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THE STADIUM ST. ANNES ROAD



OLDHAM

SATURDAY, 26th SEPT., 1959
at 3.0 p.m.

Official
Programme



GREYHOUND RACING

(UNDER N.G.R.C. RULES)

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at 7 p.m.



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BLACKPOOL BOROUGH

v.

OLDHAM

SATURDAY, 26th SEPTEMBER, 1959

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.

We have most attractive visitors to-day in the Oldham club, at present lying second in the League Table. When the mighty Oldham side, which has carried all before it in the last five seasons, began to break up towards the end of last season with the departure of great players such as Dick Cracknell, John Eddy, Don Vines, "Rocky" Turner and Sid Little, many people felt that Oldham would have to take a back seat for a couple of seasons or so in order to recuperate, but with characteristic energy their Committee-men set out to plug the gaps and we have seen some sensational signings.

Sean Quinlan, the Irish Rugby Union International, was secured for one wing, and the most expensive back ever bought on the Rugby League transfer market, Ike Southward, left his native Workington to fill the other wing vacancy at a cost of over £10,000.

To strengthen the pack Len McIntyre was bought from Barrow, and then this season, just to show that they could have the most expensive forward signing as well, Oldham went up to Cumberland once again and came back with Geoff Robinson, the Whitehaven loose or second row forward, for whom they paid out £9,000.

At full back to-day we hope to see that prince of goal kickers, Bernard Ganley, fresh from his triumph for Lancashire against the Australians on Wednesday, when he kicked nine goals.

Alan Davies at centre, of course needs no introduction. First choice for Great Britain for several years now, Alan will be out to prove to the selectors that he is still the best man to partner Eric Ashton in the coming Test series.

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At half back we shall see one of the best Club pairs in the League in Pitchford and Kellett. Oldham have only recently resolved their quarrel with Pitchford, and his return has added strength to the side. Alan Kellett was signed from junior Rugby League in the Halifax district and has become one of the fastest out-halves playing. He has already been honoured by the Yorkshire County.

At the time of writing the make-up of the Oldham pack is not known. Shall we see veteran Jack Keith in the hooking role, or Len McIntyre? Whatever Len lacks when it comes to getting possession, he more than makes up for in the loose, where he is a prolific try-scorer. It is interesting to note that Oldham have even played him at loose forward recently.

We always have a fast and interesting game with Oldham—we gave them a shock in 1955 when ground conditions were frankly quite a lot different than they are to-day.

CLUB GOSSIP

A pat on the back to the "A" Team boys. There has been no publicity in the local press about it, so, for the sake of our regulars who were not here, the lads surpassed themselves last Saturday in beating St. Helens "A" by 27 points to 4. Try scorers, we understand, were Lomas, Normington (two), Foster and O'Brien, and Reg Parker kicked six goals. One of our directors who was at St. Helens last Saturday said that they wouldn't believe it in the Board Room when the result came through. Not surprising either when you think of the difference in resources available to both clubs.

SUPPORTERS' SNIPPINGS

During the week an old Rugby League enthusiast was asked why he no longer visited the Stadium. His reply came in no uncertain manner that the so-called "softening up" procedure of many clubs had killed his interest. He pointed out the number of matches won and lost by virtue of injuries was increasing, and that the game as a whole was deteriorating because of rough play. Said he: "If the Rev. Frank Chambers was holding the whistle what a change there would be."

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OFFICIAL FIXTURES, SEASON 1959-60

FIRST TEAM				"A" TEAM			
	Grd.	F. A.	Points		Grd.	F. A.	Points
1959				1959			
Aug. 15—Keighley	H	12	13	Aug. 15—Wigan	A	10	38
" 17—St. Helens	A	17	59	" 22—			
" 22—Doncaster	A	30	11	" 29—			
" 25—Dewsbury (K.O. 6.45)	H	14	5	Sept. 5—Barrow L.C.C.S.	A	20	17
" 29—Leigh (Lancs. Cup)	A	12	12	" 10—Widnes (2nd Rd. L.S.)	A	7	23
Sept. 3—Leigh (L. Cup Replay)	H	7	13	" 12—Salford	A	7	14
" 5—Castleford	A	3	44	" 19—St. Helens	H	27	4
" 12—Bramley	A	13	8	Oct. 3—Whitehaven	H		
" 19—Batley	A	9	19	" 10—Leigh	A		
" 26—Oldham	A			" 17—			
Oct. 3—Whitehaven	A			" 24—Swinton	A		
" 10—Leigh	H			" 31—Leigh	H		
" 17—				Nov. 7—Widnes	A		
" 24—Swinton	H			" 14—Oldham	H		
" 31—Leigh	A			" 21—Workington Town	A		
Nov. 7—Widnes	H			" 28—Warrington	H		
" 14—Oldham	A			Dec. 5—			
" 21—Workington Town	H			" 12—Whitehaven	A		
" 28—Warrington	A			" 19—Wigan	H		
Dec. 5—Warrington	A			" 26—Barrow	A		
" 12—Whitehaven	H			1960			
" 19—Wigan	A			Jan. 2—			
" 25—Liverpool	H			" 9—Rochdale Hornets	A		
" 26—Barrow	H			" 16—Salford	H		
1960				" 23—			
Jan. 1—Liverpool City	A			" 30—Liverpool City	A		
" 2—Bramley	A			Feb. 6—St. Helens	A		
" 9—Rochdale Hornets	H			" 13—			
" 16—Salford	A			" 20—Widnes	H		
" 23—Keighley	A			" 27—			
" 30—Wigan	H			Mar. 5—Oldham	A		
Feb. 6—St. Helens	H			" 12—Swinton	H		
" 13—(1)				" 19—Warrington	A		
" 20—Widnes	A			" 26—Rochdale Hornets	H		
" 27—(2)				Apr. 2—			
Mar. 5—Batley	H			" 9—Workington Town	H		
" 12—Swinton	A			" 16—Barrow	H		
" 19—Doncaster	H			" 23—Liverpool City	H		
" 26—Rochdale Hornets	A						
Apr. 2—Castleford	H						
" 9—Workington Town	A						
" 15—Salford	H						
" 16—Barrow	A						
" 18—Dewsbury	A						
" 19—							
" 23—							
" 30—							

Aug. 6—Liverpool City
(Berry Cup) K.O. 7 p.m. H

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This talk was remembered later when reading an article by a leading sports journalist, in which he described the Rugby League game as becoming a Gladiatorial display.

It is often said that the type of game a side plays is decided in the Board Room. Do Boards clearly call for clean, open play, or are players' misdemeanours accepted because they pay dividends and get away with it?

Let us therefore shew to the players by our applause that we do appreciate good football, and also deprecate dubious play whether by Borough or by our opponents.

FACTS AND FIGURES

By MNEMONICUS

We have met Oldham on 12 occasions, two being cup-ties. The results are as follows :

	P.	W.	L.	For	Against
Home	5	1	4	49	134
Away	5	0	5	53	192

Oldham were successful in both cup-ties, winning 18 points to 8 in the Lancs. Cup, and 12 points to 5 in the R.L. Cup.

Why are we a poor club? Attendances tell the tale. Including the Barry Cup, we have played five games at the Stadium. On our visit to St. Helens the attendance was 4,000 greater than at all our five games together. Such is success.

Twenty-four players have so far appeared on our First Team. Leading scorers are Dunn, Wilkinson and Wood, each with four tries, and Maughan with 31 goals.

Twenty-nine players have worn our Second Team colours in five matches. Leading scorers are Foster, Lomas and Normington, each with three tries, and Parker and Payne with six goals each, and Lingard four.

Incidentally the six goals scored by Parker against St. Helens is a best ever record by that player.

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