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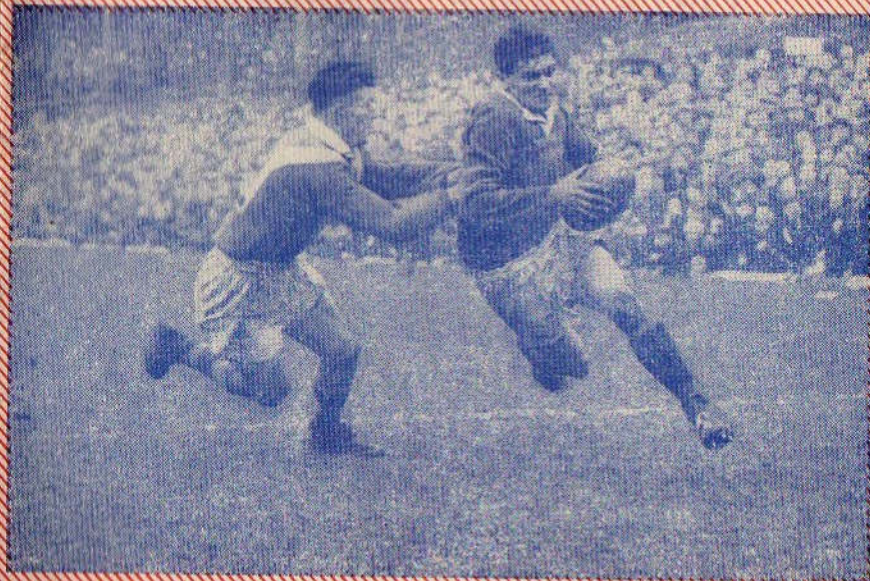
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WAKEFIELD TRINITY R.L.F.C

DRAW
12-12

Rugby
League
Football

Aug 24. 1957



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Belle Vue Ground
Wakefield Tel. 2445

Home Address :

Pinderfields House
7 Eastmoor Road
Wakefield Tel. 4189

27th Season

No. 2

Saturday, 24th Aug. 1957

Northern Rugby Football League

TRINITY v. OLDHAM



THIS AFTERNOON'S GAME

Trinity could scarcely have had two more strenuous opening home fixtures than they have had this season, having both last season's league finalists at Belle Vue—and both in the same week! On Wednesday evening we played Hull and as these notes had to be compiled before the result of that clash was known we are not

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by

J. TOWNEND

PHONE 3119 PHONE

115 Doncaster Road, Belle Vue, Wakefield

able to comment on our display that evening. This afternoon we have much pleasure in welcoming reigning Champions Oldham, and we can, therefore, be assured of a most attractive exhibition of football played in the very best spirits of the game.

Visitors from over the Pennines are always very welcome guests here at Belle Vue, and with Oldham there is always added pleasure for there are many ties between us especially with regard to Schoolboy football. A further mention of this happy association appears later in the programme.

Our last season's meetings with Oldham are still quite vivid with us at Wakefield, for although Oldham played really powerful football consistently throughout last term and, in fact, lost only five games, Trinity came so near to upsetting them. With a little luck and a little better finishing power Trinity could well have gained a "double" over them. At Watersheddings in September the score stood at 19-2 in Oldham's favour ten minutes

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from the close. In an amazing finishing spell, Trinity scored three tries (Mortimer adding two goals and failing by inches with the third) and almost scored a fourth try when Kenny Rollin was pulled down near the line when in full cry. Goal-kicking was the deciding factor in a game which gave Oldham a 19-15 win—but what excitement was packed into those last ten minutes. Our side on that occasion contained no recognised hooker and was as follows:

F. Mortimer; Froggett, A. Mortimer, Bell, Cooper; Holliday, Rollin; Harrison, Jaques, Haigh, Kelly, Armstead, Chamberlain.

Early in December when Oldham came here for the return game, we were sorry that the Swinton Test deprived us of seeing such Oldham "regulars" as Davies, Little and Turner. The visitors, however, gained a 20-18 victory over us, goal-kicks once again being the deciding factor. Our side showed many changes

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Brighouse	2/7	Halifax	3/6	Rochdale	6/4
Castleford	1/4	Huddersfield	2/4	York	4/6

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from that which played at Watersheddings and was as follows:
Wilkins; Smith, Holliday, Fox, Houlden; Rollin, Bullock;
Harrison, Bridges, Haigh, Armstead, Kelly, Chamberlain.

If this afternoon's meeting with Oldham can give as much pleasure and provide as many thrills as those most recent fixtures between our two sides, we are assured of some grand footballing entertainment of the highest standard today.

SPOTLIGHT ON OLDHAM

Oldham's ground at Watersheddings was a cricket ground when the Club took over, but over the years it has been made into a Rugby League ground that provides some of the best accommodation for spectators in the league, with three sides of the ground covered. Oldham, who formerly played on the Clarksfield ground, played their first game at Watersheddings on 28th September, 1889, against Swinton. Some important representative games have been staged at Oldham including the 1915 Northern Union Challenge Cup final (Huddersfield v. St. Helen's), the 1927 Lancashire Cup final (Swinton and Wigan) and the 1928 League Championship final (Featherstone R. and Swinton).

Oldham were the first Lancashire side to hold the R.L. Challenge Cup when they defeated Hunslet by 19pts. to 9. They also held the trophy in 1925 and 1927 and were defeated finalists in 1907, 1912, 1924 and 1926. Their first Championship title was

PLAYER'S RECORDS (FIRST TEAM)

1957-8 Season					Full Totals			
Full-backs :	App.	G.	T.	Pts.	App.	G.	T.	Pts.
E. Lockwood	2	0	0	0	78	0	21	63
Three-quarters :								
F. Smith	1	0	0	0	38	0	30	90
A. Houlden	1	0	0	0	28	13	17	77
D. Metcalfe	2	0	3	9	6	0	4	12
F. Mortimer	2	8	1	19	145	357	27	795
E. Cooper	2	0	1	3	122	0	76	228
Half-backs :								
K. Holliday	2	0	1	3	146	0	32	96
K. Rollin	2	0	1	3	68	0	26	78
Forwards :								
D. Harrison	2	0	0	0	105	0	16	48
S. J. Shaw	2	0	1	3	158	0	28	84
R. Coverdale	2	0	0	0	18	0	0	0
F. Haigh	2	0	0	0	52	0	7	21
A. Firth	2	0	2	6	52	0	21	63
L. Chamberlain	2	0	1	3	26	0	6	18

gained in 1904-5 season and since then they have held the honour on three occasions including last season. They have been runners-up for the title on five occasions. In the County competitions, Oldham were the first-ever Lancashire League winners—1907-8—and have won the title three times since then, including last season. The Lancashire Cup has been Oldham's six times and they are the present holders, from eleven final appearances.

Their record then is an illustrious one and, although they have experienced the hard times, too, at Oldham, once again they rank with the best in the league, having few equals in the art of open football. For the benefit of the Rugby League game in general, and in Oldham particularly, may it stay that way for many more seasons.

CHARITY MATCH THRILL



Smith (Featherstone) dives on the ball and prevents Trinity's loose forward LES CHAMBERLAIN from snatching a try during the Bullock Cup match here at Belle Vue

Photo. by kind permission of the "Wakefield Express"

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PROGRAMME SALES

A problem which faces the Programme Committee prior to each home game is estimating the number of programmes which will be required on the match day. Past sales figures for corresponding games, Trinity's play at that time, the drawing power of the opposition and attractive matches on neighbouring grounds which could affect the "floating thousands" are all factors which are used to assess the probable match-day attendance which governs the programme estimate. However, it is sometimes found that all these factors are rendered useless on the occasions that bad weather and other causes (which are often so difficult to define) result in the "gate" failing to come up to expectations which, of course, reflects itself in the programme sales and upsets all prior calculations.

Last season's sales figures were, however, very satisfactory

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and the following details may be of interest—especially to our advertisers who always welcome news of circulation. In all 68,500 programmes were ordered and of these 61,094 were sold. These figures do not include the postponed Leeds fixtures on Boxing Day when the programmes remained unopened. It will be remembered that the attendance for the Hull K.R. fixture was ruined by fog and only 217 programmes were sold that afternoon. The largest sales last season were as follows:

R.L. Cup games: York	4,626	Blackpool B. ...	4,230
Yorks. Cup games: Halifax	3,968	Huddersfield ...	3,450
League games: Leeds	3,470	Featherstone R.	3,420

1956-7 season was overall a most satisfactory one with regard to programmes and although more copies per attendance were sold than ever before, the Programme Committee and sellers are all set to improve upon those figures. To do that, of course, they need help—YOUR help by buying a programme on each of your visits to Belle Vue. Remember that if you should be unable to

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obtain a copy outside the ground, there may still be some available at the Programme Kiosk which is situated under the scoreboard at the Doncaster Road end of the ground.

RUGBY LEAGUE STRENGTH,

—and weakness. In these columns we have frequently referred to the general shortage of players good enough to maintain Rugby League football at necessary standards. To point out the obvious may seem to be a waste of time and space, but if by doing so we can emphasize an unsatisfactory situation we may be taking useful steps in getting action with regard to it.

We have especially noted one usual concomitant of such circumstances, the tendency of the stronger clubs to feed upon the weaker by buying from them their outstanding players, the very ones who have the ability to help the less fortunate sides in their struggle for existence.

One is reminded of the pike in Walton Hall Lake which, according to chronicler James Burnley, was reported to have devoured all his ancestors and posterity. Only when bereft of company did he decide to show his unselfishness—and swallowed himself.

It appears to us that there is, in such circumstances, little else left for the survivor to do.

So far as our Rugby League world is concerned, a situation which can develop slowly and almost furtively should be recognised immediately and dealt with quickly.

The real assets of a club are its players. Unless greater attention is paid to developing them, unless more determined

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Full back

1 Lockwood E.

Three-quarter backs

2 Houlden

3 Metcalfe

4 Mortimer F.

5 Cooper

Half backs

6 Holliday

7 Rollin

Front row forwards

8 Harrison

9 Shaw

10 Coverdale

Second row forwards

11 Haigh

12 Firth

Loose forward

14 Chamberlain

Referee : F. Smith (Barrow)



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Full back

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Three-quarter backs

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4 Aynes

5 Etty

Half backs

6 Stirrup

7 Pitchford

Front row forwards

8 Jackson

9 Keith

10 Vines

Second row forwards

11 Duffey

12 Little

Loose forward

13 Turner

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efforts are made, particularly in our own Amateur game, it seems likely that this process of enriching the rich (!) by further impoverishment of the poor will be continued.

Not only do we need more juniors, but more training grounds, facilities for bringing about higher standards of play in the youngsters we have as well as for ever-widening opportunities for others to come along.

So far as Trinity are concerned we have for many years been engaged in developing our own Juniors. In this field we have noted that others have shown tendencies to try to enrich themselves from our nurseries.

Squire Waterton's pike is dead, but apparently its ghost flourishes fairly freely, certainly beyond its previous watery limits. The resolution put forward at the recent R.L. Annual Meeting on behalf of Trinity, Hunslet and Featherstone could be regarded as a first effort to lay that ghost. We were not able to bring this matter to a vote, but we shall be trying again and shall, we believe, find considerable support.

RESULTS IN DETAIL

Wednesday, 21st August

At Belle Vue

TRINITY 3—4—18

HULL 2—3—13

Goals : Mortimer F. (3)

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Tries : Metcalfe (2), Rollin, Shaw

Trinity team : E. Lockwood, Houlden, Metcalfe, F. Mortimer, Cooper ;
Holliday, Rollin ; Harrison, Shaw, Coverdale, Haigh,
Firth, Chamberlain

Referee : J. Clay (Rothwell)

Att : 8,075

Rec.: £883

SCHOOLBOYS CORNER

Some reflections on the Wakefield and Oldham Schoolboys matches

Wakefield and Oldham have the longest association in inter-County City Schools matches, dating back to the late 30's. The war years of course interrupted these interchanges, but the games were resumed immediately afterwards and a great bond of friendliness and co-operation has been developed over the seasons. It was this happy state which prompted Oldham to suggest that a trophy should be played for and awarded annually to the side victorious in the two matches played during the season and to name it the "Friendship Shield". That was seven years ago and the Wakefield Schools are very proud of the fact that, with one season's exception, the shield has rested here in Wakefield ever since.

Two games—one at Oldham and one at Wakefield—are played each season, and in the seasons which Trinity meet Oldham the Schools matches are usually arranged as curtain-raisers to the senior game. At this time of the year however the Schools have not yet completed their

"A" TEAM SCORE SHEET 1956-57

(Final Figures)

League : P. 31 W. 25 L. 6 D. 0 Pts. F. 956 A. 299

Cup : P. 4 W. 3 L. 1 D. 0 Pts. F. 50 A. 26

Leading Scorers :

155 GOALS: Fox (56), G. Lockwood (27), F. Mortimer (22)
A. Houlden (17)

232 TRIES: 29 Hirst

23 Sweeney

17 Fox

16 Firth

12 Wilkins

11 Houlden, Jaques, Lumb

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holidays and it will be some time before it is possible to form City teams. We shall not therefore be seeing these youngsters in action this afternoon, although it is possible that their first meeting will be on the occasion of Trinity's visit to Oldham in early November. The Wakefield Schools will shortly be holding a "Seven-a-side" tournament from which the nucleus of the City team will be formed.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

An illuminating side of this season's development is likely to be found in the general reaction to clubs' increased incomes, for with the new freedom from tax, financial betterment is to be assumed. Given that many clubs needed this relief to maintain existence, there were some on whom the times did not press so harshly. It may be expected that these will have the means for some spending.

Where that is possible, the form the expenditure will take will be the cause of interest, possibly of concern. For, if the effect should be to render more expensive the standard of living of the clubs, the less fortunate ones may soon find themselves little or

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no better off than they were before.

It has often been said that the financial pressure and the struggle to exist encourages parochial outlook. Whether or not that may be true there can be no doubt if the season brings relief from financial stringencies it will at the same time offer an opportunity for review of the game's general situation and prospects uninhibited by many of our past hesitations.

Improved circumstances should be used as a breathing space, giving us time to re-organise, opportunity to deal with our problems. If there are any ready to sit back and say that the corner has now been turned they will be doing our game disservice.

As an instance, the recruiting problem is still there. We need many more accomplished players. Another requirement is a greater competitive element in our league system. There are other problems, perhaps not apparently so pressing, but nevertheless present.

Let us not fear to be accused of looking on the darker side. The fact is that we choose realism rather than castles in the air.

MEMORY LANE

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HALIFAX

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Trinity v. Halifax Next Saturday at Belle Vue

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East Stand (4/-) and ground only (2/-) tickets are also on sale

October 30th, 1926.

Lancashire 3-4-18

Yorkshire 2-3-13

The Lancashire team included S. Rix and J. Price of Oldham. Yorkshire had T. Pickup, J. Parkin and W. Horton of Trinity.

Price scored one of the Lancashire tries whilst Parkin scored two tries for Yorkshire.

The referee was R. Jones (Widnes), the attendance 9,000.

April 2nd, 1927.

R.L. Cup, Semi-Final

Oldham 2-1-7

Trinity 0-1-3

Oldham: H. J. Comm; T. E. Holliday, S. Rix, A. J. Higgs, Joe Corsi; G. Hesketh, A. Johnson; R. Sloman, J. Read, J. W. Ashworth, J. M. Scaife, A. Baker, A. Brough.

Trinity: C. A. Pollard; E. Bateson, T. Davies, A. Siswick, J. Jones; J. Parkin, J. Pearce; L. Higson, R. White, J. Waters, T. Coles, W. Horton, C. Glossop.

COVER

There is naturally some curiosity as to when the cover arranged for the Agbrigg end of the field will be completed. The

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answer is that it is hoped to have it ready for use before the really bad weather comes, or perhaps more correctly, before winter is calendar due. To estimate the number of people it may accommodate is not easy. We will hazard a guess at 2,000. But a few particulars may help you to make your own estimate. Its depth should be from the top of the terraces to within some seven or eight steps from the bottom, its width from 10 yard line to 10 yard line.

DEVELOPMENT

This cover is one of the amenities made possible through the new fund. The other work we have been enabled to do is considerable renovation under the Main Stand and in various parts of the ground—things which desperately needed attention. The expense has been heavy, but through it heavier expense has been avoided—that or some total losses, for circumstances have not for some years permitted the kind of maintenance necessary. And that followed from the fact that the standard of living, mainly imposed on us by circumstance, did not cover depreciation.

It is, therefore, with great relief that we have been able to give attention to these matters. We shall be more content when the turnstile receipts throughout the league are sufficient to bear these expenses.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY R.L.F.C.

FIXTURES & RESULTS FOR SEASON 1957-1958



FIRST TEAM

"A" TEAM

Date	Name of Club	Gr'nd	For	Ag't	Date	Name of Club	Gr'nd	For	Ag't
1957					1957				
Aug. 10	FEATHERSTONE (Bullock Cup)	Home	12	20	Aug. 10				
17	Barrow	Away	31	11	17	HUNSLET	Home	40	7
21 W	HULL	Home	18	13	21	Bramley	Away		
24	OLDHAM	Home			24	Castleford	Away		
26 M	Bramley	Away			26				
31	HALIFAX (YC)	Home			31				
Sept. 4 W	Castleford	Away			Sept. 4				
7	WIGAN	Home			7	Keighley	Away		
14	KEIGHLEY	Home			14	Batley	Away		
21	York	Away			21	LEEDS	Home		
28	HUDDERSFIELD	Home			28	Huddersfield	Away		
Oct. 5	Featherstone	Away			Oct. 5	YORK	Home		
12	YORK	Home			12	Doncaster	Away		
19	Bradford N.	Away			19	FEATHERSTONE	Home		
26	DEWSBURY	Home			26				
Nov. 2	Oldham	Away			Nov. 2	HULL K.R.	Home		
9	BRADFORD N.	Home			9	Bradford N.	Away		
16	Hull K.R.	Away			16	DEWSBURY	Home		
23	CASTLEFORD	Home			23	Leeds	Away		
30	Wigan	Away			30	HUDDERSFIELD	Home		
Dec. 7	Halifax	Away			Dec. 7	BATLEY	Home		
14	LEEDS	Home			14	Halifax	Away		
21	St. Helens	Away			21	BRADFORD N.	Home		
25 W	BARROW	Home			25				
26 Th	Leeds	Away			26				
28	Keighley	Away			28	DONCASTER	Home		
1958					1958				
Jan. 4	BATLEY	Home			Jan. 4	York	Away		
11	BRAMLEY	Home			11	Dewsbury	Away		
18	Hull	Away			18	CASTLEFORD	Home		
25	HALIFAX	Home			25	Hull K.R.	Away		
Feb. 1	ST. HELENS	Home			Feb. 1	Hull	Away		
8	R.L. Cup 1st Rd.				8				
15	Batley	Away			15				
22	R.L. Cup, 2nd Rd.				22				
Mar. 1	HULL K.R.	Home			Mar. 1	Featherstone	Away		
8	Huddersfield	Away			8	KEIGHLEY	Home		
15	Hunslet	Away			15	HALIFAX	Home		
22					22	BRAMLEY	Home		
29	DONCASTER	Home			29	Hunslet	Away		
Apr. 4 GF					Apr. 4 GF				
5 ES					5 ES				
7 EM	FEATHERSTONE	Home			7 EM				
8 ET	Doncaster	Away			8 ET	HULL	Home		
12	Dewsbury	Away			12				
19	HUNSLET	Home			19				

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