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Fixtures for the Season

Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
Aug. 9—Rochdale Hornets	Away		25—Swinton	Home	2-30
16—Halifax	Home	3-0	26—Hunslet	Away	
19—Blackpool	Away		27—St. Helens	Away	
23—Wakefield	Away				
30—Whitehaven (L.C.)	Home	3-0	1959		
Sept. 2—Workington	Home	6-15	Jan. 3—Leigh	Home	2-30
6—Halifax	Away		10—Barrow	Away	
13—Wakefield	Home	3-0	17—St. Helens	Home	2-30
20—Rochdale H.	Away		24—Salford	Home	3-0
27—Blackpool	Home	3-0	31—Leeds	Away	
Oct. 4—Warrington	Away		Feb. 7—Warrington	Home	3-0
11—Rochdale H.	Home	3-0	14—Leigh	Away	
18—Liverpool	Away		21—R.L. Cup		
25—Hunslet	Home	3-0	28—Whitehaven	Away	
Nov. 1—Featherstone	Away		Mar. 7—R.L. Cup		
8—Featherstone	Home	3-0	14—Hull	Away	
15—Salford	Away		21—Barrow	Home	3-0
22—Leeds	Home	2-30	27—Swinton (G.F.)	Away	
29—Wigan	Away		28—E.S.		
Dec. 6—Widnes	Home	2-30	30—Hull (E.M.)	Home	3-0
13—Workington	Away		April 4—Liverpool	Home	3-0
20—Wigan	Home	2-30	11—Widnes	Away	
			18—Whitehaven	Home	3-0

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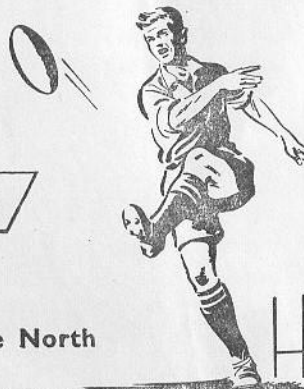


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No. 3—Tuesday, 2nd September, 1958

Kick-off 6-15 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WORKINGTON

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Tonight we have visitors from Workington quickly following on the visit of Whitehaven so we are to know what mettle the Cumbrian teams are composed of. Although this programme is written before the Whitehaven match we hope to accomplish the double although we think tonight will be a harder game than Saturday's. It is a pity that Workington will be short of two of their tourists in Wookey and Edgar, two great players, but we can depend that the composition of their team will be fully represented by capable players.

Our injured list is gradually being reduced and John Etty has been given a clearance to play on Saturday next, so our team will be looking somewhat like itself of the past season.

Much praise has been given to the erection of the new stand at the Watersheddings Street end of the ground and it now remains to be seen what attendances we shall have should we have a wet Saturday afternoon. We have now covered accommodation for over 16,000 people, so no one should be afraid of attending Watersheddings no matter what the weather.

One of the chief concerns at the present time is the large decrease in membership of the Club, the actual figures are not yet available but according to the cash received for members subscriptions we look like being over 500 members down on last season, an alarming drop in view of the teams performances last season. One must wait to see if these missing 500 pay to come to the matches or have they migrated somewhere else. There is no doubt that a good membership stands the Club in good stead, an assurance that you commence the season with a balance in hand, an assurance that you have drawn some money against the weather, good or indifferent. It also proves that the interest in the club, and confidence is still there. However we look forward optimistically from a finance point of view that our team will have the drawing power by good football to bring the crowds to Watersheddings equal to the last two years.

OUR PLAYERS

No doubt it does occur to some spectators during a match noticing the efforts of various player on the field, what is the civil job of such and such a player, what is his livelihood outside football and what does he do in his spare time?

REMARKABLE GROWTH OF THE GAME IN CUMBERLAND

By Cyril Briggs

It is appropriate tonight to give some details of the amazing growth of the Rugby League game in Cumberland. We all know that Cumberland is not blessed with many big towns, some may say this is a blessing, but as far as R.L. is concerned, public support is more important than the attractiveness of the countryside. Take away Carlisle, the city on the border of England and Scotland and the towns of Workington, Whitehaven, Maryport and Cockermouth and the rest are more or less villages, as far as we know them to be in our part of the land.

BREEDING GROUND FOR RUGBY PLAYERS

But Cumberland has been a great breeding ground for years. Long before Workington Town and Whitehaven R.L. clubs were thought of, clubs in Lancashire and Yorkshire had their "scouts" in the "scattered shire". If they weren't watching Aspatria, Kells, Broughton Moor, or Flimby then they were out and about in other places noting this or that promising youngster. Years ago Cumberland had the strongest amateur league in the land. (it is still flourishing) The village teams were virile and public support was also good. So we saw the foundation of the Cumberland Commission. And the county still has its own cup tournament.

Those who have been associated with the R.L. game for a long while will remember those tough lads who came and did battle with the senior teams in the R.L. challenge cup competition. When a Cumberland junior club was drawn at home in the challenge cup competition it usually switched the match to their opponent's ground because the financial inducement was often too great to be refused.

LEGENDARY TOUGHNERS

The pluckiness of the Cumbrians is a legend and even though Wigan in their palmy days once defeated a Cumberland junior team by over 100 points, the losers never gave up trying in that one-sided battle. It is still said around Flimby and Fothergill that on that famous occasion "Wigan got the points but the Flimby lads got the "pounds" (£'s).

There was only one senior Soccer team in Cumberland, Carlisle United. Workington Reds, as they are still known, played in the North

Eastern League and expenses to play teams on the North East Coast was so great (plus running a reserve team) that someone hit on the great idea of forming a R.L. side to relieve the soccer club of some of its high expenditure. There may be denials of this story, but I was given the account by a man who served on the board of directors of the Workington Soccer Club and also the Workington Town R.L. teams, which came into being soon after the end of World war two.

SHARED THE GROUND

Workington Town R.L. club shared the Borough Park ground with the Soccer club which at that time played in the North Eastern League, but later gained admission to the Third division. With the formation of the Fourth Division, Workington Reds were relegated last season. People of Cumberland and Westmorland rallied to the new Rugby club, and soon five figure attendances were common. There was a financial arrangement with the Soccer club which has done very well out of the deal. Now the Town have a fine ground of their own.

The advent of the Workington Town club however, took away some of the support for the amateur R.L. teams as the public was keen to see a senior R.L. team in Cumberland once a fortnight. And the Town have become a rare power in the land. The signing of Gus Risman as well as players like Johnny Mudge, Johnny Lawrenson, Eppie Gibson, Happy Wilson, Tony Paskins etc. made the Town a formidable team, and it was not long before the side were in the honours.

Of course, besides Eppie Gibson, the Town have produced great players like Billy Ivison, Pepperell, Hayton, Wareing etc.

CHAMPIONSHIP SUCCESS

Came the big day in 1951 when Workington Town won the R.L. championship by beating Warrington at Maine Road. And they were also runners-up to Warrington in the Lancashire Championship. The following season the Town again shocked the country by finishing as winning finalists at Wembley—defeating Featherstone Rovers.

There have been disappointments too. The club again reached the Wembley finals of 1955 and last season, only to be beaten after tremendous struggles. And also last season the Town attempted to bring of a great double. Hull beat the Town in the league final, but as was the case in the challenge cup final against Wigan, the Town were hit hard by

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- 4—AYRES EDWARDS
- 5—CRACKNELL
- 6—KELLETT 1 TR
- 7—PITCHFORD/STIRUP
- 8—McKEOWN
- 9—KEITH 1 TR
- 10—VINES/DUFFY
- 11—WINSLADE 1 TRY
- 12—LITTLE
- 13—TURNER

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WORKINGTON
(Blue and White)

- 1—STEPHENSON 2 GOALS
- 2—McDOWELL
- 3—McAVOY
- 4—O'NEILL
- 5—FAULDER
- 6—ROPER
- 7—TOOHEY
- 8—HERBERT
- 9—EDEN
- 10—ARMSTRONG
- 11—EVE
- 12—STAMPER
- 13—IVISON

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Growth of Game in Cumberland—Continued

injuries. Man who has played a big part behind the scenes in recent seasons was a Cumbrian, Jim Brough who was a star player with England and Leeds.

The Town have produced a number of Tourists and this season, Edgar, Archer, Southward and Wookey were member's of the Lions' team which had such a successful tour. Mr. Tom Mitchell, the Town director was one of the managers of the Touring Team, and Jim Brough the coach. Yes, Workington have made a mark in Rugby League football, and their success no doubt prompted the men and women of Whitehaven to form a senior club.

Though Whitehaven nearly reached Wembley in 1957, they have not yet figured among the honours, except for their reserve team's success in the Lancashire Combination Shield.

PLAYING STAFF

Name & Birthplace	Height	Weight	Name & Birthplace	Height	Weight
	ft. in.	st. lb.		ft. in.	st. lb.
FULL BACKS			Pitchford, F., Leigh.....	5	7—11 6
Mee, L., Leigh.....	5	8—10 8	Stirrup, F., Leigh.....	5	7—10 10
Ganley, B., Leigh.....	5	9—12 7	FORWARDS		
THREE-QUARTERS			Carruthers, I., Oldham	5	10—11 10
Ayres, D., Oldham.....	5	10—12 8	Chatterton, D., Widnes	6	0—13 7
Cracknell, R., H'field ...	5	11—13 4	Byrne, B., Leigh.....	5	10—12 7
Davies, A., Leigh.....	5	10—13 8	Duffy, R., Oxford.....	6	1—14 10
Etty, J., Batley.....	5	11—13 2	Goddard, P., Sheffield...	5	10—13 4
Edwards, J., St. Helens	5	11—12 6	Govan, J., Golborne ...	5	11—14 4
Pendlebury, B., Leigh ...	5	10—13 0	Hunter, J., Leigh.....	6	0—14 7
Needham, R., Oldham...	5	9—12 0	Jackson, K., Oldham ...	6	0—14 12
Nestor, V., Leigh.....	5	10—11 12	Keith, J., Hunslet.....	5	11—12 11
Noon, J., Oldham.....	5	9—12 6	Little, S., Carlisle.....	6	1—14 8
O'Brien, J., Oldham ...	5	9—11 0	Lomas, H., Oldham.....	6	0—15 1
Sims, G., Leigh.....	5	10—10 10	Lloyd, K., Ashley.....	6	0—13 8
HALF-BACKS			Mckeown, D., Oldham	6	1—13 4
Daley, F., Wigan.....	5	9—12 10	Rogers, J., Leeds.....	6	0—15 1
Hatherall, B., Leigh.....	5	6—10 7	Rowbottom, R., Widnes	6	0—15 7
Jones, A., Oldham.....	5	7—10 10	Turner, D., Ossett.....	6	1—14 2
Kellett, A., Ovington ...	5	10—11 11	Vines, D., Newbridge ...	5	10—15 2
Laverty, L., Oldham ...	5	6—10 13	Watson, J., Oldham.....	6	1—13 6
Moat, R., Hull.....	5	7—11 4	Winslade, C., Maesteg...	6	1—15 0

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	4	18		Winslade	4		
Cracknell	4		2	Little	1		
Nestor	3		1	Daley	1		
Ayres	4			Noon	2		
Etty	1			Edwards	1		
Kellett	4		1	Vines	3		
Jones	2		2	Turner	3		1
Rowbottom	3		1	Stirrup	2		
Keith	4		2	McKeown	3		2
Lomas	2			Sims	1		

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Leeds	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow															
Blackpool						12-34						23-20			
Leeds		32-20													
Leigh						21-5									20-15
Liverpool															
OLDHAM															
Rochdale									5-15						
Salford															
St. Helens											15-7				
Swinton	13-6														
Warrington					23-26										
Whitehaven															
Widnes									25-16						24-12
Wigan															
Workington								19-12				17-9			

Home Team on left Away Team on top Home Team's score given first

We propose to give each week a little information of our players in their every day walk of life.

So we start first with our captain, William Bernard Ganley. Bernard attended school in Leigh until 18 years of age and won a scholarship for Manchester University tenable for three years. He decided to complete his Army Service then on to University. This service completed he duly attended Manchester University for three years with success having attained a B.A. degree in the department of Economics. For a period he assisted his father in business and eventually was articled to a firm of Accountants which is now completed. Taking his final for Chartered Accountant in November next. Has an ambition to go into industry as an accountant in Economics. Outside his football abilities he is a good cricketer, having assisted Ashton in the Central Lancashire League 12 times this last season. A right-handed batsman and bowler.

NEW PLAY-THE-BALL INTERPRETATION

If the player playing the ball or the acting half-back chooses to run with it after it has been played, then no matter how far they may have run a scrum is formed if they are tackled, the ball not having been touched by any other player. The scrum is formed where the tackle is made (subject to Laws of the Game, Section II, para. 4, which states that a scrum must not be less than five yards from either goal-line or ten yards from either touch line.)

If the player playing the ball or the acting half-back ran with the ball and scored a try then the new interpretation would not effect the play as no tackle has been made.

If the acting half-back (or the player playing the ball) kicked the ball forward immediately after he had picked it up and then retrieved it without any other player touching it, the new interpretation stipulates that a scrum shall be formed.

This might seem a little unfair as in this particular case the other side have had a chance of getting the ball.

Observers are requested to view the interpretation objectively. There might be a tendency to condemn it out of hand because the observer himself prefers a completely different method of playing the ball. Please remember that the new interpretation is designed only to encourage the acting half-back to pass the ball. Experience will prove whether it is an improvement or not.

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