



Our last conversation centred around his joy at the Challenge cup semi final win over the Rhinos and how he never thought that he would achieve a final at this club.

It made me cast my mind back to when I first came across him. It was in a warehouse at Heywood Metals and he was driving a forklift. The supervisor said to me 'that's that kid Reilly who plays rugby'. I remember thinking he's a bit skinny for Rugby but moved on to the business of the day. My first recollections of his playing career are a game at Hull and then despite still looking "skinny" he had a blinding game.

Later I was to join the club and get to know Paul better. The club embraced a full time status and Paul grew to be the player he is today. Put simply a player in the toughest competition who the opposition fear. A player who has played for England. A player who has the respect of everyone in the game. A strike player who never takes a backward step. A player who we see each week topping the hit up stats and metres gained. A player who never shirks the unseen work of opening fairs, helping

local charities, visiting the schools and amateur clubs and helping to spread the word about his club the Giants.

Equally a player who has not forgotten his roots. A player who at the end of every game goes to the foot of the Lawrence Batley stand to sign autographs for the children and meet his family. Even when bandaged up, with blood dripping Paul will be there.

It is a mark of the man that he has rejected opportunities to play elsewhere when the club was not going through the best of times. He is the ultimate "local lad done good" and after the challenge cup semi final win one of the main photos used is that of Paul pointing to his Giants badge on his shirt with a clenched fist in the air. It means that much to him. Every game means that much to him. That is why I sincerely hope that the supporters of our great club back him to the hilt in his testimonial year and beyond.

Richard Thewlis

Managing Director
Huddersfield Giants

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Loyal, reliable and committed

MARTYN SADLER, the editor of 'Rugby League Express', pays tribute to one of his favourite players. Has Paul Reilly really been playing professional Rugby League for ten years?

Nowadays my initial reaction on hearing that a player is due a benefit season is to lament the passing years since I first saw him.

I can't recall precisely when I first became aware of Paul as a Huddersfield player, but on checking the back copies of 'Rugby League Express' I find that he made his debut against Hull at the Boulevard on 21 July 1996, and he got a mention in the match report that appeared in the following day's issue after he came on as a 26th minute substitute for injured fullback Ben Barton in front of 3,533 spectators.

Unfortunately, on that very first occasion when Paul's name appeared in the newspaper, he was listed as 'Paul Riley'.

In fact Paul will probably regret asking me to contribute to his testimonial brochure, because I'll quote from the match report written more than ten years ago, and it isn't too flattering.

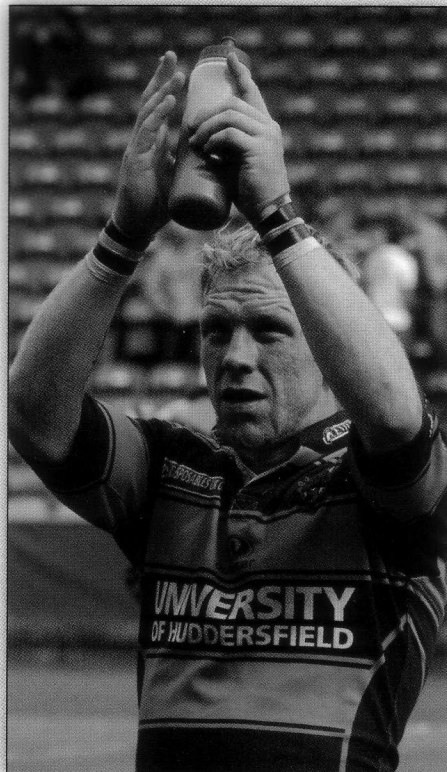
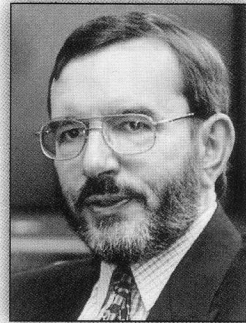
"Within ten minutes of the restart Mackey gave the considerable Huddersfield following more to cheer when he dived over in the right corner. This time Booth added a tremendous goal from the touchline to reduce Hull's lead to eight points.

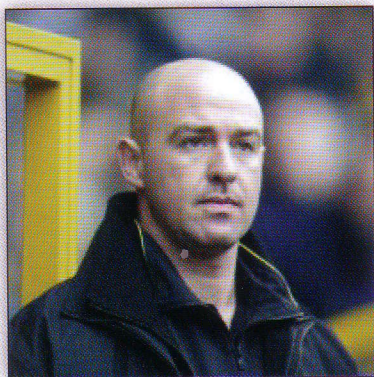
"That could have been reduced still further on the hour, but substitute Paul Riley took the wrong option when he had the chance to send winger Booth in at the left corner and was swamped by the Hull cover."

Huddersfield eventually lost that game 26-16, but since then Paul has taken plenty of correct options, and has been a stalwart in a Huddersfield team that has emerged as a leading light in Super League after many years of struggle. Success in his case has been well and truly earned.

Paul is one of my favourite players, because he plays the game hard, but with an obvious sense of enjoyment. He is the sort of player that any club needs - loyal, reliable and committed - and I hope the supporters of Huddersfield will rally round and give him a testimonial to remember.

Martyn Sadler





It is with great pleasure that I have been asked to contribute to Paul's testimonial brochure. To have played 10 years at one club is an

outstanding achievement in this day and age, especially with the freedom which the contract system allows.

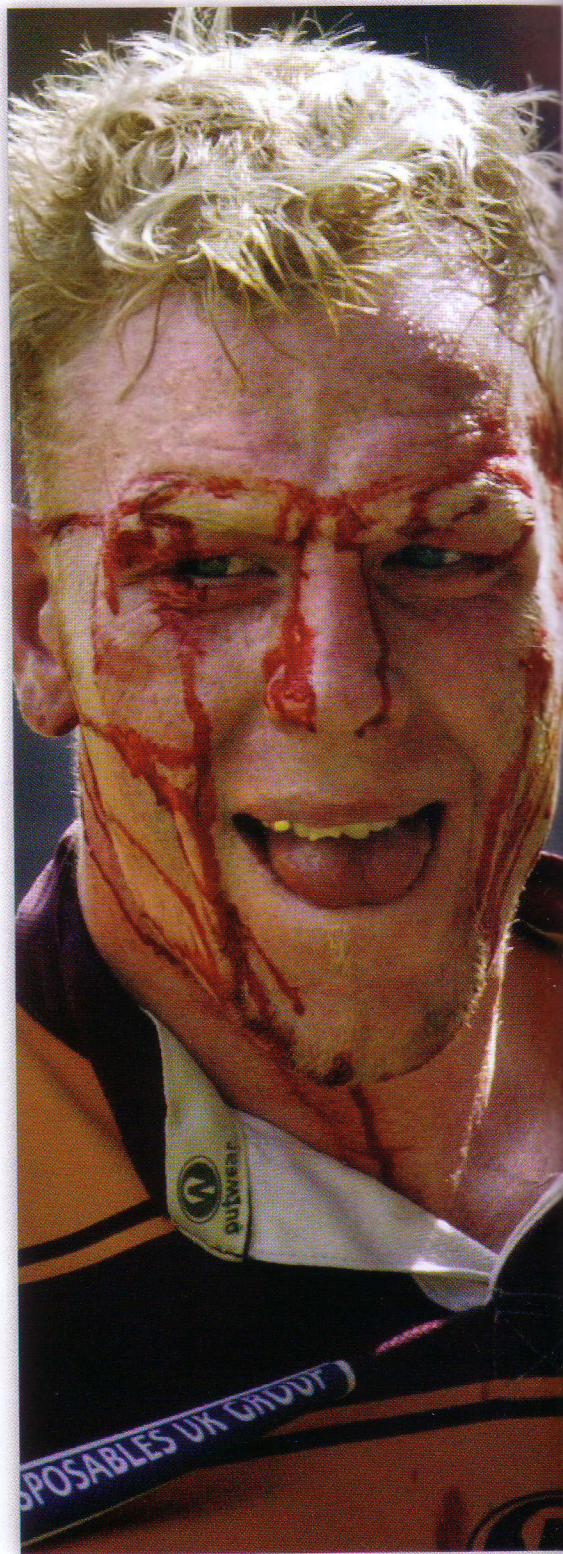
Recently Francis Cummins completed his testimonial year at Leeds and rightly received a bumper payout for his service, however I believe Paul's commitment to the Giants can't be bettered. He has been one of the best fullbacks and has stayed loyal to his beloved Claret & Gold. This is our opportunity to say thanks to him by supporting a richly deserved Testimonial.

To coach and work alongside Paul has been a pleasure. He always has a smile on his face and is a real character in training. Occasionally he has to be told to stop picking on Chris Nero! but apart from that he's been a diamond.

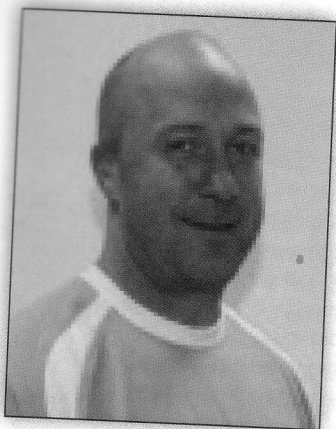
On the field he's the Ultimate Warrior, The one we all want to go to war with, and the one everyone hates to play against.

Off the field he is very popular with everyone at the Giants. We all wish him, Paula and the kids the very best for this special year for them.

Jon Sharp



Well what can be said about a man who gives ten years to one club and plays like a champion throughout .

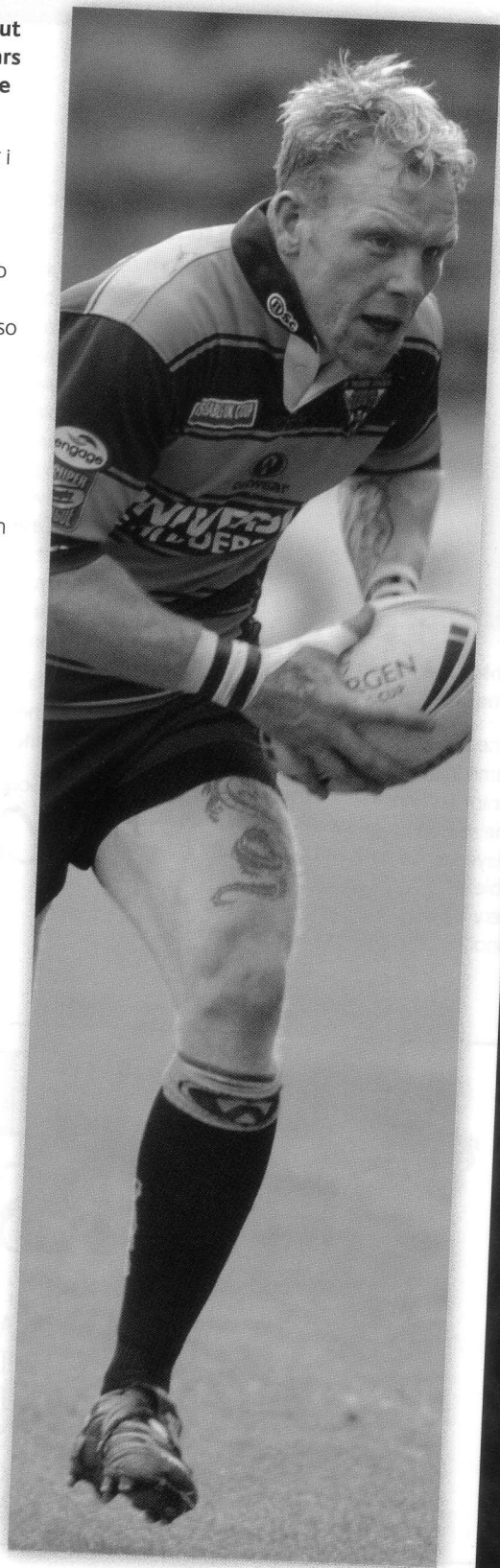


One thing i can say is that it has been a privilege to know the guy and also play and coach the man .
Though it must be said he has the strength of an ox and the heart of a

lion , always giving as much as he has got to try to get the result the team requires .
I will say that i have always got on with the man and if i could give any advice to a youngster coming into the game , i , would say look at Paul Reilly , look at the things he does as a fullback and try to do these things . why? , because you would not be far wrong to going on to be regarded as a great player and a great bloke .

I wish him every success in his year and every success in the remainder of his career , congratulations Riles , it has been my honour to know you .

Phil Veivers



Paul Reilly - 10 years a Giant



In 1993 I took over the coaching reins at Moldgreen ARFC which I had two open age sides and a full junior section. The first team was in the Conference League

which was a very strong league for amateurs.

The pre-season training was the first time I came in contact with Paul who was in the junior section, a slim tall muscular youngster. As the season progressed Paul got his chance and played at full back and on the wing. He was able to break from deep, he took the tackles very well and was becoming one of the players oppositions singled out. Paul played in the

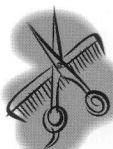
Holiday Cup Final at the McAlpine and was outstanding in a good team performance.

Off the field Paul was working for me so I had chance to try and mould him, he would listen to my advice and at times it was hard, but maturity prevailed. One match that stood out over all Paul's time at Moldgreen was when we played Beverley away, they were going for promotion at the time and we won 8 points to 5 points and although rugby is a team game everything that Paul did was excellent. Len Casey their coach, a team mate of mine when at Hull F.C said where have you found him from. At that time Paul asked my advice when he arranged to go down to train with Giants and I said go for it.

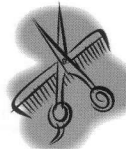
Paul has become a favourite with the fans of the Giants for his enthusiasm, skills, strength and courageousness.

Good luck Paul for your Testimonial year

Chris Forster



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Paul Reilly is Huddersfield through and through.

Few players have ever given so much to the Fartown cause than the former

Moldgreen junior. During his 10 years at the Giants, he has never failed to put his body on the line. He has suffered broken bones and countless cuts, with the blood that has poured out of his body being pure claret and gold. But has Reilly ever complained about playing through the pain for the Huddersfield?

Not on your life! His dedication to duty has been of the very highest order from day one, and its so fitting that in his testimonial season hes preparing to play in a Challenge Cup final! Reilly was in outstanding form when the Giants beat Leeds Rhinos 30-12 in the semi-final at Bradford on Sunday, July 30 in what at this stage is the highlight of his career.

And it is a career that has had its fair share of ups and downs. Reilly signed for Huddersfield from Moldgreen as an 18 year old and made his debut as a substitute in a 26-16 defeat against Hull in the old second division at the Boulevard on July 21, 1996.

A week later he started at full-back and claimed the man-of-the-match award in a 20-14 home defeat to Widnes, and Reillys Huddersfield career was under way. Since then he has made over 150 firstteam appearances, with his testimonial announced in the same weekend he scored his first Super League hat trick in last seasons 24-16 victory over Wigan at the Galpharm. Reilly confidence in 2005 was certainly sky high after a memorable season the year before. He did

suffer the mid-season disappointment of being the Huddersfield side beaten by St Helens in Huddersfields first Challenge Cup semi-final appearance for 33 years. But he ended the year being named man-of-the-match as Englan beat Ireland in the final of the European Nations Cup. His medal is very fondly cherished. And so, too, was the Northern Ford Premiership winners medal he picked up in 2002.

Unfortunately, he missed the NFP Grand Final when the Giants beat Leigh to reclaim their place back in Super League. A broken leg in a League game against Dewsbury made sure of that. But he still played in enough games earlier in the year to pick up the individual memento. More importantly, however, the win put the Giants back in Super League, where they have been ever since. And its fitting that in his testimonial year, a player as committed and dedicated as Reilly is savouring the occasion in the topflight of British rugby league and on the back of a Challenge Cup final appearance!

Chris Roberts



Paul Reilly Testimonial Brochure



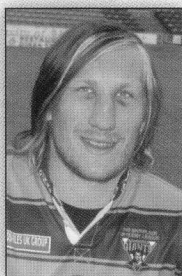
Paul is a great club man and a good friend.

I am honoured to be playing along side him for his testimonial year and he is very deserving of this recognition given the loyalty he has shown to the Giants over the past ten years.

The courage Paul shows on the field is inspirational and does not go unnoticed by his team mates.

I wish Paul and his family all the very best in the future.

Brad Drew



Guts and determination, probably the words most associated with Paul Reilly, with these two reilly has become one of the best players of which have played in the famous claret and gold.

Within the six years i have been at the giants, i have come to know reilly and his great family very well. I would love

to say Reilly is a model player, always on the park doing extra training, always in the gym getting fit and always helping Sharpy out with coaching philosophies, but this is not exactly the case. Chances are he will be the last one to training and first one away, far to sore to go anywhere near the gym and help out with coaching? forget it! theres more chance of him crying on his wedding day.

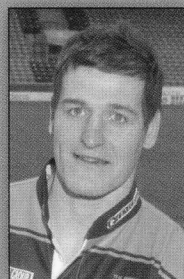
Some might see this as a lack of comitment but with six children at home he must be one of the most comitted people I know, Any spare time is speant at home looking after kids, with this in mind you can properly understand his firey on field displays, with a few late nights and a poorly baby you are guarenteed a man of the match performance and a few punches.

On the field is where he comes in to his own. Watching Reilly carry the ball back off our own line can be one of the best bits of the game to watch,

Running in to three players head first with no fear and at full pelt someone is going flat on their back.. Then comes the wrestle stud up with two tacklers discreetly nudging the oppositions face with the back of his head .Trying as hard as he can not to hit the ground and conceed the tackle. But with a quick spin he is back on his way only to have his head taken off by a tiring prop. But what goes around comes around i think thats his moto .Needless to say im glad i play on the same side.

Nobody deserves this testimonial more than reilly, after putting his body on the line like he has for ten years. Reilly is not only a great player but also a great friend, all the best mate you've earnt it.

Big Earl



It's been an absolute pleasure to play with Paul for the last 3 years.

Off the field he's a quiet and reserved, but when he steps on the field he's like a raging bull. He has my upmost respect and full credit to him for reaching his testimonial.

Stuart Jones

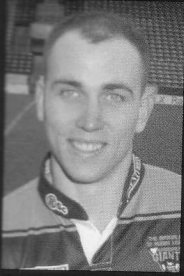


What a achievement .1 years at one club , Well done m8 .

It's been an honour to play in the same team as you. You always put your body on the line for the team and i respect you 100% i wish you all the best .hope you have a good year.

Good luck for the future from team mate.

Paul March



When I first meet Paul in 2002 the first impression I got was "this bloke is a lunatic" and I wasn't far off (only joking).

Paul is a totally different person away from the Rugby pitch as he is on it (thank God). I am not saying he is an angel, far from it, but unlike when he is on the pitch playing, he doesn't feel the

urge to start fighting with anyone in the near vicinity (most of the time). Paul wears his heart on his sleeve on and off the pitch and although it has got him into trouble it is what makes him the great bloke he is. He has been a good friend over the time I have know him and I would like wish him and his family all the best for his testimonial year and beyond.

Jim Gannon



It is an absolute honor and pleasure to be asked to write a piece for Paul's testimonial brochure.

I have had the pleasure of training and playing alongside Paul since December last year, and what I have learned about this man in that short amount of time, has left me scarred,

twisted and in desperate need of mental counseling (only joking). But seriously the big fella upstairs definitely broke the mould when he created the wonder we have all come to love and cherish, known as Paul Reilly (Hal).

Riles has a quietly spoken demeanor, but you know when he does say something (and as long as he's not taking the piss out of Chris Nero) it's important and you should pay attention. He has a reputation for being one of the hard men of Super league and as far as I knew from my time at the Bulls if there was any altercation when playing against the Giants, and Riles was in it, that meant it was your time to get the hell out.

The Giants are also the first team I know of that have their fullback as their enforcer (usually a front rower) but as soon as you get to know Riles as a person you realize why. He is a man who lives by his own strict code of ethics and is the first player to come to his team mates rescue and support.

Riles and I are having a running argument as to whom owns the rights to 'the spinning out of defenders tackles' and who is the ultimate master of that offensive technique. Apparently he has applied to the British Patent Office to have the move trademarked under the name Riley (ain't he sad!).

He is a loving father and obviously an animal lover as he came to the rescue of three guinea

pigs that were about to become dinner to my cats. So he helped in three ways

1. getting some play pets for his kids
2. saving 3 cute little guinea pigs
3. saving me from giving shifty answers to the R.S.P.C.A.

Ten years service and loyalty to the Giants is a great achievement and I hope everyone reading this will join me in helping Paul to a very successful testimonial season.

Good on ya Riles, good luck Bro!

Robbie Paul

One of the great things about playing rugby is all of the great people you meet! but occasionally you come across the odd person who you don't really like and unfortunately Paul Reilly fits into that category.

Sometimes as in life we all do things that are wrong and sometimes even a little embarrassing but the best thing about being in a team sport is that you have all your team mates around to support you and pick you up when your down. Well that is apart from Riles, for some unknown reason Riles will be the first to remind me if i've ever said or done something that wasn't quite right. Ok Riles it was funny the first time but not 50 times.

Then there's the games we play in training, well of course Riles bait's me every single time, with it very nearly resulting in a minor scuffle although Riles is usually quick to back down as he's seen me in action going toe to toe with David Solomona at Belle Vue in 2005 and as we all know I hit him with a flurry of great punches, just as the ref was about to give me the fight on a point's decision Mr Solomona got very lucky and dropped me like a sack of potatoes and yes I am reminded by Riles at least 50 times in the lead up to every Wakefield game!!!

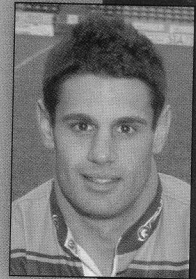
I could go on for a long time about the things I don't like about Riles but i suppose I better say, as much as it kill's me, and that is that Riles is one of the best blokes I've ever played with both as a person and as a player he is just an amazing runner with the ball in his hand's and I would go into trenches with him any day!!! He is also a very generous and helpfull person that would do anything for you without a bother.

Congratulation on your testimonial mate you deserve it!!

I just wish you would stop crying before every game cause sometimes it put's me off my game.

And also if you weren't there when the David Solomona incident occurred the fight lasted 2 seconds, 2 punches none from me and I still don't have use of my right nostrill!!!

Chris Nero



Paul Reilly - 10 years a Giant



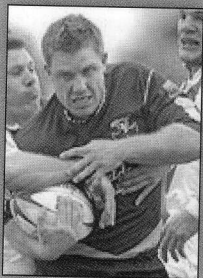
Having known Paul for more than six years I can't think of any player I've played with or against that has more

bottle than Paul.

Paul has worn his heart on his sleeve in every game i.v.e played with him and watched him play in and you cant say that about everyone.I think it is so fitting that the Giants have got the Challenge Cup Final in Pauls testimonial year and i for one will have a huge smile on my face when Paul runs out on that great day.

All the best Paul and Paula and of course all the Brady Bunch

Darren 'Rocky' Turner

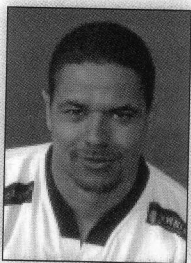


During my stay at the Giants I was very fortunate to play with some wonderful blokes.

In my opinion, Paul Reilly was among the best of them. To say Riles is a fierce competitor would be to understate his passion for the game and the Giants. He is a tremendously

gifted athlete. He has loads of courage and the rare ability to inspire those around him. Riles has been a loyal servant to the Giants and I wish him every success for the future.

Jarrold O'Doherty



I met Paul when I came to play for Moldgreen ARLFC at the age of 13.

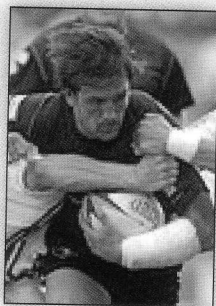
He looked a lot different then.a small strawberry blond(GINGER) boy who was as tough as ever. He grew up to become Mr Claret and Gold. It takes a lot from a player to stay at one club for ten years when there are

other clubs interested.

He showed a lot of loyalty to Fartown when they were relegated as did a lot of the boys who was in that team but Paul did have chances to go but never. That just shows how much he loves the club. I came back to Fartown in 2002 to play with him again and it was one of the best times in my career.

So I hope Paul gets all the support he can in his testimonial year because if anybody deserves it he does.

Marcus St Hilaire



Hello, Huddersfield Giants, fans, players and all associated.

I take great pleasure in writing a few words in recognition of one of its most notable players and one who has certainly left an impression on my days

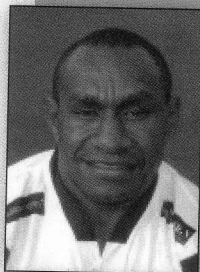
as a rugby player. Not just for his adornment of body art, his flash gold jewellery or his genuine kind heartedness.

There are not enough words to commend a man of this calibre. I will attempt to deliver in one paragraph what is essentially the aim of this article and that is his prowess on the football field and the great honour of attaining a testimonial in one of the most physically enduring games there is, let alone one that is played at the same willingness and aggression that Paul so often displayed.

Willingness to put his body on the line more times than i can remember, both in attack and defence. The knowing that when the opposition decide to kick the ball, Paul will undoubtedly be the first there to defuse the play. It would be remiss of me not to mention his ability to blind himself. (by welders flash) the day befor a semi final clash with St Helens in the 2004 Challenge Cup. Which he played mind you, accompanied with enlarged pupils and a splitting migraine. He must have thought we were playing in an Artic summer with the sun so bright.

Paul has left me many fond memories of playing and living in Huddersfield. I wish him and his family all the very best for this season and beyond. Congratulations mate. See you soon.

Julian Bailey



What can I say about Paul, he's the toughest competitor on the field and has always given 110 % for the Huddersfield Giants.

A great person and friend on and off the field. Paul deserves his testimonial to be a great success this year, I'm really

pleased for him, I hope he has a successful career and all the best in his future mate. It was a great pleasure to play alongside you.

Stanley Gene

WHERE IT ALL STARTED - MOLDGREEN RLFC



When Paul first came to Moldgreen, I remember him as a scrawny, wet behind the ears kid with bags of raw talent.

It soon became obvious that he would go a long way in the game, and the rest as they say is history. I would like to concentrate on what I believe are Paul's biggest attributes and that is his commitment and loyalty to stand by a cause he believes in. Paul has shown this to both Huddersfield Giants and Moldgreen, with Huddersfield he has stood by the Club through some very difficult years even though other clubs were making him good offers to move on. When Huddersfield lift the Challenge Cup on the 26th

August, no-one will deserve it more than Paul. With Moldgreen it was exactly the same, when we were going through some very bad years Paul was one of the few people who stood by our club. Three years ago Paul agreed to come down and coach Moldgreen at a time when we had gone three seasons and won only one league fixture. Even though it was difficult because of his commitment to Huddersfield, Paul felt he had a loyalty to his amateur club where he started and wanted to give something back. The first half of that season we only won two games but the work Paul had put in was starting to pay dividends and in the second half of the season, we only lost two. The following season Paul and myself convinced his good friend Tim Jones to come to the Club along with Neil

Thornton, he took over the coaching duties allowing Paul to concentrate fully on playing for Huddersfield. Paul still has an input at Moldgreen and the structures he started to put in place are now paying off. Season 2004/5 we won the Third division Championship and followed that up in Season 2005/6 by gaining promotion from the second division. We all now have the opportunity to thank Paul for commitment and loyalty by supporting his testimonial. Very few sportsmen stay at a club for 10 years, so come on everybody, let's get

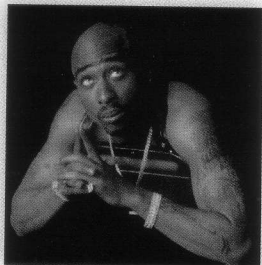
behind Paul and give him a great year to remember. I also know that when Paul no longer pulls on the famous Claret & Gold his loyalty to Moldgreen will see him once again, injuries permitting, pull on the Green & Gold of Moldgreen.

Brian Tracey

Team Manager
Moldgreen A.R.L.F.C.



QUESTION & ANSWERS



1. How do you prepare for a game?

I try and stick to the same things before every game;

music has to be the main I always listen to my favourite Tupac albums.

2. Apart from Rugby are you interested in other sports?

Got to say I love all sports but as an Everton supporter I have to say I love to watch and listen to their games as much as possible.



3. What is the greatest moment of your life out of Rugby?

Birth of all the kids and meeting Paula (will be in good books now)

4. If you could have any car what would this be?

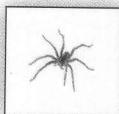
This one is easy, she is parked at the side of my house in the garden ready to be done up it's a Renault 5 GT Turbo (any offers of help would be great thanks)



5. Who in Rugby have you looked up to?

Different people for different reasons. Steve McNamara was great to play with and was someone who always was there to talk to. Rocky Turner because as long as

I've known him he never pulled out of anything in the game and Marcus St. Hilaire and Eorl Crabtree who have been great friends for a long time.



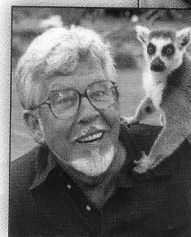
6. Are there any phobias you have?

Hate to say I'm scared of anything but spiders are the worst thing god

created (Chris Nero's smile freaks me out as well).

7. If you had a dinner with anyone past and present there who would they be?

Hmmm, the only two people I know funnier than me are Peter Kay and Ricky Gervais so them for deffo. Tupac Shakur and Rolf Harris the best and only good thing I can think of that has come from downunder. Why no women you may ask the reason being



Paula will be reading this, plus why would I want other women to a dinner.

8. Finally if you won the lottery what would you buy?

There are 5 things I can think of:

1. A farm house with loads of land
2. Be Ken Davys sidekick
3. Do up my Renault 5
4. Get some horses
5. Help family out with buying them a lucky dip each to see if they're as lucky as I was.

