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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. 6	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	
13	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	18	Whitehaven	home 3-0
12	Hull	home 2-30	23	Hull	away 3-0

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No. 18—Saturday, 13th February, 1960

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. HUDDERSFIELD

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Today sees the glamour day of the season in blazing the trail to Wembley in the knock out competition of the Rugby League Challenge Cup. All clubs are optimistic in making progress but only two teams will be left on the day of the final at Wembley. It is not always the best of teams that appear in the final and that is the competitive spirit of a knock out competition having the luck of the draw.

Some people are arguing what a pity that St. Helens and Wakefield have to meet in the first round as they are recognised as two of the best teams in the League, one must fall by the roadside. Maybe what a show of our game it would be at Wembley if these two teams were in the final, but that is no guarantee of a great game, some of the finest games we have had at Wembley have been by teams of supposed not first class calibre.

However, let us hope that on Saturday, 14th May, 1960 the final will be graced with two teams worthy of the occasion.

Today it is our pleasure to entertain the Huddersfield team in the first round of the cup competition. They are not very frequent visitors to our ground but we know what they are capable of and this season they are enjoying the best season for a considerable time. They have played 27 League matches, won 18 and lost 9, scoring 413 for and 366 against. Our own record is played 27 matches, won 19, drawn 1 and lost 7, scoring 619 for and 326 against.

SATURDAY LAST

Our match against Salford on Saturday last, although one may call it a good game from a playing point of view was marred by one or two incidents which does the players or the game no good.

Too much ill-feeling crept into the game as time went on and the final climax which shook the home spectators was the sending off the field of our star winger, Ike Southward. This is the first time Ike has been dismissed from the field of play and we can ill afford to lose his services if the worst comes by way of suspension.

The after effects of this match appeared to upset several members of the team by Ike coming under the ban of the referee but all appears to have settled down after the shock. Ike will appear before the Disciplinary Committee to state a case when such body meet next week.

PEN PICTURES—HUDDERSFIELD

Dyson, full back A local boy who has this season gained Test match honours. Good goal kicker.

Brown, wing. Came from South Africa to a business appointment in Huddersfield. In his third season with the Club.

Ascroft, centre. Well-known as the old Wigan centre, is now coach of the team and making a good job of same.

Curry, centre. A local boy who can also play full back, good goal kicker.

Wicks, wing. Joined Huddersfield from Torquay R.U. A Devon County player. Just returned to the game after a severe neck injury.

Lockwood, out half. Former Batley player who has settled down to the out half position.

Smales, scrum half. A native of Featherstone, absent from the game for a long period with injury but has now made the position secure.

Slevin, forward. Came on transfer from Wigan 9 seasons ago one of the best buys the club has made.

Close, hooker. Another native of Featherstone and from a junior club has migrated through the "A" team and is hocking well.

Flint, forward. A local lad who is doing his National Service in London.

Killen, forward. Secured on transfer from Whitehaven 4 seasons ago, a robust and typical Cumbrian.

Shacklady, forward. Secured from a Wigan junior club and by good play has secured his position in the first team.

Ramsden, loose forward. Formally an out half and gained fame in a Wembley cup final in that position. A local who has put on weight (13st.) stocky but playing very well in his new position.

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CUP-TIES HAVE A MAGICAL TOUCH

writes Cyril Briggs

How is it that the cup-tie has a greater pull in interest than the ordinary league game?

Well, of course, the rewards in the cup tournament are greater in many ways, although the duration is much shorter than the Northern League programme.

Win four games and your team is at Wembley, except when there are those annoying (to some clubs) re-plays. Players, officials and spectators are all keyed up when the cup ties are around and there is usually an extra tang in the atmosphere.

Yes, cup-ties have a bigger reward, and year after year there are many surprises when smaller clubs push their bigger rivals out of the picture. New faces at Wembley have been fairly considerable since the war, even though Bradford Northern and Wigan have had more than their share of appearances.

CUMBERLAND'S RISE

Nobody expected Featherstone Rovers to get through to the final and who would have thought, even in 1939, that a Cumberland club would have beaten some of the older established clubs in making a bow at the Empire Stadium?

The little clubs have certainly played their part in the competition over the years and now that the two legged system for the first round is dead and buried, we can now see a competition in its truest light.

It has to be admitted that the two legged system, which was with us for several seasons after the war (it was a war time measure) was a real money spinner. But the element of surprise was lost so many times.

A club would spring a surprise, but in the re-play there was little chance of the shock result being repeated. The aggregate number of points counted. So rightly the two legged system was dropped.

It was quite possible in the old days for a club to win the trophy and have to have lost in one of the two legs.

FAIR WAY

The fairest way of carrying out two legged system to its logical conclusion would have been to play all games, even the semi-finals and finals, on a home and away basis.

But look how long that would take! Perhaps when the R.L. decide to play games on Saturdays as well as on Sundays, or maybe all the year round, this scheme will be adopted.

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OLDHAM 13
Red and White

- 1—GANLEY W. B.
- 2—SOUTHWARD I.
- 3—DAVIES A.
- 4—NOON J.
- 5—NESTOR V.
- 6—KELLETT A.
- 7—PITCHFORD F.
- 8—JACKSON K.
- 9—McINTYRE L.
- 10—DUFTY R.
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—ROBINSON G.
- 13—HAYNES G.

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- 3—CURRY
- 4—ASHCROFT
- 5—WICKS
- 6—LOCKWOOD
- 7—SMALES
- 8—SLEVIN
- 9—CLOSE
- 10—FLINT
- 11—KILLEN
- 12—SHACKLADY
- 14—RAMSDEN

Touch Judges:

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Mr. E. Cunningham, Widnes, Crim.

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In any case it is a sober thought to those who have financial ideas. The R.L. would never become bankrupt if the two legged system was always on hand—for all rounds.

This afternoon you will soon sense the difference between the league match and the cup tie. The players seem keener, and it is not just the thoughts of the extra bonus which makes it so.

Every player dearly wants to play at Wembley on the R.L.'s biggest day. Some are fortunate to play at the Stadium in their first year in the game. Others never have the chance. Such is Fate.

GOOD OF THE GAME

This season may see a new face at Wembley—I hope so, because it is all for the good of the game. One of the big things which helps a club along the hard road, is the fact it has once enjoyed a golden era. Tradition dies hard, even in sport and therefore we can often look to the record book with pride.

Warrington and Wakefield Trinity people, for instance, never thought they would see the R.L. challenge cup in their districts again. They had got so near and yet so far from winning the cup.

For Wakefield the chance came in the first season after the war. They were faced with a Wigan team which had several stars absent—they were en route for Australia.

Wakefield looked like losing until the very last minute when Billy Stott landed a wonder goal. The trophy went back to Wakefield and from Wembley too!

Warrington folk had probably more heartbreaks than the Trinity supporters. The Wires went to Wembley in 1933 and 1936. On each occasion their supporters went home disappointed.

CUP IS BACK AGAIN

Then after a break of 43 years, Warrington captured the cup. It was certainly a time for rejoicing by the townspeople.

The cup was seen once again in the district in 1954 and the game of rugby which had had many ups and downs in this noted South Lancashire town, was more firmly established even if the soccer game had not offered anything like serious competition.

Today's game at Watersheddings sees two great teams in combat. Both have come close to reaching their objective since the war, but there have been slips at vital times.

Huddersfield have tasted the air of Wembley, Oldham have not. But look at the record book for those seasons when Wembley wasn't even built. Oldham were well in the cup news in those days.

Maybe you will see in today's game a team which will go far in the competition, or even eventually win its way to Wembley. You never can tell because cup football is full of surprises and shocks.

It is often said that cup ties end on a more dramatic note than league games. Quite right too, even in cup finals, Billy Stott's golden goal proved when Wigan went home with their tail between their legs—or almost.

BACK TO OLDHAM

It would be one of the finest things for R.L. in East Lancashire if Oldham did progress to the final. There has been an upward surge in interest in the code in this particular area since the war and how dearly some of the older supporters would like to touch the cup again.

The successes by the Watersheddings teams in the Northern League Championship and also in the Lancashire Challenge Cup have been boosts for R.L. in the Oldham district.

There would be no better boost if the team did carry off the challenge cup. The cup is an elusive piece of silver, but with a little luck you can get it firmly in your grip. But you have to have luck, and even then all your opponents are determined to stop you.

Huddersfield, one of the great names in R.L., are on the up grade again a situation which we all admire. They will extend the Oldham team today. Yes, you may be seeing a Wembley finalist this afternoon, and believe me, Oldham or Huddersfield would be worthy competitors. Both have been too long out of the Wembley challenge cup news.

TODAY'S RUGBY LEAGUE FIXTURES

Barrow	2	Whitehaven	8
Batley	2	Keighley	5
Blackpool	2	Leigh	10
Castleford	4	Bradford	8
Dewsbury	4	Swinton	2.3
Doncaster	0	Rochdale	1.5
Hunslet	5	Wigan	9
Leeds	8	Hull K. R.	5
Liverpool	3	Bramley	3
Oldham	13	Huddersfield	11
Salford	0	Halifax	5
St. Helens	10	Wakefield	1.5
Widnes	14	Warrington	0
Workington	0	Featherstone	1.5
York	0	Hull	2

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	28	144		Davies	27		11
Southward	18		21	Robinson	23		2
Ayres	2			Quinlan	3		3
Noon	30	12	20	Stirrup	4	2	1
Sims	22		8	Smith	5		
Kellett	29	1	14	Nestor	15		10
Hatherall	4			Petley	1		
Jackson	21		1	Pitchford	22		3
McIntyre	22		4	McKeown	10		2
Goddard P.	16		1	Jones	2		1
Winslade	24		4	Pendlebury	3		
Duffy	27		6	Cawthra	1		
Pugsley	5		1	Haynes	8		
Keith	14		1	Mumberson	1		
Lord	2		1				

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Dewsbury	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	Swinson	St. Helens	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	...	15-4	40-13	...	22-29	22-5	6-21	...	8-16	...	2-15	10-16	...	2-5
Blackpool	11-5	...	14-5	15-30	5-5	13-29	5-9	...	7-46	7-26	5-12	5-11	10-20	7-4	15-5
Dewsbury	...	...	...	9-24	26-15	7-35	14-18	13-14	...	15-20	11-29	2-17	...	7-35	9-30
Leigh	12-12	...	...	...	22-0	...	11-7	25-12	14-14	4-12	10-12	...	...	23-22	...
Liverpool	...	19-8	7-9	...	...	17-15	11-9	6-18	20-14	6-45	16-19	...	...	...	14-5
OLDHAM	20-9	34-5	46-7	22-0	...	...	25-3	20-15	35-10	...	6-10	...	24-12	...	28-2
Rochdale	18-13	...	12-5	10-6	5-8	0-45	...	7-8	7-12	4-40	5-8	...	...	...	10-12
Salford	13-5	2-5	26-0	10-30	...	12-12	...	...	2-2	7-15	23-14	23-6	13-20	...	...
Swinson	5-0	...	61-7	...	63-8	...	...	12-5	...	9-32	13-5	11-8	...	...	32-3
St. Helens	...	59-17	...	14-10	40-17	27-6	26-2	40-11	...	...	40-6	...	...	...	11-12
Warrington	24-10	30-12	48-12	...	26-8	27-8	16-0	...	12-19	...	...	30-2	9-9	16-6	...
Whitehaven	...	33-13	...	...	5-0	23-9	...	34-10	13-5	12-15	7-0	...	...	7-7	20-4
Widnes	36-0	...	25-2	24-5	22-5	0-10	14-3	...	...	14-27	...	22-5	...	...	7-8
Wigan	43-3	47-3	...	12-10	17-6	27-7	8-18	...	37-6	7-19	34-5	3-12	16-12	...	7-11
Workington	...	...	28-13	5-12	26-11	...	...	10-18	6-21	...	...	0-24	...	0-6	...

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

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