

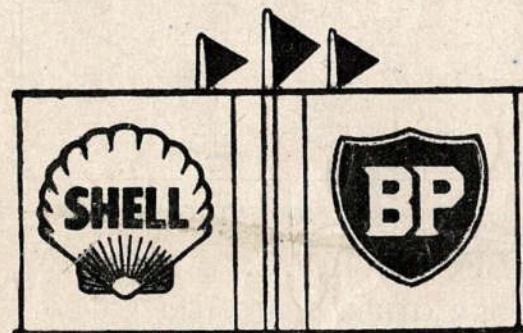
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Nº 365

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 1955. *Kick-off at 2-30 p.m.*

OLD FRIENDS, OLD FOES.

Today's Visit of Oldham will revive many memories.

There is no more popular a fixture on the season's card than the annual visit of our old friends from Oldham. They assisted to found the Northern Union as long ago as 1895-96. We joined them as members the following season, since when there has never been a break in the annual meetings. They are invariably keen but always sporting, and to-day's contest can be guaranteed to come up to standard, although, judged by performances, they appear to possess a much stronger side than ourselves.

It is for us to prove that it is not impossible for a team to occupy the 20th position in the Championship table yet defeat opponents who occupy the 8th place and have five successive victories to their credit. Don't forget that we are the only team that has defeated St. Helens in a League match this season.

Last season the honours were even. We were successful on an August evening by 11—2 at Weaste, but we were the losers at Watersheddings in a match that had to be re-arranged on account of frost. We failed to register a point. They kicked three goals and scored seven tries (27 pts.).

Of the 20 matches we have played since the war, our victories total six against ten, the other four being drawn, as the following record shows:—

1945-46.	Away	Lost	2-1-7	2-2-10
	Home	Lost	1-2-8	5-5-25

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1946-57.	Home	Lost	1-1-5	1-4-14
	Away	Lost	0-2-6	2-4-16
1947-48.	Away	Lost	0-0-0	4-6-26
	Home	Won	0-3-9	0-0-0
1948-49.	Home	Won	4-4-20	4-1-9
	Away	Draw	1-0-2	1-0-2
1949-50.	Home	Won	1-3-11	1-0-2
	Away	Won	1-2-8	1-1-5
1950-51.	Away	Lost	2-2-10	2-4-16
	Home	Won	3-2-12	3-1-9
1951-52.	Home	Lost	1-1-5	5-3-19
	Away	Draw	3-1-9	3-1-9
1952-53.	Away	Lost	0-1-3	7-6-32
	Home	Lost	2-0-4	1-2-8
1953-54.	Home	Draw	4-1-11	4-1-11
	Away	Draw	1-0-2	1-0-2
1954-55.	Home	Won	4-1-11	1-0-2
	Away	Lost	0-0-0	3-7-27

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PAGE TWO

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Unfortunately, the claims of to-morrow's match with France in Paris robs the game of that outstanding personality Alan Davies, who is pre-eminent as a centre three-quarter and well deserving of the honour conferred upon him of being chosen for the first time to play for Great Britain, not only against France, but in next Saturday's third and final Test Match against New Zealand at Leeds.

Another star we will miss is Terry O'Grady, who had the misfortune to fracture an ankle while playing in one of the I.T.V. Competition matches in London. But the absence of these star players does not greatly impair Oldham's power.

Frank Stirrup, now playing full-back, and Jack Rogers once wore our red jersey; Bryn Goldswain has been an outstanding personality in the team for several years; and we have recently been reminded of the skill of Frank Pitchford and Frank Daley at half-back by the brilliance of their performance against Wigan. We have got to be on our mettle to win.

THOM'S CASTILE SOAP

GOES
TWICE
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PAGE THREE

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I APPEAL!

**A Personal Letter from Councillor Tom Mellor
to all Salford Citizens.**

I accepted appointment to the Board of Directors with one object in view: To assist in restoring the past glories of the Salford Football Club.

Since then I have been elected Chairman and the acceptance of this high office means that I must strive with even greater energy to attain what I set out to achieve.

You will, I am sure, realise the magnitude of the task, which cannot solely be undertaken by myself and my fellow directors. Success depends on the co-operation of everyone in Salford with the welfare of our famous club at heart.

There is no need for me to go into the facts and figures to explain the reason why I appeal to everyone who may read this letter to do their utmost to increase the patronage of our matches.

I appreciate the loyal support of the never-faltering 3,000; but this is insufficient. We want at least three times as many as a minimum to keep the club in a healthy financial state, and still more if the capital for increased investment in new players is to be found.

My aim is to see Salford bring back the trophies just as often as they did in those glorious years before the war. I want, with your help, to build up a team that can put Salford back on the Rugby League map and, when funds permit, to make The Willows more accommodative. It is a long-term policy and probably an idealist view, but if you don't attempt anything you achieve nothing.

Can I count on your support? This time of the year may not be ideal for outdoor sport, but it so happens that three of our best fixtures of the season have been allocated to us during the next few weeks. Oldham are our visitors today; on Christmas Eve, Warrington, the League Champions, are our guests; and on Boxing Day we meet Wigan. These matches give you a glorious opportunity of inviting your friends to come and see Rugby at its best. Please do all you can.

TOM MELLOR (Chairman).

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NEWS, COMMENT, CHAT

Today's visitors, Oldham, are very welcome and need no introduction from us because we are sure everybody acknowledges them as one of the finest teams playing Rugby League football today. They may not have won many honours over recent years but on their day they are exponents of classical open Rugby, and that is what we are all willing to pay to see. Our regret is that there are not more like them. We are looking forward to a very good game today, especially in view of our own club's fine performance against the New Zealanders in the last home game.

We feel sure everybody enjoyed this game especially the first 70 minutes of it! And if this is the way our boys play when they know the cameras are on them we think it is up to the Board to invite the B.B.C. to more of their matches—with the Rugby League Council's permission of course. We do not think there is any truth in the rumour that Grainger is in the running for the T.V. Sports Personality Prize although his try against the Kiwis in the first minute of the second half was a beauty!

Today is the last occasion for Dai Moses's many admirers to show their appreciation of his long and loyal service on the club's behalf in a tangible way. The Oldham players have graciously accepted our invitation to go round at half-time to collect towards this great player's testimonial and we are sure there will be a very generous response from everybody.

We would not like to end today's article without wishing Director Billy Williams every success in his new task. We know it is only a temporary appointment and that he is doing it in an honorary capacity; nevertheless, we feel sure he will bring to it all the enthusiasm and ability that he used to put into his play when he donned a red jersey in the not too distant past. Good luck, Billy, and we hope your immediate successor will prove half as popular as you have been at the Willows.

ENROL AS A MEMBER AT THE REFRESHMENT HUT

BEFORE & AFTER THE MATCH

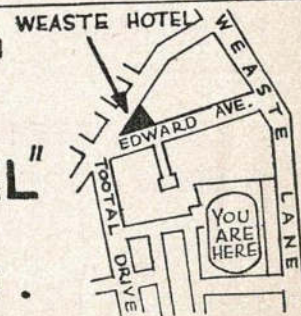
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We have no doubt that the appointment of Mr. Billy Williams, our ex-captain and International, as Manager will be a very popular appointment, and one must admire his generosity and sincerity to the Club in taking on this duty in an honorary capacity.

Gus Risman.—Can it be presumed "wishful thinking" that Gus Risman would again be associated with the Club, following the remarks which appeared in our Programme of 26th November, 1955. This statement did not emanate from the Board of Directors and a denial has already been made in the general Press. We are however pleased to learn that Gus is making a steady recovery from his recent illness.

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Dai Moses Testimonial. The Directors wish to place on record their appreciation of the excellent service given by this player in the ten years he has been with the Club, and this being the final collection for his Testimonial, call upon supporters to give as generously as possible.

Wembley Final (April 1956).—The Club cannot accept any applications for this match after the Christmas fixtures, and those wishing to order tickets should send applications direct to the Registered Offices, Willows Road, Weaste, not later than 27th December, 1955. Prices—Stands 25/0, 12/6, 10/6, 6/6, and Ground tickets 3/0.

New Zealand Match.—The Directors acknowledge with thanks the postal order for 2/6 from "Hornets Supporter" who watched the game on Television and expressed his thanks for its quality, hence his donation, which is esteemed.

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CLUB GOSSIP.

We are confident that the advice our director and former captain, Billy Williams, will be able to give to the players in his honorary capacity of team manager will be of inestimable value and will soon show results.

We have no £6,000 to spare on running after such players as Cliff Morgan. It is doubtful whether we would if we had the capital to invest. You cannot put all your eggs in one basket, talented a player as Morgan might be.

Our policy—for the present, at all events—is to give every opportunity to young players, and for that purpose we are running a third team. This will enable us to accommodate more trialists. In last week's "A" team there were no fewer than seven such players under observation.

With the Cup-ties ahead and the closing date of registering players February 1st, we, like many other clubs, are putting all we know and all we possess into strengthening the team. A successful run in Cup-ties has removed many a club's overdraft.

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Fixture List and Results

FIRST TEAM

		Result:	
	F.	A.	
1955.			
Aug. 13—Swinton	A. 10	8	
20—Doncaster	H. 20	18	
22—Workington ...	A. 17	31	
27—Widnes	H. 8	23	
(Lancs. Cup)			
31—St. Helens	H. 11	10	
Sept. 3—Keighley	A. 11	13	
8—Barrow	A. 13	30	
10—Hull K.R.	H. 10	17	
17—Liverpool C. ...	A. 20	9	
24—Keighley	H. 8	10	
Oct. 1—Doncaster	A. 13	13	
8—Blackpool B. ...	A. 15	13	
15—Whitehaven ...	H. 16	6	
22—Hull K.R.	A. 9	13	
29—Leigh	H. 12	21	
Nov. 5—Whitehaven ...	A. 6	2	
12—Dewsbury	H. 24	5	
19—Belle Vue R. ...	A. —	—	
26—New Zealand...	H. 5	21	
Dec. 3—Widnes	A. 7	8	
10—Oldham	H. —	—	
17—Oldham	A. —	—	
24—Warrington ...	H. —	—	
26—Wigan	H. —	—	
27—Rochdale H. ...	A. —	—	
31—Belle Vue R. ...	H. —	—	
1956.			
Jan. 2—Swinton	A. —	—	
7—St. Helens	A. —	—	
14—Blackpool B. ...	H. —	—	
21—Workington ...	H. —	—	
28—			
Feb. 4—Rochdale H. ...	H. —	—	
11—R.L. Cup 1st Rd.			
18—Leigh	A. —	—	
25—Liverpool C. ...	H. —	—	
Mar. 3—R.L. Cup 2nd Rd.			
10—			
17—Warrington ...	A. —	—	
24—Dewsbury	A. —	—	
30—			
31—Swinton	H. —	—	
April 2—Wigan	A. —	—	
7—Barrow	H. —	—	
14—Widnes	H. —	—	

"A" TEAM

		Result:	
	F.	A.	
1955.			
Aug. 20—Warrington ...	A. 13	31	
23—Rochdale H. ...	A. 20	26	
(L.C.C.S.)			
27—			
Sept. 3—Rochdale H. ...	H. 13	13	
(L.C.C.S.)			
10—Whitehaven ...	A. 2	8	
17—			
24—Workington ...	A. 5	11	
Oct. 1—Swinton	H. 17	24	
8—Liverpool C. ...	H. 40	19	
15—Swinton	A. —	—	
22—Barrow	H. 7	17	
29—Leigh	A. 8	8	
Nov. 5—Whitehaven ...	H. 25	11	
12—			
19—			
26—			
Dec. 3—Widnes	H. 15	8	
10—Oldham	A. —	—	
17—Oldham	H. —	—	
24—			
26—Wigan	A. —	—	
27—Rochdale H. ...	H. —	—	
31—			
1956.			
Jan. 2—			
7—St. Helens	H. —	—	
14—Blackpool B. ...	A. —	—	
21—			
28—Workington ...	H. —	—	
Feb. 4—Rochdale H. ...	A. —	—	
11—			
18—Leigh	H. —	—	
25—Liverpool C. ...	A. —	—	
Mar. 3—St. Helens	A. —	—	
10—			
17—Warrington ...	H. —	—	
24—Blackpool B. ...	H. —	—	
30—			
31—			
April 2—Wigan	H. —	—	
7—Barrow	A. —	—	
14—Widnes	A. —	—	



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