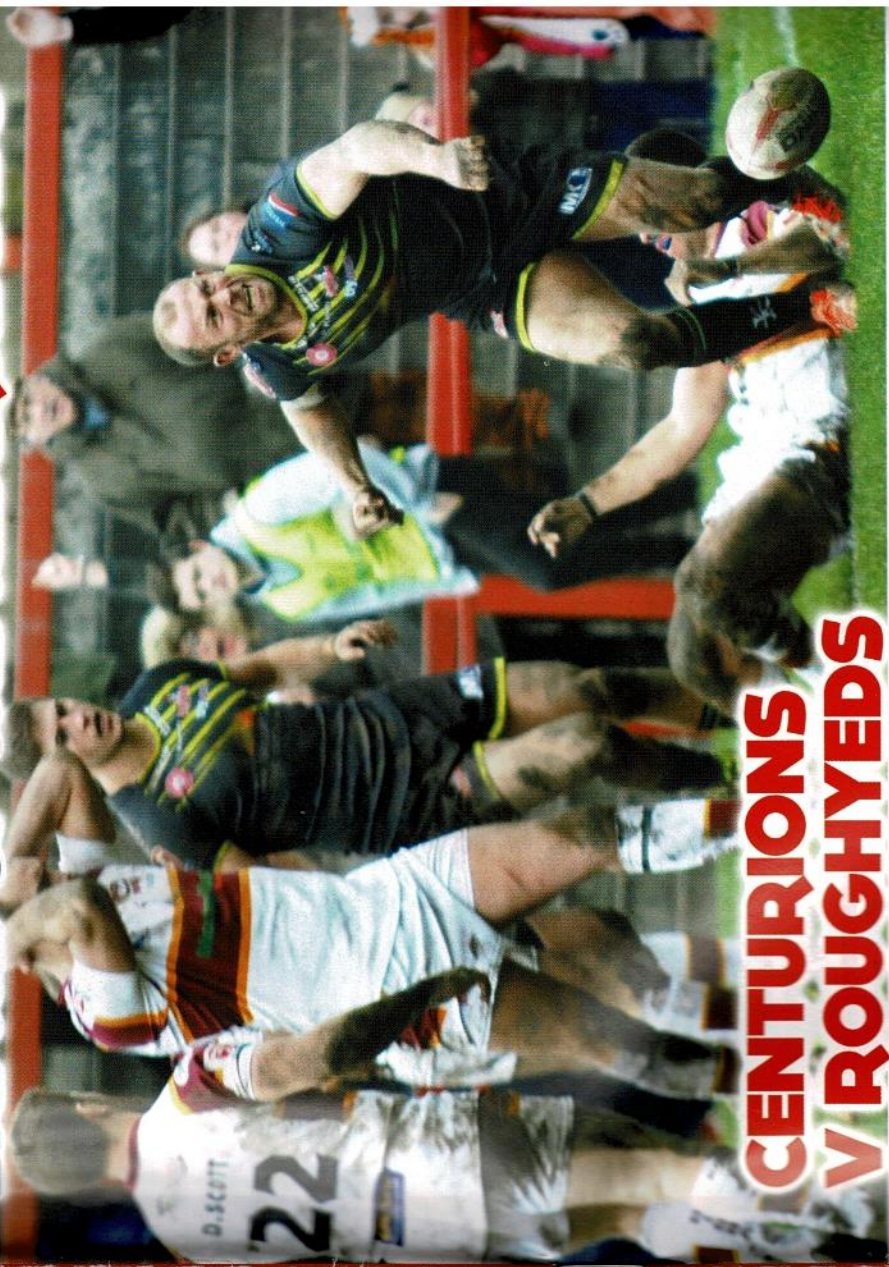
Sunday February 14 2016
Leigh Sports Village • Kick-off 3.00pm
Kingstone Press Championship



LOVING IT

VALENTINE'S DAY

BATTLE OF THE HEARTLANDS



CENTURIONS

V ROUGHYEDS

LEIGH CENTURIONS
V OLDHAM



LEIGH CENTURIONS



SQUAD - 2016 HEAD COACH: **NEIL JUKES** Heritage No 1084

NO	PLAYER	SPONSOR	HERITAGE NO
1	Gregg McNally	CDA Business Solutions	1350
2	Adam Higson	K Darlington and Son	1310
3	Greg Worthington	Bentleys Motor Group Warrington	1394
4	Willie Tonga	Ascot Services UK Ltd	-
5	Liam Kay	Glazing Systems & Installations Ltd	1388
6	Martyn Ridyard	Glazing Systems & Installations Ltd	1314
7	Ryan Brierley	Holiday Inn Express Leigh	1354
8	Fuifui Moimoi	Atico Hair and Beauty	1395
9	Bob Beswick	Ask Platt Office Supplies	1353
10	Dayne Weston	The Pavilion Furniture Outlet Leigh	1401
11	Harrison Hansen	Collins & Darwell Ltd	1402
12	Gareth Hock	Palatine Paints	1397
13	Cory Paterson	W L Piling	-
14	Micky Higham	CS (Civils & Groundworks) Limited	1153
15	Jonny Pownall	Anthony's Travel	1346
16	Reni Maitua	Lewis William Residential Lettings	1403
17	Jamie Acton	Lady Centurions & Ellie Digs Deep	1389
18	Tom Spencer	Nutrition X	1357
19	Lewis Foster	Try Fitness	1391
20	Sam Hopkins	Pam Ties	1347
21	Andrew Dixon	LISA	1396
22	Mathias Pala	Savage Strength	1399
23	Rangi Chase	Fitfield Ltd	1400
24	Tom Armstrong	In memory of Tommy Sale MBE	1340
25	Eze Harper	Leyther Lads	-
26	Lee Smith	Smith's Bistro, Leigh	-
29	Jake Emmitt	The Audrey Dale Memorial Fund	1332
33	Sam Barlow	Linlar	1387
	Paul Anderson	Assistant Coach	1160
	Simon Finnigan	Assistant Coach & Player Welfare Manager	1371

OFFICIALS

REFEREE: S ANSELL
RESERVE REFEREE: J WOODMAN
TOUCH JUDGES: P BROOKE, A SMITH
TIMEKEEPER: D CAMPBELL
MATCH COMMISSIONAIRE: P TABERNER



Sunday February 14 2016
Leigh Sports Village
Kick-off 3.00pm
Kingstone Press Championship

WHO'S WHO AT LEIGH CENTURIONS



- Hon Life President**
Mr Brian Bowman
- Hon Vice President**
Mr Andy Burnham MP
- Hon Life Members**
Mr Brian Bowman
Mr Tommy Coleman
Dr M Doublet-Stewart
Mr Michael Latham
Mr John Massey
Mr Fred Parkinson
Mr Alan Platt
Mr Frank Taylor
- Board of Directors**
Mr Michael Norris - Chairman
Mr Allan Rowley - CEO
Mr Derek Beaumont - Head of Rugby
Mr Michael Latham
- Media and Communications
- Operations Director
- Legal Adviser**
Mr Matthew Chantler
- Commercial Manager**
Mrs Amanda Lee
- Business Development Manager**
Mr Neil Barker
- Retail Outlet Manager**
Mrs Gillian Jolley
- Finance Manager**
Ms Jane Smith
- IT & Ticket Sales**
Mr Andrew Parkinson
- Lottery Manager**
Mrs Christine Brown
- Lottery Co-ordinator**
Mr Jonathan Simpkin
- Social Media Manager**
Mr Darren Lilly
- Official Club Photographer**
Mr Paul McCarthy
- Leigh Centurions TV**
Mr Fred Parkinson - Senior Producer
Mr Dave Parkinson - Head Commentator
Mr Joe Wood - Match Summariser
- Production**
Mr Drew Darbyshire, Mr Robert Lee,
Mr Keiran Makin, Mr Chris Stott
- Club Ambassador**
Mr Alex Murphy OBE
- FOOTBALL AND SUPPORT STAFF**
- Head Coach**
Mr Neil Jukes
- Assistant Coaches**
Mr Paul Anderson
Mr Simon Finnigan
- Statistician**
Mr Cliff Sumner
- Strength and Conditioning Coaches**
Mr Nathan Pennington
Mr Dave Bell
Mr Paul Wood
- Club Doctor**
Dr John Morgan, Bucket & Sponge
Medical Services
- Physiotherapists**
Miss Emma Fletcher
Miss Hannah Lloyd
- Masseur**
Mr Robert Stewart
- Assistant Trainer**
Mr Steve Maden
- Training Assistant**
Mr Thomas Wood
- Kit Managers**
Mr Sean Fairhurst
Mr Frank Taylor

HONOURS

- Winter era (1895-96 to 1995-96)**
- Championship Winners:**
1905-06, 1981-82
- Division Two Champions:**
1977-78, 1985-86, 1988-89
- Challenge Cup Winners:**
1921, 1971
- Lancashire Cup Winners:**
1952, 1955, 1970, 1981
(runners-up 1909, 1920, 1922, 1949,
1951, 1963, 1969)
- BBC2 Floodlit Trophy Winners:**
1969, 1972 (runners-up 1968, 1976)
- South West Lancashire & Border Towns Cup Winners:** 1901
- ITA TV Trophy runners-up 1955**
- Summer era (1996 to date)**
- League Leaders:**
Premiership 2001,
National League One 2004,
Championship 2014, 2015
- Grand Final Winners:**
National League One 2004,
Championship 2014
- (runners-up: Premiership 2000, 2002,
National League One 2003)**
- National League Cup Winners:**
2004, 2006, 2011, 2013 (runners-up 2003)
- Trans-Pennine Cup Winners:**
2001 (runners-up 2000)

CLUB RECORDS

- Highest Score For:**
92-2 v Keighley, 1986
- Highest Score Against:**
4-94 v Workington Town, 1995
- Highest Home Attendance:**
31,326 v St Helens, 1953
- Highest Home Attendance at LSV:**
7,449 v Bradford Bulls, 2015
- GAME RECORDS**
- Tries:** 6 by Jack Wood in 1947 and Neil Turley in 2001
- Goals:** 15 by Mick Stacey in 1976
- Points:** 42 by Neil Turley in 2004
- SEASONAL RECORDS**
- Tries:** 55 by Neil Turley in 2001
- Goals:** 187 by Neil Turley in 2004
- Points:** 468 by Neil Turley in 2004
- CAREER RECORDS**
- Appearances:** 503 by Albert Worrall
- Tries:** 189 by Mick Martyn
- Goals:** 1043 by Jimmy Ledgard
- Points:** 2492 by John Woods

CONTACT DETAILS

- Leigh Centurions**
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Sale Way, Leigh WN7 4JY
Telephone: 01942 487887
- Commercial Sales:** 01942 487898
- Email:**
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- Commercial Sales -**
Amanda.Lee@leighrl.co.uk
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FROM THE TOP

LEIGH CENTURIONS OPERATIONS DIRECTOR STEVE OPENSHAW

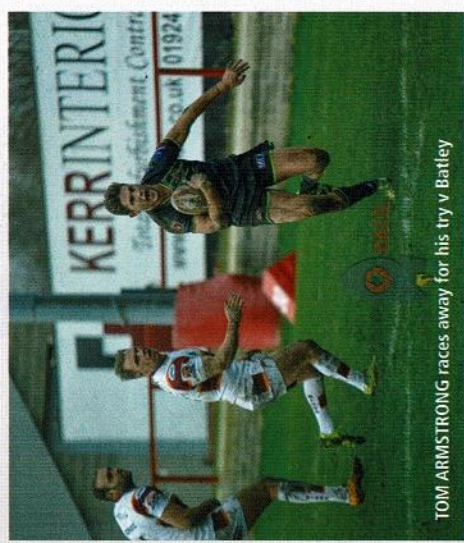
successor to the Life Presidency. It is with great honour and respect that it was offered and gladly received by Mr Brian Bowman.

Brian is quite simply a superb character and experienced gentleman and is hugely responsible for putting together our 1982 Championship winning squad. That side, packed with local talent alongside his most famous signings Des Drummond and John Woods, was the last one in British rugby league to win the major league honour without a single foreign player. His dedication to the Club remains undoubted, whilst anyone who re-mortgages his house to financially support the club (without telling his wife!) deserves the respect he has bestowed upon him. A well loved figure within the rugby league world, we look forward to many happy years ahead with Brian and his lovely wife Marian representing the club around the game.

LOOKING FORWARD

And finally, we look forward to 2016 with passion. This has been mirrored by our fans who have shown their commitment in abundance with record season ticket sales.

This support is quite simply superb, and the away following last week at Batley was second to none. Our Australian players commented how amazing it was to see such a huge away following - something they're not used to back the NRL. We thank you all, and urge you to spread the word. You are our best salespeople and moving into 2016 we urge you to bring just one person to each home game who would not ordinarily come. This boost in attendances means there is more investment in the club which feeds the ambitions of everyone associated with it. Be part of it, and let's do this together. Our Town - Our Club.



TOMMY SALE races away for his try v Batley

HOME CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

After what seems an age since regular Sunday rugby, today we start our Kingstone Press Championship home campaign against our Lancastrian neighbours, the Oldham Roughyeds.

Coach Scott Naylor will relish the opportunity to bring his troops to his hometown, and we welcome them warmly today to LSV. It's great to have a local derby again and in also welcoming Swinton to the Championship, we look forward to having some Red Rose rivalry once again. Both clubs have a loyal and vocal following which always makes the atmosphere more appealing and something that was missing at LSV for the majority of last season, so we look forward to this afternoon's fixture on a number of fronts.

GOOD LUCK NEIL JUKES

In his first home game in charge as head coach, we also wish Neil Jukes well in his new appointment.

Neil is an ambitious and respectful individual, and with the support of senior players who urged he be considered, it was a choice the Board had no hesitation in making. His desire, loyalty, enthusiasm, and organisation are simply infectious. I have known of Neil's key input since he was appointed assistant a couple of years ago but saw it first-hand myself at our Lanzarote training camp. Given the amount of preparation and implementation of coaching tasks, I did actually wonder if the bloke ever slept! He holds respect of the players, staff, and Board alike - a unity which will provide a stable platform moving forward.

Nobody more than Neil would have been hurt more by last week's disappointment at Batley. What could have been described as the perfect storm arose, much to the delight of many outside of our Club. However, nothing is won in February so as frustrating as it was for everyone, Monday morning was business as usual for all concerned. No knee jerk reactions, no hysterics, no drama. We dust ourselves down and move forward.

Tough challenges often bring out the best in people, and an opening day defeat served to galvanise the determination to prove a few people wrong, then make no mistake it had had the right effect. One thing is for certain, what some quarters outside of the Club would have you believe, it is a far reflection from what actually happens inside. Lions care not of the opinions of sheep, our fans support us superbly well, and together we shall succeed.

LOYALTY AND DEDICATION

That loyalty and dedication brings me onto a person who has this in abundance. Since the sad passing of Mr Tommy Sale MBE, the Board met to discuss a



GETTING TO KNOW NEIL JUKES

THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS HAVE BEEN INTERESTING AT THE CLUB WITH NEIL JUKES STEPPING UP FROM HIS ROLE AS PAUL ROWLEY'S ASSISTANT TO THE TOP JOB. DAVE PARKINSON CAUGHT UP WITH NEIL TO REFLECT ON THE JOB, HIS FIRST SIGNING FOR THE CLUB AND THE LOSS AT BATLEY.



DP: After the frenzied weekend that saw your appointment, how are you feeling?

NJ: Excited. I'd had the discussion with Derek on Friday and from a personal point of view it didn't take a lot. Derek was outstanding with me, he showed a lot of confidence and a lot of faith, as did the captains. All we'll be asking is that we apply ourselves well, we prepare right and we absorb as much information as we can in making sure that on a Sunday we are ready to go.

DP: You've brought in your first new signing in Lee Smith, you couldn't ask for a more experienced character to have around the camp could you?

NJ: No, it's good, it will bring strength across the board, we've obviously lost Gregg (McNally) for six months now and Lee will add competition when Gregg gets back, he also adds competition to other areas. He is experienced.

The feedback I have had from players that have been with him in the past is that he is low maintenance and his CV counts for itself so I am really looking forward to him getting more involved.

We review teams and review players and genuinely when we got to the build-up to the Wakefield game last year, we didn't see a lot of frailties around Lee. I know he'd spent time away from the game in Rugby Union and was just getting back into the game but certainly his pre-season and the feedback we've had from Hull - well they wanted him there and other reasons stopped that. We are really glad that we've got Lee and the lads have welcomed him.

DP: So Neil, disappointing end to the Batley game, what do you take from that?

NJ: There were no surprises whatsoever. We spoke about defending their good ball, their short side plays and their kicks were a big danger and those two areas hurt us throughout and that's what's probably most disappointing.

I thought in the first half we didn't do ourselves justice with the ball. We came up with some soft plays and didn't kick well enough. It was the simple things we needed to address and then straight after half-time we put in something like nine completed sets for eleven.

Our first five sets were particularly positive and we went ten points up, up the hill, against the wind. Then in the last twenty, we just didn't continue what we did in that first twenty of the second half.

All of a sudden we were on the back of four penalties, again some soft errors and we gave them field position and we said that if they got in that last thirty or forty, they would always kick it up to Rangji and they created a lot of pressure on the back of that, so yes, disappointed.

Disappointed because I think it's the simple things that we didn't do great.

DP: Can you take on positives from it, such as the way the team played at the start of the second half?

NJ: Like I said, I think we've just we've got to work together. Every team we play is going to be a Grand Final, every neutral probably wants us to lose, which is fine, but we have to deal with it, go to places such as Batley and keep it simple - play direct and when we do that we give ourselves a chance.

When we try and play the game in the way you shouldn't in those types of conditions then it's difficult. On review there were some good areas in that twenty but we weren't consistent enough in doing that.



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CAPTAIN'S CORNER

MIKE LATHAM CAUGHT UP WITH CLUB CAPTAIN MICKY HIGHAM AFTER THE BATLEY GAME.



ML: Well, Micky, your thoughts on that game?
MH: There was nothing we didn't expect. They were tough conditions, we didn't underestimate them and we prepared well. Batley played the conditions better than us, kicked better and in a game like that you have to take your chances and capitalise when you're on top. There are no excuses. At 22-12 up we should have closed out the game but we didn't and there a lot of lessons to be learned from that game.

ML: Was Mount Pleasant a culture shock for some of our new players?
MH: I don't think so - either way it's going to have to be something we deal with, week in and week out. No one has commented on it or complained. They all just get on with it. The Championship is a really tough competition in its own right. All the teams have strengthened and recruited well. There are no easy games and you have to be on top of your game to get through. It's as tough as it's ever been.

We know what we have to do, the areas we have to address and we know that every week teams will be going all out to beat us as they see us as the Championship favourites. Everyone will raise their game and see us as a big scalp. That's not being big headed, just realistic, because that's the occasion today. There's nothing like a local

way it is. The way Batley celebrated was like they'd won the cup. Fair play to them, they had a right to celebrate but that has only sharpened our resolve and made us even more determined.

ML: As a Leigh born player you must have been very proud to be appointed Club Captain?
MH: Absolutely, it was a huge honour and one that fills me with great pride. I couldn't wait for the season to start. Leading out the team for the Wigan game was special and it will be special today leading out the team against Oldham, the first league game at LSV this season. The crowd that followed us to Batley was just fantastic. They were loud and proud and all the players have remarked on how good was the support. It will be great to see the North Stand and west Stand full of Leigh supporters today.

ML: And Oldham is a great Lancashire derby isn't it?
MH: It's great to see Oldham back in the Championship. The same applies to Swinton. They're proud clubs with great histories and traditions and like Leigh have had their ups and downs over the years but have kept going. Their fans are passionate and follow their team with pride, just like the Leigh fans do. It should be a great occasion today. There's nothing like a local

ML: And finally a tribute to departing Head Coach Paul Rowley, someone I know you hold in high regard.
MH: All the players and staff and everyone connected with the Club wish Paul well in the future. I'm sure he will be back in coaching very soon and he has so much to offer to the game. He helped build this club up on the path to what we hope will be a place in Super League. He recruited a lot of quality players, put in structures and built a culture and developed a brand of rugby that was so exciting. He was one of the biggest reasons I came back here from Warrington. Paul has been a big influence on my career and I owe him a lot.

derby and with three Lancashire teams in the Championship this season it redresses the balance a little bit from what was a Yorkshire dominated competition.

ML: Was it a big disruption with the coaching changes?
MH: No, not at all, it was business as usual. Jukezy had a lot of input anyway as assistant and did a lot of the hands-on stuff. We let Jukezy down big time on Sunday. The preparation was spot-on and Batley didn't do anything we didn't expect or hadn't prepared for. It's up to the players to rectify that, starting today.

ML: And finally a tribute to departing Head Coach Paul Rowley, someone I know you hold in high regard.
MH: All the players and staff and everyone connected with the Club wish Paul well in the future. I'm sure he will be back in coaching very soon and he has so much to offer to the game. He helped build this club up on the path to what we hope will be a place in Super League. He recruited a lot of quality players, put in structures and built a culture and developed a brand of rugby that was so exciting. He was one of the biggest reasons I came back here from Warrington. Paul has been a big influence on my career and I owe him a lot.





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WARM UP GAMES REVIEW

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY 2016:
LEIGH CENTURIONS 26
WIGAN WARRIORS 20
AT LSV
HT 16-14, ATT 4,614

Gregg McNally (try); Adam Higson (try), Greg Worthington, Willie Tonga, Liam Kay (try); Martyn Ridyard (3 goals), Rangi Chase; Fufui Moimoi, Micky Higham (capt), Gareth Hock, Harrison Hansen, Andrew Dixon, Cory Paterson.

Subs: Bob Beswick, Dayne Weston, Jonny Pownall, Tom Spencer, Tom Armstrong, Lewis Foster, Jamie Acton (try), Sam Hopkins (try), Eze Harper.

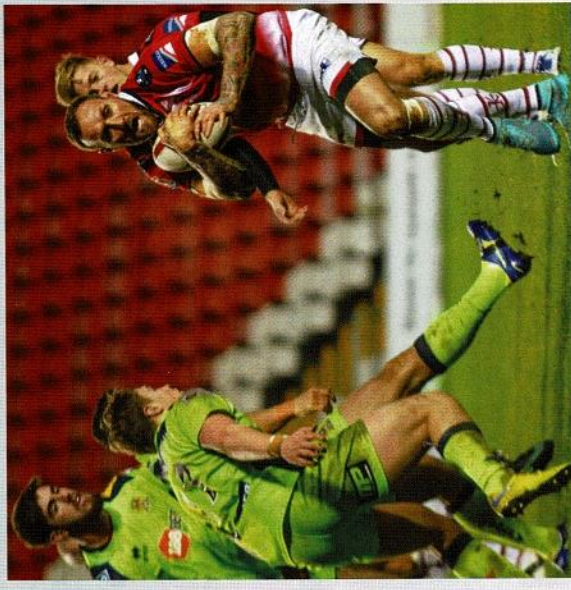
Referee: Ben Thaler.

SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2014:
WARRINGTON WOLVES 46
LEIGH CENTURIONS 4
AT HALLIWELL JONES STADIUM
HT 28-4, ATT 4,963

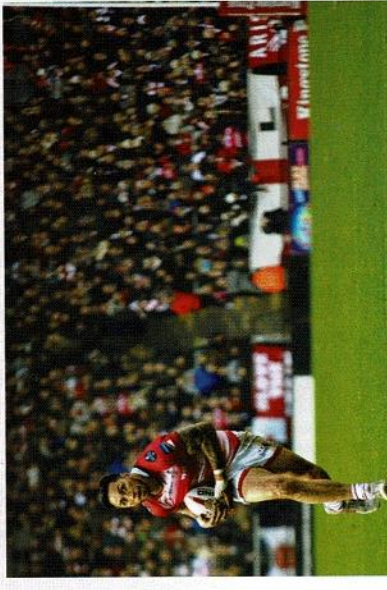
Gregg McNally; Adam Higson (try), Greg Worthington, Tom Armstrong, Jonny Pownall; Martyn Ridyard, Ryan Brierley; Fufui Moimoi, Micky Higham (capt), Dayne Weston, Andrew Dixon, Gareth Hock, Cory Paterson.

Subs: Lewis Foster, Jake Emmitt, Liam Kay, Jamie Acton, Tom Spencer, Sam Hopkins, Eze Harper.

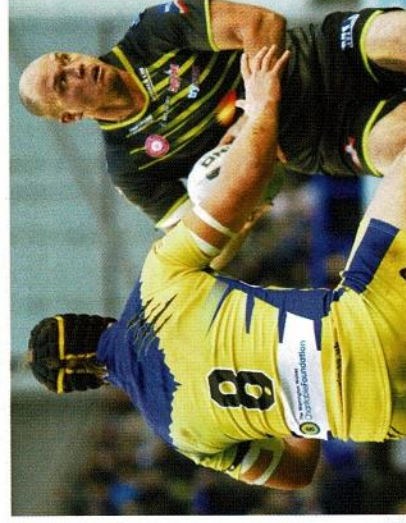
Referee: James Child.



v WIGAN: Gareth Hock in action against his hometown club



v WIGAN: Harrison Hansen on the charge



v WARRINGTON: Cory Paterson looks to offload



v WARRINGTON: Dayne Weston in the thick of the action

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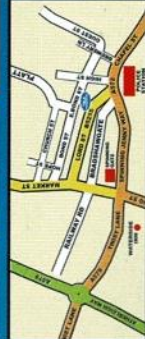


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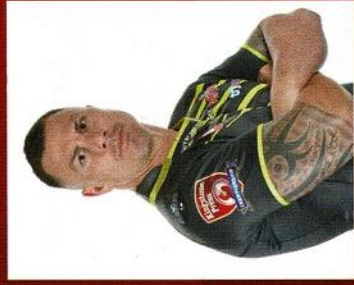
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MY SPORTING HERO...

NEIL BARKER CONTINUES HIS NEW SERIES AS HE FINDS OUT ABOUT THE SPORTING HEROES OF THE LEIGH CENTURIONS PLAYERS. NEXT UP IS DAYNE WESTON...



PETERO Civoniceva's signed
Queensland State of Origin shirt
takes pride of place in **Dayne**
Weston's house on the Gold
Coast.



When asked to name his sporting
hero, Weston immediately served up
the name of a world-class player who
earned legendary status in the NRL
with his trademark powerhouse
performances as a tough,
uncompromising prop forward.
As the Broncos galloped to glory, it
was Civoniceva who was heading the
charge.

Civoniceva made his mark on the
NRL, in representative football and
most importantly, the white hot
cauldron of the international arena.
Growing up, Weston cheered on the
Brisbane Broncos. Civoniceva and
the star-studded, all conquering
Brisbane aces went hand in hand and
Weston later played alongside his
hero in the colours of the Penrith
Panthers.

Weston is quick to heap glowing
praise and adulation on a top class

player who enjoyed many a fierce on
field spat over the years with Britain's
best in some bruising Ashes battles.

In his eyes, the Queensland pack ace
was the ultimate modern game
forward combining power with subtle
skill and a fearless outlook.

Many esteemed figures in the game
echo Dayne's view.

"Petero was a good leader and he
had everything as a player," says
Dayne.

"He played at the highest level and
proved he was the best. I loved
watching him playing and to then
play in the same team as his was just
awesome.

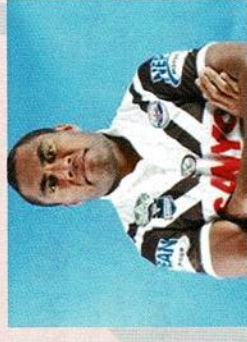
"I had always followed his career
with interest. On the field, he never
stopped working and was always
taking the game to the opposition.

"Off the field, he is also a great
family man. I greatly admire him.



"He also did a great deal of work in
the community and was always glad
to help.

"He helped everyone and was a
player you instantly looked up to.



"You must also take into account he
was as tough as the proverbial brick
outhouse.

"When you mention Petero's name,
you are definitely talking about one
of the finest forwards in the game.
His record and reputation speaks for
itself. I was thrilled when he gave me
one of his signed shirts.

"I got it framed and it's up in my
house - a treasured possession."

Weston now has his own goals to
fulfill in England having arrived at
Leigh with a reputation for being a
tough, hard working forward himself.

**As his career unfolded, he
learned so much from the
presence of Petero Civoniceva
and now has his own mark to
make in what is an important
season both for Dayne and his
fellow Centurions.**





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Email: info@darlingtontarmac.co.uk



BY **MARK TAYLOR** (LEIGH OBSERVER & WIGAN EVENING POST)

LEIGH **Observer** **WIGAN** Evening Post

RUGBY ROADSHOW

LEIGH CENTURIONS WILL BE BREAKING MORE NEW GROUND IN MARCH WHEN THE CLUB STAGES A STAR-STUDDED RUGBY LEAGUE ROADSHOW.

This prestigious sporting event is giving top billing to Head Coach Neil Jukes along with Captain Micky Higham, Rangi Chase, Harrison Hansen and Gareth Hook on a Celebrity Panel.

Club sponsors Evans Halshaw Vauxhall Wigan are kindly supporting and hosting the event at their spacious car showroom at Martland Park, Wigan.

The panel will be invited to take part in a question and answer forum on a variety of issues regarding the Club in its quest for a return to Super League.

They will also discuss all topical Rugby League matters.

Those attending can also make the most of a special "On the night" offer on the sale of new cars with a healthy commission figure going to Leigh Centurions.

Neil Basset, Head of Business at Evans Halshaw Vauxhall Wigan is a lifelong Leigh supporter and he is delighted to be hosting what promises to be a top-class night for Centurions fans and other Rugby League enthusiasts.

Neil Basset says: "We are absolutely thrilled to be hosting this event and it's surely a must for all Rugby League fans out there.

"We welcome people to our state of the art spacious showroom that has just undergone a £500,000

refurbishment, making it ideally suited and superb for an event of this kind.

"It is also so good to be welcoming a galaxy of high profile stars from the RL world and to also be supporting the Leigh Centurions.

"We will have a top quality panel and I am sure we are in for a very enjoyable and successful evening."

The Leigh Centurions Roadshow is taking place at Evans Halshaw on Tuesday, March 8th at 7.30pm. Tickets to attend this event costing just £10 are currently available from the ticket office at Leigh Sports Village.

Evans Halshaw Vauxhall Wigan are located at Martland Park, Challenge Way, Martland Mill Industrial Estate, Wigan WN5 0LD

Further information on the event can be obtained by telephoning the Club's commercial department on 01942 487888

Refreshments are also kindly being provided free of charge by the event's hosts.

Players will also be on hand to sign autographs and have pictures taken with fans.





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IN TOWN TODAY OLDHAM

DAVE PARKINSON OF THE LEIGH OBSERVER PROFILES THIS AFTERNOON'S VISITORS

Coach:

Scott Naylor

Home Ground:

Bower Fold, Stalybridge.

Last Season:

Promotion Play-off winners

Kingstone Press League One: 1st

Top Tries 2015:

Adam Clay 20

Top Goals 2015:

Lewis Palfrey 129 + 2 Dg

After seven years of knocking on the Championship door and numerous Grand Final heartbreaks with crushing disappointment after crushing disappointment Oldham are back in the second tier.

They played some excellent stuff under coach Scott Naylor in 2015 when most expected the likes of North Wales Crusaders and Keighley Cougars to bounce back into the Championship after five clubs were relegated to make way for Super League to drop to twelve clubs ahead of the season.

Key to promotion was their home form and particularly a steely defensive resolve, with few relishing the trip to Whitebank, Oldham notched ten wins during the regular season and won their status with an exciting 31-20 defeat of Keighley.

During their league matches Oldham averaged over 38 points scored whilst restricting their opponents to less than 16 with a miserly defence. It was a similar story away from home where despite losses at Barrow and Keighley, the Roughyeds scored almost as many points and conceded an average of less than 18; five times conceding 12 points or less.

Key to their attack were their three hookers and impressive utility value from Sam Gee, Adam Files, Gareth Owen and Kenny Hughes all featured heavily while Lewis Palfrey impressed at halfback to claim over 300 personal

points and walk away with the League One Player of the Year award. His partner in the halves was Steve Roper and there were big pack performances all year from Liam Thompson, Phil Joy, Adam Neal and Michael Ward. Former Leigh, North Wales, Barrow and Salford winger Adam Clay was amongst the tries with 20 while there were also impressive returns for Jon Ford (11 in 16 games), Jack Holmes (15 in 22), Josh Crowley (13 in 28), Danny Langtree (13 in 24) and George Tyson (13 in 23).

Such was the form of Tyson and Neal in particular, Sheffield Eagles swept in for the pair as they went full-time.

The Roughyeds originally lost their Championship status in 2006 and it has been a long road back. A never give up story of persistence for chairman Chris Hamilton and the trusty team of volunteers that have held things together against a backdrop of overwhelming odds and a couple of different home grounds.

Having played at Whitebank for three or four years, Oldham are on the move again in 2016, with Stalybridge hosting games. Unfortunately for the Roughyeds, Whitebank doesn't meet the minimum requirements for hosting Championship rugby and every time Oldham have attempted an upgrade, they have found their progress thwarted by petty vandalism, crime and even arson.

Although Stalybridge may appear alien to most away fans, it won't be the club's first venture to the town. Back in the early 2000s, Bower Fold hosted a Challenge Cup tie between Oldham and St Helens and there were almost 4000 people there.

Oldham have added six players to their squad with four leaving and the luckless Steven Neill is expected to be sidelined for much of 2016 with an injury.

Jamel Chisholm has linked with the club from York City Knights and is set to have

another crack at the Championship after a nomadic stint in his career and a short lived spell with Featherstone. Danny Grimshaw was with Hunslet for several seasons and the Dewsbury based player is a classy customer on his day with ability to play at halfback and at the base of the scrum. Jack Spencer is a former Salford junior that has played at Barrow and more latterly Halifax, for whom he made 16 appearances last season. The pack man has also played in Australia and looks like a direct replacement for Neal while Will Hope also returns to the game after 12 months away and he too has Championship experience with Sheffield in addition to knowing Naylor from a spell at Salford.

Finally Jon Ford has finally made his move from Salford permanent having played over 40 games for the Roughyeds in loan spells over the last three seasons. He is a tall rangy centre with an enviable try ratio in League One. Oldham's final signing for 2016 needs no introduction to Leigh fans. Craig Briscoe played 52 times for the Centurions as a second row before spending much of the last two years as a regular for Barrow. At 23 he is still a young player with plenty to prove and the Roughyeds have got themselves a gem in my eyes.

I still feel they will be at the wrong end of the Championship table but I do hope that they can survive, if only to ensure there are more Lancashire based clubs in the competition.

Gains:

Jamel Chisholm (York), Danny Grimshaw (Hunslet), Craig Briscoe (Barrow) Jack Spencer (Halifax), Jon Ford (Salford), Will Hope (Unattached).

Losses:

Adam Neal, George Tyson (Both Sheffield), Tom Dempsey (Wigan), Richard Joy (Released).



LOTTERY NEWS

MICKY Higham has been likened to a bottle of vintage red wine.

As with a vintage claret, he too gets better with age and continues to rank high alongside the best hookers in the game.

Wigan coach Shaun Wane talked of Higham's on-field influence ahead of the Wigan game in pre-season.

Gareth Hock played alongside Higham at Wigan and was instantly impressed. These guys have a mutual respect. Hock admires Higham's direct style of play and the way he has looked himself in what has been a very successful career.

Hock says: "You always know what you are going to get from Micky. He is so consistent and he sets very high standards. He never gives up and is so enthusiastic. He leads from the front in training and we have always got on."

He is a player respected by rivals and is relishing the new campaign as Leigh set their sights on being back in Super League.

Club owner Derek Beaumont has invested heavily in order to strengthen the squad, but the Club

still relies greatly on the income we generate each year.

We the Superleigh Lottery are looking to boost our membership, and assist Leigh Centurions in the fulfilment of the Super League dream. Membership costs from just £1 per week and each £1 membership has the chance of winning our weekly £1,000 prize, or one of the many consolation prizes on offer.

We need you! Are you able to support our cause? Are your friends or family able to support our cause? The more money we can raise, the more we can help our glorious club reach the promised land of Super League!

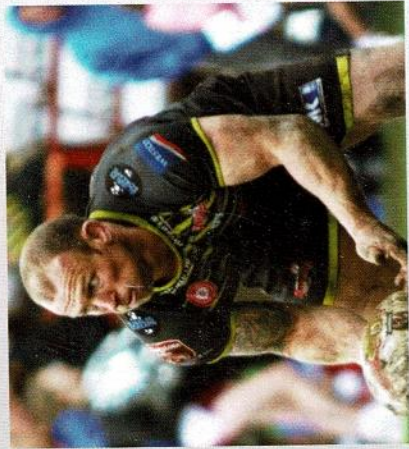
If you would like more details on the role that Superleigh plays, or you know any other people who would like to sign up, please contact us on 01942 487892 or email lottery@leighrl.co.uk.

Yours in sport.

Christine Brown
Lottery Manager
Superleigh Lottery

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Micky Higham at Batley

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Today's From the Archives photo from the files of the Wigan Evening Post goes back nearly ten years and shows Richard Moore scoring for Leigh Centurions against Oldham in April 2006. Leigh won 44pts to 12 before a crowd of 2,215.

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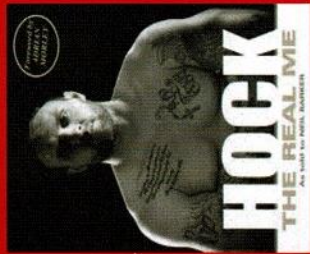
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LOCAL COMMUNITY CLUBS NEWS

JEFF GORSE SUMMARISES THE LATEST NEWS FROM LEIGH MINERS RANGERS:

Leigh Miners Rangers are the Centurions' special guests this afternoon as the club celebrates its fiftieth year in 2016 on the back of one of the most successful campaigns in their illustrious history in 2015.

With the first team sweeping the board in the National Conference last term, and also enjoying a record-breaking Challenge Cup run, the women's team also scooped silverware whilst also establishing a girls section at the club and the Alliance and under-18s also had encouraging campaigns.

The challenge now is for all four senior sides to build on that in 2016, and whilst the firsts won't be repeating that Challenge Cup run after losing to Underbank a few weeks ago, the under-18s performed creditably in their National Cup defeat to higher division side Oldham St Annes. With the NCL season due to start on 12th March, with a home game against last season's third-placed side Rochdale Mayfield, the next few weeks see Allan Coleman and his coaching team work on fine tuning the squad ahead of the big kick off.

Most of the squad which performed so admirably in claiming the Conference Trophy, league title and Grand Final last year remain on board, although popular Australian Shaun Dowie has returned home after two enjoyable years at Twist Lane and Danny Jackson steps down through work commitments whilst internationals Adam Thomason and Jonny Youds are laid low through injury. However with Scott O'Brien, the NCL Player of the Year, on board and former Leigh man Ian Mort back at his amateur club the quality remains high. Young Jordan Hill made a try-scoring debut against Underbank having spent last season with Leigh academy and there are high hopes for other youngsters Phil McLoughlin and Adam Smith as they progress to open age.

The Alliance narrowly missed both promotion and the cup final last term but with Mick Blakeley and Steve Cawley on board they will be pushing again this term, with a number of testing friendlies in place before the Lloyd Pugsley Memorial Match against Leigh East, on Friday 26th February at Twist Lane.

The under-18s are under the guidance of the Hartley brothers Simon and Tim, bolstered by the graduation of a number of players from the under-16s team whom they led to the National Cup final last term.

The women meanwhile have recruited some new faces to replace departing stalwarts and after claiming their second WRL Plate in four years last term coach Cliff Tamou will want his team to kick on and challenge higher up the league.

Meanwhile the girls team, who served as Centurions matchday flagbearers and played in their first festival last season, will look to take their first steps into competitive fixtures this season.

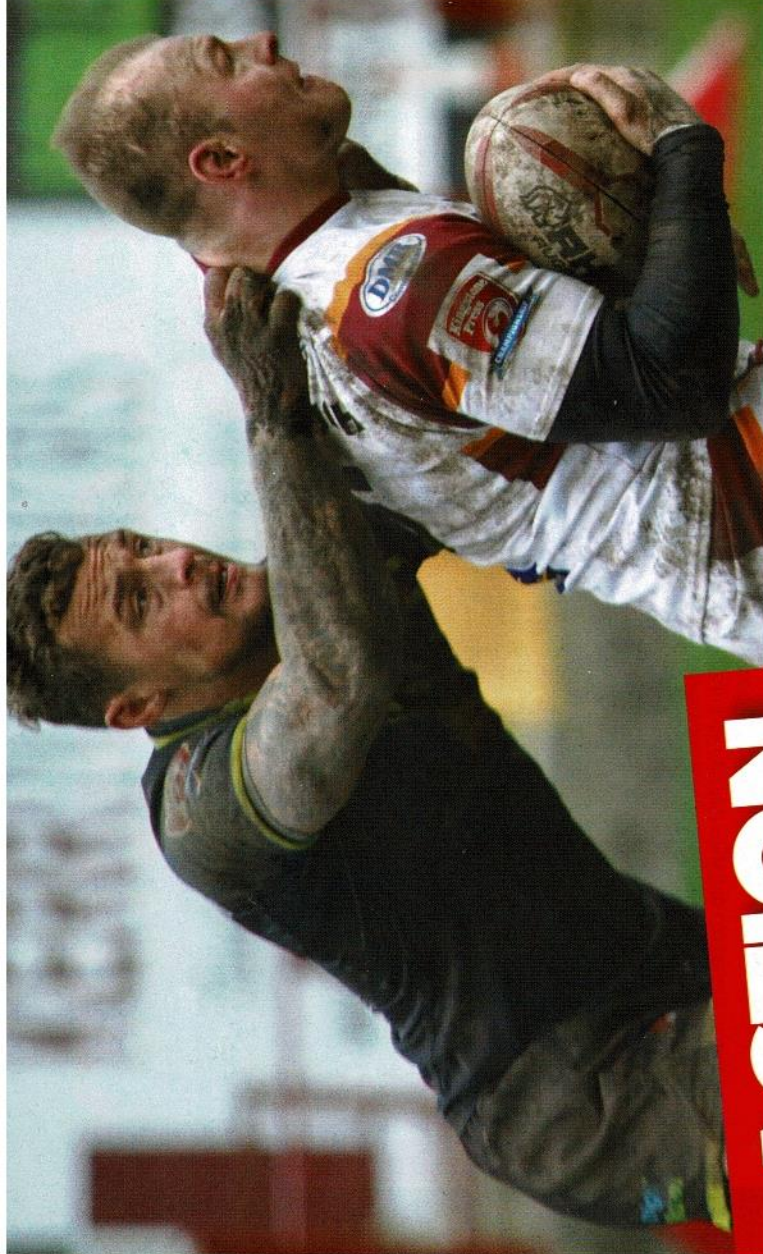


Conference Cup



Women's Cup





GREG WORTHINGTON collars **Shaun Ainscough**
JAKE EMMITT and **DAYNE WESTON** in defensive action

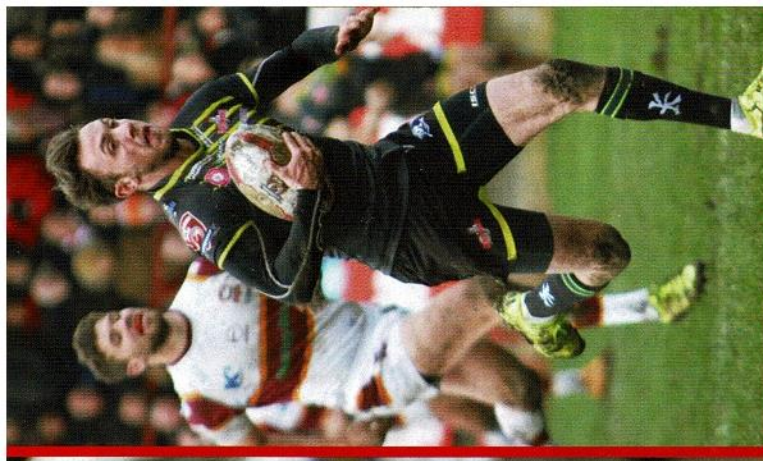


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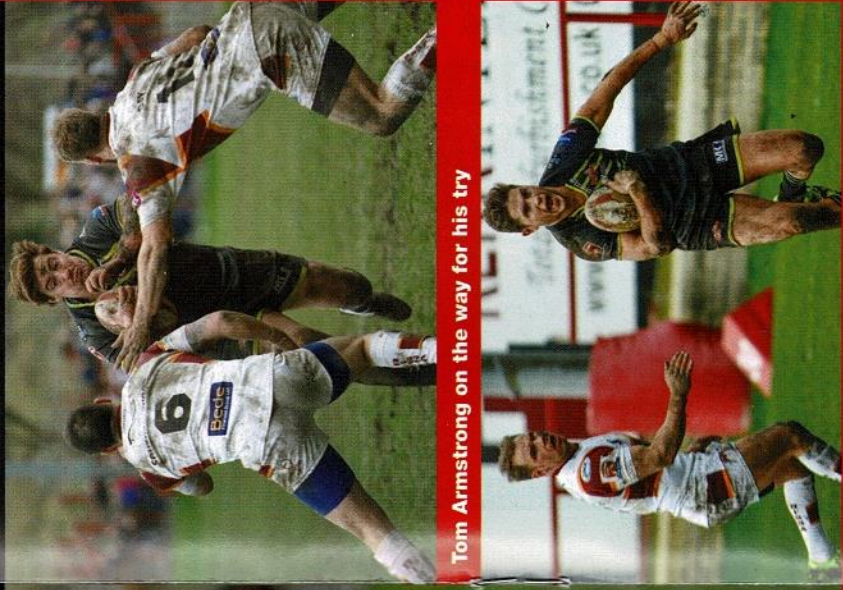
V BATLEY BULLDOGS



MICKY HIGHAM prompts another attack
JAKE EMMITT charges at the Batley defence



RYAN BRIERLEY streaks away for his try
TOM SPENCER held up by three Batley defenders



Tom Armstrong on the way for his try



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ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

BY MIKE LATHAM

2013

Leigh had a long trip to the Recreation Ground for a Thursday night fixture televised by Premier Sports and survived floodlight problems to record a hard-fought 28-14 victory over Whitehaven.

Simon Finnigan, Tommy Goulden, Sean Penkywicz, Martyn Ridyard and Gregg McNally, against his home town club scored Leigh's tries, Ridyard adding four goals. The crowd was 763.

2010

Mick Nanyon scored two tries and Tim Hartley kicked six goals in Leigh's National Cup victory over Featherstone Rovers at LSV before 1,729 spectators.

1999

Leigh recorded a hard fought Challenge Cup victory at Craven Park, winning 33-16 against Barrow.

David Ingram scored two tries with Tau Liku, Alan Hadcroft, Stuart Donlan, and Andy Fairclough also scoring tries. Phil Kendrick kicked four goals and a drop goal.



David Ingram was Leigh's cup tie hero 17 years ago;

1986

Leigh took a break from their championship pursuit to record a fine 28-17 victory over Warrington in the first round of the Challenge Cup.

Terry Bisbury scored two tries with Tommy Martyn, Phil Fox and Alf Wilkinson also crossing before a bumper Hilton Park crowd of 10,366.

1966

Leigh went down 17-2 at St Helens with 9,400 fans in attendance at Knowsley Road.

1959

Mick Martyn scored Leigh's try and Brian Fallon kicked

FEBRUARY
14

four goals in Leigh's 11-7 home win over Oldham in front of 9,000 fans.

1953

Challenge Cup first round ties were played over two legs at this time and Leigh won 11-3 at Bramley to complete a 45-13 aggregate victory.

Trevor Allan was among Leigh's try-scorers before a paltry crowd of 1,000.

1946

Jack Wood scored two tries in Leigh's 10-6 home win over Featherstone Rovers to complete a 28-9 aggregate in their Challenge Cup-tie.

14,000 fans were inside Kirkhall Lane for the game.

1931

Leigh went down 34-0 to Wigan at Central Park, the derby game attracting just 5,000 spectators.

Wigan ran in eight tries with Roy Kinnear and Bob Brown each scoring twice as Leigh were outclassed.

1925

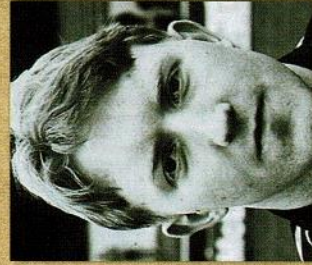
Leigh went down 5-0 at home to Oldham in the Challenge Cup at Mather Lane in front of 12,000 spectators.

It was a terrific cup tie and Hesketh scored a converted try just before half-time to settle the game. Oldham went on to lift the Challenge Cup.

1903

Leigh hosted Swinton in the first round of the Challenge Cup at Mather Lane.

A tense deadlock finished scoreless but Leigh went on to win the replay at Chorley Road by 7pts to 5.



Phil Kendrick kicked four goals in Leigh's win at Barrow in 1999



Mick Martyn was Leigh's hero 57 years ago

COMMERCIAL NEWS



TODAY'S MATCH BALL SPONSOR



Hello and welcome to the first home game at the start of the 2016 Kingstone Press Championship campaign. On this Valentine's Day we welcome our good friends from Oldham and look forward to the 'Perfect Match', a passionate, local derby between two of the oldest names in the great sport of Rugby League.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our old friends from **O2 Leigh**, especially Nick Mussell and his guests who are this afternoon's Main Match Sponsors.

We also welcome on board Dave Fash and **247 Bar Supplies** who are this afternoon's Match Ball Sponsors and hope that Dave and his party have a great day with us.

Our guest speakers this afternoon in the Banqueting Suite are Tommy Goulden who needs no introduction to Leigh and Oldham fans after his illustrious playing career with both clubs, and the highly respected commentator John Helm who counts Rugby League as his favourite of all the many sports he has covered in his illustrious career.

As always I hope you all have a great day.

Amanda Lee
Commercial Manager



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THIS AFTERNOON'S MATCHDAY MASCOT



This afternoon's mascot is **Rhys Sefton**, aged 8. Rhys attends Twelve Apostles and his hobbies are rugby, boxing and bike rides.

His favourite players are Ryan Brierley, Gregg McNally and Cory Paterson. His mum says don't tell anyone but his overall favourite is Gregg!

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JAMIE ACTON takes it forward v Wigan
GARETH HOCK takes on the Wolves defence



LEIGH CENTURIIONS

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Heritage Number 1160



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Welfare Manager H/No 1371



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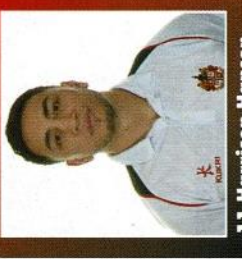
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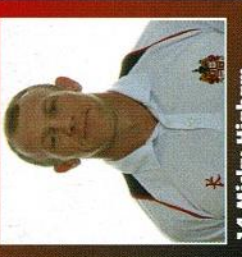
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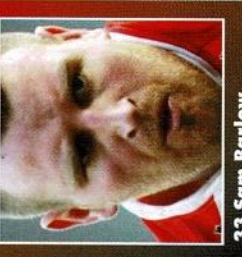
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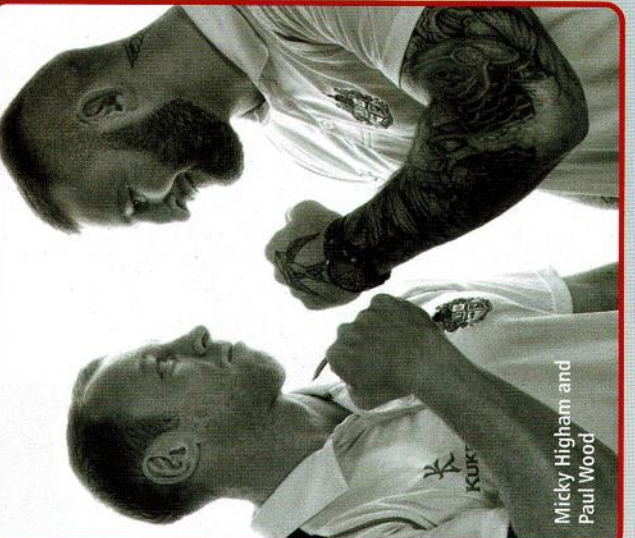
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LEIGH CENTURIIONS V SHEFFIELD EAGLES
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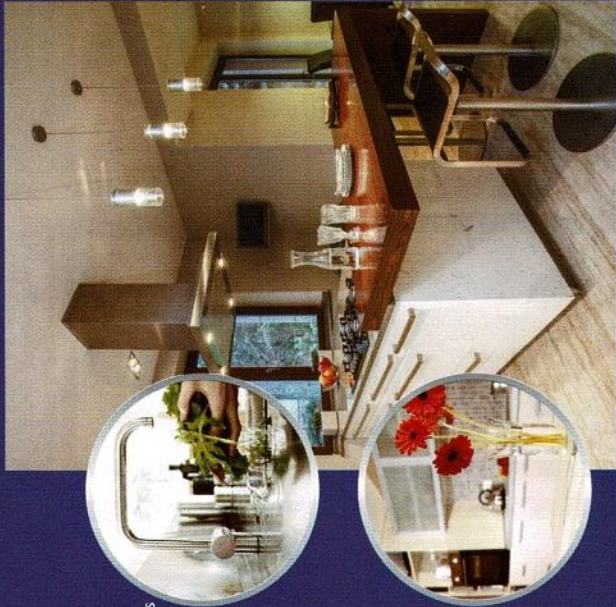

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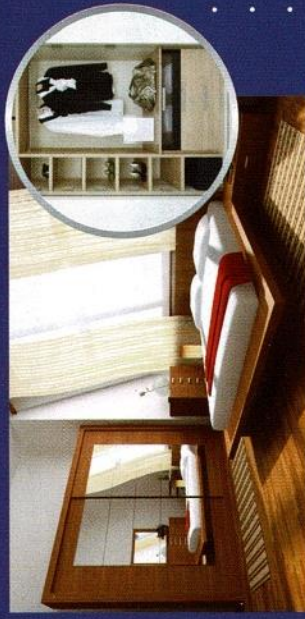
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PROGRAMMES FROM THE PAST BY MIKE LATHAM

LONG TERM LEIGH SUPPORTER MR NORMAN STARKIE HAS VERY KINDLY LENT SOME OF HIS VAST PROGRAMME COLLECTION TO THE EDITOR AND EACH ISSUE THIS YEAR WE'LL TAKE A LOOK BACK AT THE ARCHIVES.



For today's look back at old programmes we go back nearly 40 years to Oldham's visit to Hilton Park for a First Division fixture on Sunday 19 September 1976.

Player-coach **Kevin Ashcroft** was seen leading out his son, Craig, the Leigh mascot on the front of the modest 16-page programme which cost ten pence.

The traditional 3-30pm kick-off was in force for a half-time to win 19-13 with Wilf Briggs scoring two of their tries.

A young John Woods, in his first season as a professional was on the bench and the Leigh pack included Allan Rowley who partnered Paul Grimes in the second row with the redoubtable Denis Boyd at loose forward.

The Oldham side included former Leigh forward Bob Welding and long serving hooker Kevin Taylor who later played for Leigh. Roger Halstead who will be accompanying the Oldham side today was then the long serving RL correspondent of the Oldham Chronicle and wrote a piece in the programme previewing the game.

"Oldham come to Hilton Park as the only first division team without a league point," Roger wrote. "But a word of warning for Leigh- the two sides Oldham have met so far, are amongst the two most feared in the game- Widnes and Leeds."

Roger pin-pointed David Treasure, on the transfer list at £7,000, as one of Oldham's danger-men and wrote of the club's Leigh



Joe Walsh passes to Clive Jones in Leigh's win over Oldham. connection with Tony Peters, Gareth Owen, Steve Herbert and stalwart fullback Martin Murphy all Leigh lads. "It is a fact that Oldham are much better off with those players, all Leigh lads on their register," Roger added.

Leigh had just beaten Warrington in the Floodlit Trophy with a late match-winning drop-goal by Briggs and this was their fifth game in a fortnight.

Geoff Fletcher was also Leigh A's player-coach who had beaten Swinton 14-2 ex-Colts stars Les Wall and Alan Rathbone the stand-outs while Dave Macko impressed on his return from a stint in Australia.

Meanwhile prop Maurice Platt had just come off the transfer list at his own request and Steve Breheny had gone on loan to his old club Blackpool Borough. Utility man Clive Jones was still transfer-listed.

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Brian Bowman was among the club directors who included ex-player Chris Collier. John Dutton was chairman of the board.

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2. JOHN BARRIS	2. BOB WELDING	2. BOB WELDING	2. BOB WELDING
3. KEVIN TAYLOR	3. KEVIN TAYLOR	3. KEVIN TAYLOR	3. KEVIN TAYLOR
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5. PAUL GRIMES	5. PAUL GRIMES	5. PAUL GRIMES	5. PAUL GRIMES
6. DENIS BOYD	6. DENIS BOYD	6. DENIS BOYD	6. DENIS BOYD
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20. TONY PETERS	20. TONY PETERS	20. TONY PETERS	20. TONY PETERS



Wilf Briggs scores one of his two tries against Oldham



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CENTURIONS COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS FOR 2016



Tom Spencer
Embed the Pathway Ambassador
Tom offered to be ambassador for our Embed the Pathway programme which develops community club players from age 12-16. Tom's enthusiasm to create players of the future and his knowledge and experience of coaching makes him the perfect person to head up this programme.



Dayne Weston
Sky Try Ambassador
Dayne was very keen to become involved in the community work at the Centurions and will be the face of our Primary Rugby Sky Try programme delivered in the local primary schools. Dayne is looking forward to getting out into the schools and helping to support this great initiative.



Ryan Brierley
Leigh Community Trust Ambassador
Ryan became an ambassador for the Trust following his employment with us in 2014. Ryan developed his own school's programme, Brierley's Buddies which was well received within the local schools. Ryan is always on hand to help out when he can and also supports LCT massively by raising much needed funds through auctioning playing memorabilia.

SKY TRY PROGRAMME PICKING UP PACE WITH LCT AND LEIGH CENTURIONS



The Sky Try programme is in full swing within the local primary schools, with the diary being close to full for the remainder of the school year. The programme funded by SkySports develops grassroots rugby through Primary Rugby League which we deliver in schools to Year 3 and 4 pupils.

These fun sessions develop the fundamental movement and skills of every child allowing them to develop physically and socially through fun games. Each programme progresses using our strong partnerships with local community clubs to then encourage the players with a new found interest in the sport to join their local teams.

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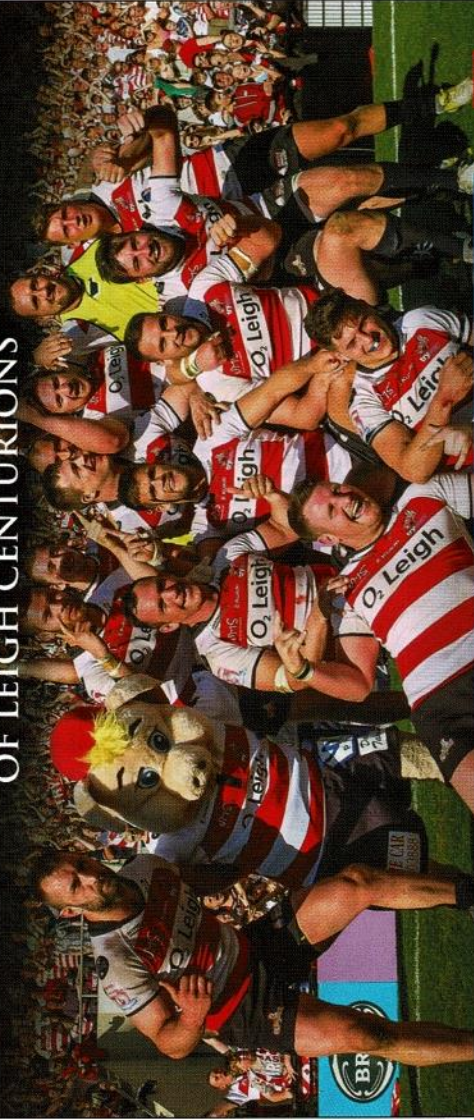
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LCT'S ELITE WARRIOR CHALLENGE



In the close season Leigh Community Trust were awarded funding of £20,000 from the Tony Lloyd Greater Manchester Police Commission Young Aspirations Fund, to run a new innovative programme based around military ethos to engage hard-to-reach young adults.

The Elite Warrior project combines military and sports ethos to challenge the individuals to change. We have recruited an ex-serviceman Chris Sumner, who served for 12 years and saw action in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan to deliver the course teaching them about self-sacrifice demands on a soldier, instilling discipline, respect and values into young people.



The second phase of the programme looks at how they move onto the next step of carrying out life choices by attending workshops and voluntary

roles with their local community organisations including local schools, cadet centres, local small charities and the fire cadets. Participants have also gained a Sports Leaders awards.

So far, the achievements have been above and beyond what we expected, our retention rate is higher than any other alternative NEEET provision and our qualification outcomes are 50% higher than those other local provisions, we also have a very high number of clients going back into education after being on the course.

Another positive outcome of the course has been the recruitment of past clients to return as peer mentors, from the continuous evaluation we found increased access to positive role models and also the capacity to deliver more one-on-one with current clients whilst also increasing personal development of mentors.

Last week saw the start of the second cohort with young adults from Bedford High and Fred Longworth High school.





LOCAL LAD NAYLOR RIPS UP FAIRYTALE SCRIPTS

NEIL BARKER PROFILES OLDHAM COACH SCOTT NAYLOR

in hand with being coach of the Roughyeds but Naylor is a strong survivor and a fighter. Maybe it is more than coincidence that the nucleus of his side is made up of men and good players who were first shown the rugby ropes by Scott in his time at Salford.

So many warmed to his honest approach. He was very much a father figure to many and a strong source of inspiration and hope.

Never afraid to roll up his sleeves and graft, Scott has a good reputation in the game as a fair and innovative coach.

He continues to sidestep and snub the limelight but as Wigan know too well, a rare smile breaks out when he upsets the apple cart – Leigh beware!

Naylor will have his troops well prepared for today's derby. He knows what to expect from strong hosts but this guy knows the power of self belief.

Since talking charge of Oldham, it has become a necessity.



LOCAL lad Scott Naylor is something of a dab hand when it comes to throwing a spanner in the works.

It can be argued he likes to spoil a party and here we are today, gearing up for the first home game for what is a big season for the Leigh Centurions in their quest to regain Super league status.

Stubby Scott can be surly and strong willed but he gets his kicks from ripping up fairy-tale scripts.

He certainly did that this very weekend – February 12, 1996 – when Salford Red Devils gained one of their greatest ever victories – beating Wigan in the Challenge Cup and smashing a 43-game unbeaten run for the Warriors who had made Wembley their second home.

Ironically, Naylor started his career at Wigan and was in the centre for Salford the day they sent a Wigan side including Inga the Winger packing. Naylor was an outstanding schoolboy player in Leigh before being snapped up by Wigan.

He overcame major injury worries as a rugby rookie and showed dogged determination to build on his red-letter day for a workmanlike Salford side coached by Andy Gregory.

Naylor's direct style made him a firm favourite with the Salford fans. He was a hard hitting no frills centre who was happy to let his performances do his talking.

As a proud Leigh lad, he enjoyed putting the boot in on Wigan.

Tears still flow to this day in certain quarters.

Naylor's successful playing career took off, he joined Bradford gained representative honours and was a popular figure in Brian Noble's side when Bullpower was too much for all and sundry in the top flight.

It has been said that Naylor was a late developer and he took to coaching like a duck to water. He also found himself back at Salford.

Working under Shaun McRae, Naylor proved that good players definitely do make good coaches.

He unearthed a host of quality young players and often had his hands tied with Salford very much paupers before Mr Moneybags Marwan Koukash rode into town and lined the streets with £50 notes.

Naylor was up against it but battled on – dogged determination again surfacing – the kind he has shown since taking charge of newly promoted Oldham.

Pittfalls have been plentiful with a sore head often going hand



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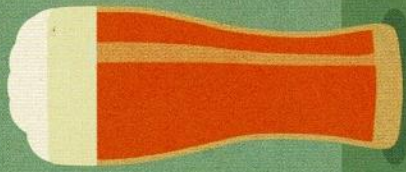
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THE PERFECT MATCH?

NEIL BARKER PROFILES OLDHAM CHAIRMAN CHRIS HAMILTON



LEIGH Centurions hosting Oldham on Valentine's Day, the first home game of the new season – surely it doesn't get any better?

The Perfect match.

Two of the sport's great names, going head to head - no doubt reviving fond memories of many epic action-packed clashes that have taken place over the years.

Forget Super League for the time being, Rugby League's lifeline remains dependent on teams with the stature and heritage of Leigh and Oldham – two true hotbeds where world class talent continues to flow and be nurtured from well-oiled production lines.

Rugby League remains a way of life to the communities involved and long may this continue.

Of yes, we did have a game before the advent of Super League and the likes of Leigh and Oldham made it the product that is now globally acclaimed and regarded as the toughest team sport in the world.

For this to happen, the game relies on the passion and commitment of survivors and no one typifies this more than the long serving and crusading Oldham chairman Chris Hamilton.

This fellow is a gritty survivor - a man who know what it takes to climb from the canvas and to fight on.

Hamilton has had his critics but there can be no doubting his commitment to the Oldham cause – working closely over so many years with that doyen of RL reporters Roger Halstead.

There have been times when treading the banks of the Jordan would have been easier but Oldham thankfully remain vibrant and look forward to the new season with rich optimism.

Hamilton deserves a medal for his backing of the club. He has often survived and triumphed in the face of adversity. A regular quote from Hamilton to the Manchester Evening News used to be on the lines of: "You keep going, you have to."

Chris Hamilton has certainly gone the extra mile on many occasions when times have been hard.

He enjoys a healthy working relationship with coach Scott Naylor.

"Scott works hard and this is the ethic we have throughout the club," says Chris.

So often in the past, Oldham have lacked on field stability but this has been remedied by Hamilton's astute style of leadership. To see them still challenging is so refreshing and adds spice to today's contest.

Genuine RL people like Chris Hamilton and Roger Halstead

will say that history should never be overlooked and they're right in doing so.

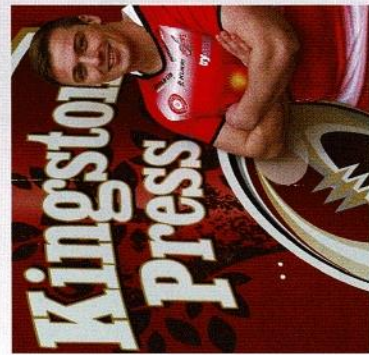
For those who do fall into this trap, they clearly do not appreciate the real meaning of what a match between Leigh and Oldham entails.

From this, we can deduce that strong leaders are worth their weight in gold – Leigh fans will vouch for this.

OLDHAM SQUAD 2016

NO	NAME	DOB	POSITION
1	Richard Lepori	22/10/1991	Full-back
2	Adam Clay	07/10/1990	Wing
3	Jon Ford	01/11/1993	Centre
4	Jack Holmes	05/01/1994	Wing
5	Jamel Chisholm	07/11/1992	Wing
6	Lewis Palfrey	25/02/1990	Half-back
7	Steve Roper	10/11/1986	Half-back
8	Phillip Joy	04/09/1991	Prop
9	Sam Gee	28/02/1987	Utility
10	Jack Spencer	21/12/1990	Prop
11	Josh Crowley	24/09/1991	Second row
12	Danny Langtree	18/02/1991	Second row
13	Liam Thompson	03/01/1992	Loose forward
19	Adam Files	07/01/1993	Hooker
20	Gareth Owen	03/07/1992	Hooker
21	Kenny Hughes	13/09/1990	Hooker
22	Danny Grimshaw	25/02/1986	Half-back
23	Craig Briscoe	8/12/1992	Second row
24	Will Hope	02/06/1993	Second row
25	Tom Ashton	26/06/1992	Centre
26	Michael Ward	10/02/1991	Prop





few plays."

Smith will continue to live in Leeds and will travel over for training and matches in the 'Yorkshire bus' with Liam Kay and Greg Worthington. "I know Liam from Wakefield and he's done really well at Leigh," Smith says. "I'm really pleased for him as he's a great lad. I'm really enthusiastic about coming to Leigh and can't wait to get started."

"There's a real ambition here to get into Super League but also the people are realistic. If we get through the Championship we then face seven cup finals in the Middle 8s. It's a big step up to Super League but the experience of last year will stand the squad in good stead and since then they've strengthened by bringing in so many players with top level experience."

"It's a big learning curve for me. I've got to get used to my new team-mates and learn the plays and fit in with everyone. It's a big challenge moving clubs but I know what's needed and I will bring a lot to Leigh."

Smith also has another immediate goal - to reach a century of career tries. At the moment he's on 97, scored at an impressive strike rate of nearly one every two games. "I never even knew that," he said. "But I enjoy scoring tries and hopefully a few tries will follow once I start enjoying my rugby again."

He also brings the current list of internationals in the Leigh squad to 13 - a full team. Indeed, with a bit of artistic licence here and there and a few positional changes you could pick the following Centurions International XIII: McKlally, Smith, Maitua, Tonga, Pala; Chase, Beswick; Moimoi; Higham, Emmitt, Hansen, Hock, Barlow.

"That's pretty amazing for a Championship club isn't it?" says Smith. For someone with such an honour-laden CV it's hard to imagine Smith is only 29 and critics will point out that his career has not kicked on since leaving Leeds, initially for Wasps.

"I had a purple patch at Leeds and played in a lot of big games," Smith says. "Since then I've been on a path I've chosen but I've not really settled into a club. I was maybe a bit young when I went to Wasps and when I went back to union at Newcastle I went to a struggling club and

found it hard to get game time.

"I didn't want to drag my family all over the place and we made the decision to settle back in Leeds. I went to Hull for pre season training and for the past two months have really knuckled down and worked hard. I'd publicly like to thank Hull FC for giving me an opportunity to train with them and the time I spent with them was really good. Unfortunately they couldn't fit me into their salary cap."

"I'd also like to thank my agent, Karl Harrison. He's someone I've known for a long time and he was involved at Drighlington ARL when I played there. At one stage I was ready to look for jobs outside rugby but Karl kept faith with me and I owe him massively."

"I want to do well for Leigh Centurions, myself and for him."

Smith's

BISTRO

LEIGH Centurions have played the name game and found the perfect match!

The Club is delighted to announce that Smith's Bistro in Leigh will be the 2016 shirt sponsors of new signing Lee Smith.

Steven and Angela Martin, the owners of the Bistro on Church Street, are delighted to be coming on board supporting Lee and further boosting the Club's corporate arm.

Angela says: "We have been looking to promote our business and this is a perfect opportunity."

"We are excited at this link with Leigh Centurions and look forward to supporting the Club and Lee."

Richard Cramer, Lee Smith's representative, is equally pleased with the local link for the latest high profile recruit.

He says: "This is a real boost for Lee who is relishing the challenge facing him at Leigh Centurions."

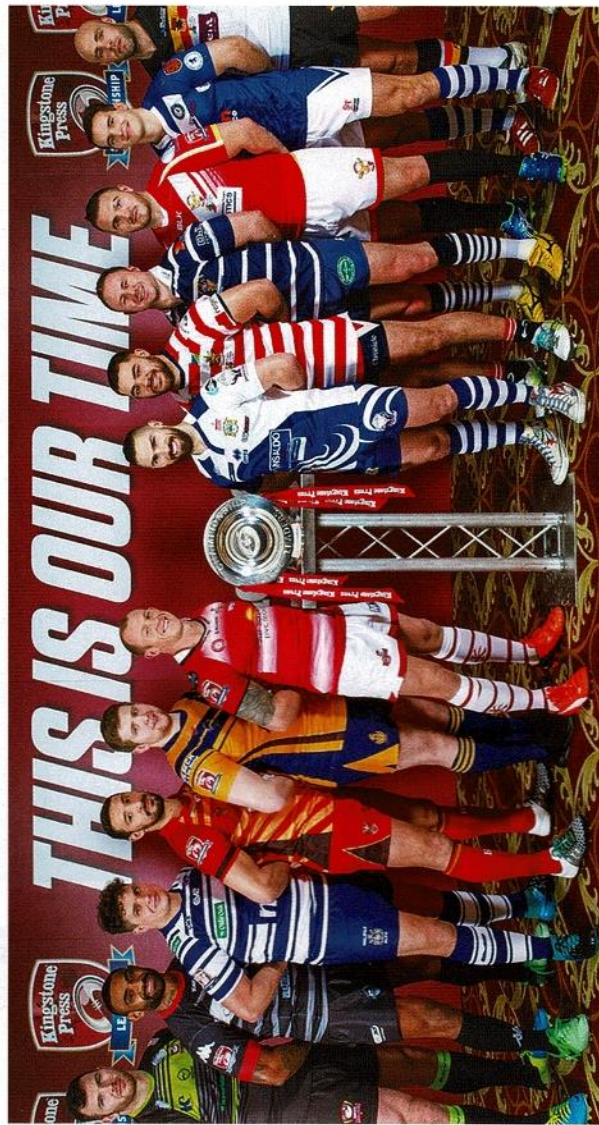
For details of commercial opportunities at Leigh Centurions please contact Commercial Manager Amanda Lee on 01942 487898 or email: Amanda.Lee@leighrl.co.uk

FACTS & STATS 2016 SEASON



	2016													Notes		
	A	S	T	G	DG	P	A	S	T	G	DG	P	Debut		Leigh Games	HN
Acton, Jamie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	23	1	0	0	4	2014	42	1389
Armstrong, Tom	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	67	6	45	0	180	2011	73	1340	
Barlow, Sam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	13	9	0	36	2014	51	1387	
Beswick, Bob	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	29	18	0	73	2012	123	1353	
Brierty, Ryan	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	97	26	131	38	604	2012	123	1354	
Chase, Rangji	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2016	1	1400	
Dixon, Andrew	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	25	2	5	0	20	2015	27	1396	
Emmitt, Jake	1	0	0	0	0	0	39	36	13	1	0	54	2010	75	1332	
Foster, Lewis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	2014	4	1391	
Hansen, Harrison	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2016	1	1402	
Happer, Eze	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	
Higham, Mick	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	43	18	30	0	7	120	1999	61	1153
Higson, Adam	1	0	0	0	0	0	87	24	47	0	0	188	2008	111	1310	
Hock, Gareth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	3	5	0	20	2015	17	1397	
Hopkins, Sam	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	53	56	35	0	140	2011	109	1347	
Kay, Liam	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	2	63	0	252	2014	65	1388	
Maitua, Rene	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2016	1	1403	
McKlally, Gregg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	0	83	20	372	2012	125	1350	
Moimoi, Fufui	1	0	0	0	0	0	21	5	7	1	0	30	2015	26	1395	
Pala, Mathias	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	2015	5	1399	
Paterson, Cory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	
Pownall, Jimmy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	2	56	0	224	2011	84	1346	
Reynolds, Ben	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	3	6	0	24	2015	8	1398
Richard, Marlyn	1	0	0	3	0	0	6	183	10	72	606	7	1507	2009	193	1314
Spencer, Tom	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	54	36	13	0	52	2012	90	1357	
Tonga, Willie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	
Weston, Dwayne	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2016	1	1401	
Worthington, Greg	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	8	0	32	2015	24	1394	
Total	13	4	4	3	0	0	22									

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No.	Month	Date	Venue	Opponents	KO	Res	F	A	Pos'n	Att	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Referee
1	Feb	7	a	Barley	3pm	L	22	24	8th	1678	Chase	Higson	Worthington	Amstrong T	Key	Richard 3G	Beverly T	Mormal	Higham T	Weston	Hansen	Dixon T	Emmils	Mathias	Spencer	Foster	Hopkins	Hever
2		14	a	Oldham	3pm																							
3		21	h	London Broncos	3pm																							
4		28	a	Bradford	3pm																							
5	Mar	6	h	Sheffield Eagles	3pm																							
6		13	a	Halfax	3pm																							
CC4		20		LCCRA																								
7		24	h	Swinton	8pm																							
8	Apr	3	a	Dewsbury	3pm																							
9		28	a	Workington Town	3pm																							
10		10	h	Whitehaven	3pm																							
CC5		17		LCCRS																								
11	May	1	h	Barley	3pm																							
CC6		8		LCCRB																								
13		15	a	Oldham	3pm																							
14		22	a	Swinton	3pm																							
15		28	nt	Bradford	7pm																							
16	Jun	4	a	Whitehaven	6-30pm																							
17		12	h	Featherstone Rovers	3pm																							
18		19	h	Workington Town	3pm																							
19		26	a	London Broncos	3pm																							
20	Jul	3	h	Bradford	3pm																							
21		10	h	Halfax	3pm																							
22		15	a	Sheffield Eagles	7-45pm																							
23		24	h	Dewsbury	3pm																							
24	Aug	7		TBC																								
25		14		TBC																								
26		21		TBC																								
27		28		TBC																								
28	Sep	4		TBC																								
29		11		TBC																								
30		18		TBC																								
31		25		TBC																								
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