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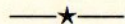


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Fixtures for the Season

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1960			
Aug. 6	ROCHDALE (Charity)	away	
13	ST. HELENS	home	
17	WARRINGTON	away	
20	LEEDS	away	
27	WIGAN, Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.	away	
30	LEIGH	home	
Sept. 3	FEATHERSTONE R.	away	
10	HALIFAX	home	
17	ST. HELENS	away	
20	FEATHERSTONE R.	home	
24	WORLD CUP		
27	BLACKPOOL B.	away	
Oct. 1	WORLD CUP		
8	WORLD CUP		
15	HULL K. R.	away	
22	WIDNES	home	
29	ROCHDALE H.	away	
Nov. 5	LIVERPOOL C.	home	
12	KEIGHLEY	away	
19	SALFORD	home	
26	WHITEHAVEN	away	
Dec. 3	LEEDS	home	
10	WIGAN	away	

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
17	BLACKPOOL B.	home	
24	LEIGH	away	
26	SWINTON	home	
31	BARROW	away	
1961			
Jan. 2	WORKINGTON	away	
7	HALIFAX	away	
14	WARRINGTON	home	
21	LIVERPOOL CITY	away	
28	WIGAN	home	
Feb. 4	BARROW	home	
11	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 1st RD.		
18	HULL K. R.	home	
25	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 2nd RD.		
Mar. 4	SALFORD	away	
11	WIDNES	away	
18	WORKINGTON TOWN	home	
25			
31	SWINTON	away	
Apr. 1	WHITEHAVEN	home	
3	ROCHDALE H.	home	
8			
15	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL		
22			
29	KEIGHLEY	home	

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OLDHAM
60 MANLEY ROAD, COPPICE**

No. 4, Tuesday, 20th September, 1960

Kick-off 6-30 p.m.

OLDHAM v. FEATHERSTONE ROVERS

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Although our backs are now scoring tries our matches against both Featherstone and Halifax we recorded very narrow victories but we are giving away too many points in defence. The two games mentioned we scored 37 points to our opponents 34 points. Seven tries for and two against, eight goals for and 14 against proves its own tale.

Why so many goals against us in two matches. Our players are creating too many infringements and in some match these will prove their undoing and we shall lose the match by not playing the game according to the Laws of the Game.

These narrow victories may be alright from an excitement point of view and keeping interest in the match until the final whistle, but all like clear cut victories. Spectators like to see tries scored much as they may applaud a goal kicked from the touch line. It is the handling game that matters and which produces tries. What is a finer sight than to see a wing three-quarter in flight for the line. However, we will no doubt see that these infringements are remedied and cut down to a minimum.

OUR VISITORS

This evening it is our pleasure to entertain Featherstone Rovers in the return match following on so quickly as our visit to Featherstone on September 3rd when we achieved a narrow victory by 20 points to 19.

The main and noted strength of our visitors lies in their forwards and they have a young and lively lot. In Clawson, second row, they possess one of the best goal kickers in the league. Much to our distress, he landed 8 goals out of 10 attempts and included some very good kicks.

Although we anticipate being minus the services of Alan Davies (World Cup duty) and Ike Southward, injured we think we can rely on their deputies ably filling the ranks. On the strength of the teams we consider that tonight's match will be a hard one but we fully expect to finish up on the right side of the match.

For your information and judgement Cooper the full back of Featherstone is on the transfer list at £5,000. We hope that he plays and for you and us to assess his value.

WORLD CUP TEAM

Disappointment had been expressed at Watersheddings in the omission of Alan Kellett from the World Cup Team. We know Alan's worth to the team at Watersheddings and he had a chance of showing how good he is in the World Cup Trial Team, but unfortunately he had a slight injury which prevented him from appearing.

Frank Myler of Widnes was brought in and the old saying opportunity makes the man, and we wish Myler every success for the games sake, what is his gain is Alan's loss, as we have no doubt that if Alan had played he would have received the honour he so richly deserves. We hope that the selected men of the World Cup team do well, especially our sole representative, Alan Davies.

A great deal is at stake and so much depends on these players to bring honour to our International code. The selectors have done a good job of work in a short time since the season opened, but how times and fashions have altered as regards forwards. For the back row four men are all loose forwards. Not many years back there was a galaxy of second row forwards and very few good loose forwards.

Is the forward game altering or is the present standard of second row forwards not up to the required standard and one may compare this with the scoring power of wing three-quarters. With one exception (Boston of Wigan) no wing three-quarter has so far done nothing of importance in the scoring line in the first month of the season.

However we have a little consolation that Alan Kellett is the reserve out half for the World Cup team, but does not travel.

POOLS ORGANISATION

Thanks to an enthusiastic band of supporters our Pools Organisation has reached the ceiling point of members according to the Small Betting and Lotteries Act, 1956.

We have now another Organisation come into being and known as The Oldham Football Club General Purposes Association and which commenced operations last week-end. This is an Organisation run quite separate from the Oldham Football Club Pools Organisation with a different committee and promoter. It is very nicely on its way but we need more of our members to take an interest and stake in same. You may be a lucky person to win a prize, some one has to win the prizes, so why not join up. Full particulars can be had from the Pavilion Office.

BRIEFS

Roger Dufty is now living at Bispham and works for the English Electric Co. at Preston in a clerical capacity. Roger reports to Oldham each Thursday for training. There is no doubt that Roger trains hard and is a player who counts fitness as the essential part of our game.

Ken Jackson after a try out in the "A" team against Workington on September 3rd is still having trouble with his knee and we are having a further check up on the injury. Hard luck on Ken who has been very unlucky with injury since his return from Australia.

Gordon Haynes has now resumed training since his injury has responded to treatment. He expects to have a game shortly with the "A" team.

Vincent Nestor having completed his Army Service is getting to the peak of condition and we can expect some good displays from now on.

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(League and Cup Matches only—including Law Cup)

Player	A.	T.	G.	Player	A.	T.	G.
Southward	8	2		Winslade	5		
Noon	8	3	4	Goddard D.	3		
Davies	6	1		Parker T.	2		
Quinlan	6	3		Sims	1		
Nestor	5	1		Goddard P.	1		
Pitchford	7	1					
Payne	8						
McIntyre	5	1					
Dufty	8	1					
Warburton	5	1					
Robinson	7	2					
Ganley	7		22				
Kellett	7	4	1				
Mumberson	4	1					

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OLDHAM

Red & White

- 1—GANLEY W.B.
- 2—SOUTHWARD I.
- 3—LORD, B.
- 4—NESTOR, V.
- 5—PATTERSON, W.
- 6—KELLETT A. B.
- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—PAYNE W.
- 9—GODDARD D.
- 10—DUFFY R. *Mumberson*
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—WARRILTON, *Ruffy*
- 13—ROBINSON, G.

Referee:

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- 3—GREATOREX
- 4—BROOM
- 5—WOOLFORD
- 6—MULANEY
- 7—FOX
- 8—HAMMILL
- 9—FAWLEY
- 10—DIXON
- 11—LAMBERT
- 12—CLAWSON
- 14—CLIFFT

Touch Judges:

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Mr. J. C. Clapham (Pemberton (Cm.))

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BIG "GATES" CAN COME AGAIN IF . . .

writes Cyril Briggs

Have you ever witnessed the exciting picture of a Rugby League ground bursting at the seams? Yes, even these days when some people are expecting the shutters to be put up at one or two venues gate capacities are being recorded. I have seen 103,000 at Odsal and the few thousand who gained free admission without the slightest difficulty—bulging the grounds at Fartown and Craven Park, with "no more room" notices at Salford St. Helens and Widnes. The golden eras may have been placed in the history books for some clubs but these happy scenes could come again to many if the RL made the only possible change in the Northern League set-up—two divisions.

WOULD NOT SUFFER

It sounds easy, but it would be quite a simple change and the clubs who might be destined to stay in the Second Division for a large number of years, would not suffer. Take a Wigan—St. Helens game for instance, of not so long ago. Here was all the promise of a big First Division thrill. The two clubs were and are desperate for points for that "first four" placing. Everywhere there was an atmosphere of expectancy and no wonder 47,747 souls paid some of their holiday money to get into Central Park.

Added to that amazing total which is an all time record for Wigan's spacious headquarters, were the many stewards, gatemen, police, Pressmen, ambulance men, officials and V.I.P.'s. So well over the 48,000 mark was chalked up. The gate was even bigger than the Burnley—Manchester United game during the same period, and some people claim "that the game of Rugby League football is dying".

Sporting people will pay heavily to see something out of the ordinary. They don't want to witness one-sided games, and the winning team playing in low gear. The RL game has got to be good and surely the Wigan record crowd I have mentioned was ample evidence of what is required—two well matched teams with something at stake.

SILLY POSITION

But the amazing thing is that the opponents of an even split in the Northern League would have us forget the silly position of one club

actually getting to the top four without meeting some of its nearest rivals. It could happen that a team well down the league the previous season, but having a wonderful run the following term, could only meet its championship rivals in the final.

The smaller clubs in the league got a nice cut out of that huge gate at Central Park and also those other big cash returns from Wigan. The Wigan club have just to grin and bear it.

Year after year they pay more into the league pool and also the cup pool than they receive. Wigan public say they will pay big money each fortnight if they can be assured of a good return for their cash. They, the supporters, want to see a rattling good game at Central Park on alternate weeks. They don't want to see chopping blocks in action.

Say what you will about the RU code. Laugh about some of their laws and antics, but they know how to arrange their fixtures. They know who are the strong and weak clubs, and therefore arrange their fixtures accordingly. It is not snobbery—it's good business, even though some of the bigger RU clubs don't care a hoot about the money taken at the turnstiles.

GATES THERE

The point may be argued that I have chosen the very hot-bed of RL in South-west Lancashire on which to base my comments. My opponents of two divisions may say "what about places like Castleford and Huddersfield and Barrow?" Let me take your minds back you anti-two divisioners to the time when 25,000 gates were not uncommon at Fartown; when Craven Park was packed to the doors and when Castleford could take on any club in the league with an even chance of beating them.

While the present system exists the weaker clubs in the league can't hope to build up sound teams without making terrific purchases. The money is not always forthcoming and young players who are struggling to make the grade have their stuffing and confidence knocked from them by the stronger clubs. They would be better off in their own class.

The social system in the RL is all wrong. There will be money, more money for the game and the weaker clubs will get their due share. But for goodness sake let the clubs supplying the goose laying the golden eggs feed its own flock with the right type of sporting food.

WORLD CUP

For the next three Saturdays there are no first team R.L. matches being played, i.e. 24th September, 1st and 8th October owing to the World Cup matches being played.

If you desire tickets for any of the matches please apply to: The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7.

For the match at Bradford, October 8th, Australia v. Gt. Britain, this is an all ticket match. The Oldham Club have no stand tickets but have 250 ground tickets for sale at 4/- each, which is the minimum price of admission, these can be had from the Secretary's office, Pavilion, Watersheddings.

WORLD CUP TICKETS

To be obtained from The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7.

	£1	15/-	12/6	7/6
24th Sept.—Gt. Britain v. New Zealand at Bradford				
24 Sept.—Australia v. France at Wigan				
Oct. 1—Australia v. New Zealand, at Leeds				
Oct. 1—Gt. B. v. France, at Swinton				
Oct. 8—Australia v. Gt. B. at Bradford				
Oct. 8—N. Zealand v. France at Wigan				
Oct. 10—Play off or Winners v. Rest, at Bradford				

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