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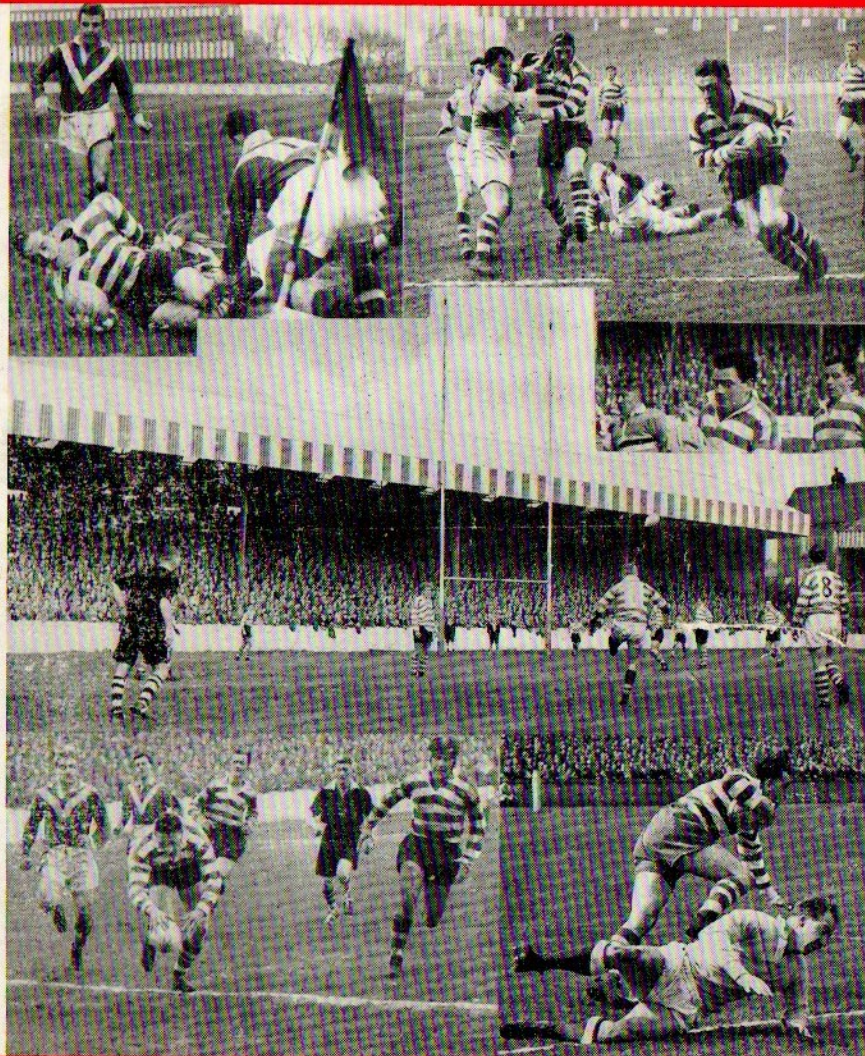
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## Fixtures for the Season

| Date    | Opponents          | Venue     | Date   | Opponents     | Venue     |
|---------|--------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| 1959    |                    |           | 19     | Dewsbury      | home 2-30 |
| Aug. 8  | Rochdale (Charity) | home 3-0  | 25     | Swinton       | home 2-30 |
| 15      | Leeds              | home 3-0  | 26     | Workington    | away 2-30 |
| 18      | Dewsbury           | away 7-0  | 1960   |               |           |
| 22      | Salford            | away 3-0  | Jan. 2 | Liverpool     | away 2-30 |
| 25      | Warrington         | home 6-30 | 9      | Wakefield     | home 2-30 |
| 29      | Whitehaven         | away 3-0  | 16     | Leigh         | home 2-30 |
| Sept. 5 | Halifax            | away 3-0  | 23     | St. Helens    | away 3-0  |
| 8       | Halifax            | home 6-30 | 30     | Widnes        | away 3-0  |
| 12      | Hunslet            | home 3-0  | Feb. 5 | Salford       | home 3-0  |
| 19      | Widnes             | home 3-0  | 13     | R.L. Cup      |           |
| 26      | Blackpool          | away 3-0  | 20     | Wakefield     | away 3-0  |
| Oct. 3  | AUSTRALIA          | home 3-0  | 27     | R.L. Cup      |           |
| 10      | Barrow             | away 3-0  | Mar. 5 | Leeds         | away 3-0  |
| 17      | Workington         | home 3-0  | 12     | Wigan         | home 3-0  |
| 24      | Warrington         | away 3-0  | 19     | Leigh         | away 3-0  |
| 31      | Barrow             | home 3-0  | 26     | Hunslet       | away 3-0  |
| Nov. 7  | Rochdale           | away 3-0  | Apr. 2 | Liverpool     | home 3-0  |
| 14      | Blackpool          | home 2-30 | 9      | St. Helens    | home 3-0  |
| 21      | Whitehaven         | away 2-30 | 15     | Swinton G. F. | away 3-0  |
| 28      | Rochdale           | home 2-30 | 16     | E. S.         |           |
| Dec. 5  | Wigan              | away 2-30 | 13     | Whitehaven    | home 3-0  |
| 12      | Hull               | home 2-30 | 23     | Hull          | away 3-0  |

# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

THE PAVILION :: WATERSHEDDINGS



SEASON - 1959-60

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### OLDHAM v. WIDNES

#### WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

What a surprise was created on Saturday last in our match against Hunslet at Watersheddings. When the composition of the team was finally announced everybody thought that we were in for a very severe defeat at the hands of our visitors. The players who appeared on the field displayed the confidence to win and what a surprise they gave the crowd of over 11,000. Injuries and late withdrawals through colds put the Manager-Coach in a bit of a fix, but manfully he tackled the job.

One must admit that the Hunslet team had the worst of the bad knocks that were going around but long before this spirit to win by our players was obvious and every man responded to his task. It is a long time since our players were cheered off the field at the end of the match. What can be done once can be done again. The form shown by the substitutes proves that opportunity makes the man and that we have sufficient material if tried out. We have lamented in the past of our forward strength and which was obvious in the opening matches, but Saturday last set us wondering if we do not appreciate the value of our unknowns in the "A" team. We should never find the potentialities of our reserve strength if we did not try them out. The position is, these unknowns should be given an extended trial and if they do not come up to first team standard, let them mature in the "A" team. Experience is a great thing in football, all do not make the grade at once, there are exceptions. Our game is one where you must start at the bottom and work your way up. The international of today has once been a junior and played the hard way of experience through "A" team football.

Yes, we have some likely material in the "A" team and time alone will tell, provided they are given the opportunity, whether they will be stars of the future and earn honour to play for Oldham first team.

#### OUR VISITORS

Today we welcome Widnes. A club that has had heaps of misfortune with injuries to players since the season opened and who are at present at the bottom of the League table. One must have to go back a long time to find this state of affairs by this grand club. Played six matches and lost six is far from a good start and we cannot visualise this state of affairs lasting much longer.

The Widnes club have some very capable players and they are sure to strike a winning sequence and get up the League table. However their position does not distract a welcome to their officials and players to our ground. Without doubt they are one of the finest clubs to visit both socially and from a playing point of view and we wish their luck to turn, but we hope not today.

Our players will have to be in tip-top form against a team that is all out to record its first victory this season. Let us have some football as in the Hunslet game by both sides then all will be satisfied.

### AUSTRALIANS VISIT

Saturday, 3rd October will be a red letter day for our club and supporters. We always look forward to the visit of a team from the Commonwealth, and on the above date the Australian Touring team visit our ground. Many are the stirring games that have been played on our ground against Touring Teams and before capacity crowds.

The Australians will arrive at the Town Hall at 11-50 a.m., and will be given a civic reception by the Mayor, Alderman J. T. Hilton, J.P., afterwards they will be entertained to a light lunch, then to the match which we hope will be the match of the season. After the match they will be entertained to a running buffet, this is at their request. Later in the evening they will attend with our players to the Supporters Club Dance at the Town Hall to finish off a day that we hope they will remember Oldham, its Club, Members and Supporters.

Let us have a capacity gate and give the usual Oldham welcome to our overseas visitors who have come over 12,000 miles to play this grand game of Rugby League.

For the information of our Seatholder members, reserved seat tickets for Enclosure Seats and "E" Stand seats are now on sale price 6/- each upon surrendering coupon 1 from membership book. One member, one ticket.

Prices of admission to other parts of the ground are up by 6d., and the minimum charge of admission is 2/6., Old Age Pensioners are being charged the usual admission fee of 9d. and Boys 3d., (penny rush) and 1/- any part of the ground, seats excepted.

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## WIDNES NOT A FOOT-OF-LEAGUE CLUB

by Cyril Briggs

Too many hard games at the start of the season has impaired Widnes's progress and they are not by any means a bottom-of-the-league team, although even some of the keenest Naughton Park fans will be ready to admit that the same fighting show which was shown against St. Helens in the opening league game of the season and in the tough match at Central Park versus Wigan has not been revealed in other fixtures.

There is a silver lining in the Widnes cloud. Although St. Helens have beaten Widnes three times this season (the last occasion on Wednesday week in the second round of the Lancashire challenge cup at Naughton Park) it should be said that the Saints had all their stars on duty in the three fixtures. And at Wigan, there were several internationals in the home line-up.

### JOHNNY NOT HERE TODAY

One familiar face will be missing this afternoon. It belongs to a great hearted player, Johnny Smith, who to all intents and purposes should now be attending football matches in an invalid chair. It will be recalled that in one game at Watersheddings when Widnes were in sight of victory, Johnny then playing as scrum half, had to be carried off the field with a severe leg injury. The crowd gave him a sympathetic cheer because the youngster had played very pluckily all through a distinctly hard match.

Johnny subsequently received very bad injuries when his motor cycle crashed at Widnes when he was having a trial spin. He was told at the time by members of the medical profession that he would not be playing again. The knee cap was removed. But by skilful surgery, plus the great encouragement and help from Mr. Frank Tobin, the Widnes club's physiotherapist, Johnny was able to trot again. Yes he defied the doctors who said that his playing days were over and he was back again at Naughton Park. Nothing could keep him away.

### TELEGRAM FROM OLDHAM

When he made his "come back" he received many messages of good-will and the Widnes players en-route for a Yorkshire engagement, stopped off at Oldham and sent him a greetings telegram. Johnny has done quite well since then, but recently had another knock on the knee. But that will not keep him from popping on his playing boots again. Incidentally, Johnny received the same injury and underwent the same operation as Phil Jackson, the Barrow international centre threequarter. It was for the removal of a knee cap.

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### OLDHAM

Red and White

- 1—GANLEY W. B.
- 2—SOUTHWARD I.
- 3—DAVIES A.
- 4—NOON J.
- 5—QUINLAN S.
- 6—KELLETT A. B.
- 7—PITCHFORD F.
- 8—SMITH R.
- 9—KEITH J.
- 10—DUFTY R.
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—ROBINSON
- 13—McINTYRE

Referee:

Mr. E. CLAY,  
Rothwell

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### WIDNES

Black and White

- 1—PIMBLETT
- 2—CHISNALL
- 3—BRIGHT
- 4—DAWSON
- 5—HEYES
- 6—MYLER
- 7—KEAVNEY, V.
- 8—SMITH
- 9—MURRAY
- 10—TOMLINSON
- 11—HILL
- 12—DAVIES
- 13—WINSTANLEY

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Mr. C. A. Mosely, Stretford, (Crim.)

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Widnes, despite their lowly league position—I doubt whether they have ever held up the league in their long and **not** inglorious history—have spent quite a lot of money on fresh talent in recent seasons. They induced Jack Broome to return his own team. At the time he was playing with Wigan. Widnes decided to part with their coach, Ossie Peake, the former Widnes and Warrington international threequarter, and Broome became player-coach.

### KEEN TRAINING ROUTINE

Jack had a great deal to do with Widnes advance, and no doubt he is as worried about the lack of success as anyone. It is true to say that Widnes players go through a rigorous training routine, and Jack spends may hours with the players working out moves and perfecting some of the individual tactics. The other part of the training—P.T.—is also hard, and one is at a loss to understand why not a league game has been won by the chemics this season. Frank Griffin, the ex Liverpool City and Wigan forward, has been on the injured list once or twice since he came to Widnes and he is out of action for at least a month.

He was to enter Wigan hospital for a shoulder operation. Bobbie Chisnall, who was signed this season from Wigan, at a big fee has not played in all games. Brian Keavney was signed last season from Salford and one member (Widnes is like the Oldham club, a members' organisation) said at the annual meeting that Keavney was the best acquisition for many years.

### MORE SIGNINGS

Arthur Pimblett is an ex St. Helens player who has obtained a regular place in the side. He is the goal-kicker and on his day can land shots from the most difficult angles. Another signing in recent times is Jimmy Bright. At one time Jimmy played for Leigh. Then he went up to Whitehaven but could not settle. Widnes signed him, but Jimmy has not had the best of luck and has been on the injured list.

So when Widnes get back to something like a strong team some of the bigger clubs can watch out. George Kemel, the hooker, has been unfortunate, and may have to have a cartilage removed from his knee. Willie Thompson, who is a very promising player, has been out of action owing to an elbow injury. Other mishaps have occurred to this or that player with the result that many alterations have had to be made in the line-up.

A Widnes player who always does well at Watersheddings is Frank Myler. Oldham fans will remember the time when he caused them a shock by scoring two quick tries. Recently, Frank was chosen for the Lancashire team against Cumberland. He will act as a reserve for the

forthcoming fixture with the Australians at St. Helens ground on Wednesday next, September 23rd. Brian Keavney is the former County and Salford scrum half. He and Myler have struck up a fine partnership. Harold Kinsey the utility player, has also been indisposed.

### FINE YOUNG PLAYER

Brian Winstanley, who plays in the second row, is a nineteen years old recruit who has had two first team games. He was given his baptism against St. Helens in the Lancashire cup tie—and what a baptism, when you consider that the Saints turned out an all international pack that night. I refer to Brian Briggs, Alan Prescott, Abe Terry, Tom McKinney, Vince Karalius, and Dick Huddart. Young Winstanley who signed for Widnes at the start of the season, had the satisfaction of scoring a try against St. Helens. What is more, it was a well taken try and one should also remember that he was injured just previously and had to retire for attention.

Tom Smith is a solid and hard working prop—he took over the job of regular open side prop when Ronnie Rowbottom joined Oldham. Edgar Bate the other prop, has been off with a damaged hand. Gordon Murray, the hooker, has had more than his share of injuries. He played for Lancashire a couple of seasons ago. Bob Sherman, Neville Chamberlain and Ken Hill have been playing in the second row (among others). Ken was obtained from Wigan two or three seasons ago. He has not been lucky in avoiding injuries. Ken, on his day, is quite a player to stop.

Bill Major, is the brother of Harry Major, the Warrington loose forward. Bill is one of the best “finds” Widnes have made for some time and the Warrington club have also a high regard for brother Harry. He too is no. 13 So there you have the Widnes set-up. It may not be as top hole as the time when Tommy McCue, Tommy Shannon, Harry Millington, Peter Topping, Jimmy Jones, Alec Higgins and company were wearing the black and white jerseys, but believe me, they are **not** a bottom-of-the-league team.

### BRIEFS FROM WATERSHEDDINGS

Ron Rowbottom our front row forward who is on the transfer list at a fee of £500, is on a months trial with Hull Kingston Rovers. Ron played for the first team at Hull on Saturday last against Halifax and reports from eye witnesses state that he had a good game. He still resides in Widnes.

Shaun Quinlan will be getting married on Wednesday next. His wife to be is an Air Hostess with Aer Lingus. We wish them both happiness.

# LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

| Player    | A. | G. | T. | Player    | A. | G. | T. |
|-----------|----|----|----|-----------|----|----|----|
| Ganley    | 8  | 38 |    | Davies    | 8  |    | 4  |
| Southward | 2  |    | 3  | Robinson  | 6  |    | 1  |
| Ayres     | 1  |    |    | Quinlan   | 2  |    | 3  |
| Noon      | 9  | 8  | 5  | Stirrup   | 2  | 1  | 1  |
| Sims      | 9  |    | 2  | Smith     | 4  |    |    |
| Kellett   | 9  | 1  | 3  | Nestor    | 5  |    | 4  |
| Hatherall | 3  |    |    | Petley    | 1  |    |    |
| Jackson   | 4  |    |    | Pitchford | 4  |    | 2  |
| McIntyre  | 5  |    | 1  | McKeown   | 3  |    | 1  |
| Goddard   | 8  |    |    | Jones     | 1  |    | 1  |
| Winslade  | 5  |    | 1  |           |    |    |    |
| Dufty     | 8  |    | 2  |           |    |    |    |
| Pugsley   | 5  |    | 1  |           |    |    |    |
| Keith     | 5  |    | 1  |           |    |    |    |

# LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

|            | Barrow | Blackpool | Dewsbury | Leigh | Liverpool | OLDHAM | Rochdale | Salford | Swinton | St. Helens | Warrington | Whitehaven | Widnes | Wigan | Workington |
|------------|--------|-----------|----------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Barrow     | .....  |           |          | 40-13 |           |        |          |         |         |            |            |            |        |       |            |
| Blackpool  |        | .....     | 14-5     |       |           |        |          |         |         |            |            |            |        |       |            |
| Dewsbury   |        |           | .....    | 26-15 | 7-35      | 14-18  |          |         |         |            |            |            |        |       |            |
| Leigh      |        |           |          | ..... |           |        |          | 25-12   |         |            |            |            |        | 22-22 |            |
| Liverpool  |        |           |          |       | .....     | 11-9   |          |         |         | 16-19      |            |            |        |       |            |
| OLDHAM     |        |           |          |       |           | .....  |          |         |         | 6-10       |            |            |        |       |            |
| Rochdale   | 18-13  |           |          |       |           |        | .....    |         |         |            |            |            |        |       |            |
| Salford    |        |           |          |       |           | 12-12  |          | .....   |         |            |            | 23-14      |        |       |            |
| Swinton    |        |           | 61-7     |       |           |        |          |         | .....   | 9-32       |            |            |        |       |            |
| St. Helens |        |           | 59-17    |       |           |        |          |         |         | .....      |            |            |        |       |            |
| Warrington |        |           |          |       | 26-8      |        |          |         |         |            | .....      |            |        |       |            |
| Whitehaven |        |           |          |       |           |        |          |         |         |            |            | .....      |        |       | 20-4       |
| Widnes     |        |           |          |       |           |        |          |         |         | 14-27      |            |            | .....  |       |            |
| Wigan      |        |           |          |       |           |        |          |         | 37-6    |            |            |            | 16-12  | ..... |            |
| Workington |        |           |          |       |           | 5-12   |          |         |         |            |            |            |        |       | .....      |

Home Team on Left...Away Team on Top...Home Team's score given first

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