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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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Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. BARROW

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

What a shock our members and supporters had on Saturday last when our team were deservedly beaten against Wigan by 15 points to 5. Our team could not have played worse and made Wigan look a super team.

The early season saw us gain some unexpected victories, victories by team work and good play and recently we have played badly when we expected to perform brilliantly, and the same team has shown great form one day and poor form another day. These variations must puzzle our supporters.

How are they to be explained and avoided? Perhaps it may be as well to dwell on the last point—how are these off-days to be avoided? Naturally we want our team to win and however much we pride ourselves upon the sportsmanship which accepts defeat and acknowledges the skill of the victors, there is bound to be some measure of bitterness in our disappointment if defeat has been due to bad play. So we ask not so much "How defeat is to be avoided" as "How are we to avoid bad play". For the sting is in that, not in defeat itself.

We are not too much concerned that the team should lose a match, but we are greatly concerned if they play poor football. And we try to find the explanation for these unexpected reverses, these surprising falls from excellence to badness, from brilliance to blundering. To avoid these disconcerting variations from greatness to mediocrity, we must seek the causes and remedy them before it is too late.

Remember the early part of the season when practically the same team was achieving success and drawing the crowds both home and away, then came the unexpected defeats and unexpected victories, still no consistency, our opponents calling the tune and making us play as they desire, of course this makes a game but the inconsistency is there and this must be corrected by all means.

Let us proceed from now with a new era, admittedly we have had some injuries to key players but we must look forward to the future with confidence and encourage our players knowing well they are capable of better things and the present stalemate is just a lull and passing phase.

OUR VISITORS

Today we give a welcome to the Barrow club and no doubt they will have one or two recent signings to strengthen their team. Recent additions to the team Griffen and Smales, forwards from Widnes and Wigan respectively, and Wookey and Leatherbarrow, backs from Workington in their team today.

Although our visitors are not enjoying a successful season, having played 24 matches, won 7, drawn 1 and lost 16, scoring 210 against 356. They gave a complete shock to our team when we visited Barrow on December 31st when they ran out victors by 11 points to 2, so today we must seek ample revenge by recording a victory and get back in the good books of our members and supporters.

Only the best football from our team will satisfy and a full 80 minutes football will give us victory.

NEW PLAYERS

Efforts have been made to get new recruits in our team in time for the registration of players for the Challenge Cup, the deadline for signing players being midnight, 1st February, but our efforts have fallen by the way side. Rugby League Clubs are very reluctant to part with their stars and if they part it is at an exorbitant fee or a necessity for money which today is prevalent amongst some R.L. Clubs.

Reports in the National Press that we had offered the sum of £5,250 for a County R.U. winger is incorrect, we have been after star R.U. wingers but definitely no figure has been mentioned. The signing of new players does not stop at the Rugby League Challenge Cup, there are other matches wil count as the top four play offs of the League which is a real money spinner for the four clubs taking part. No player shall be allowed to take part in a semi-final or final tie who has not been registered by the first day of March prior to such ties. So the search for good class players will still go on as far as the Oldham Club is concerned.

INJURED PLAYERS

Frank Pitchford who received a damaged shoulder in the match at Liverpool on Saturday January 21st will be out of the game for at least another month although the shoulder is responding to treatment.

Keith Holden is attending hospital each day for treatment for a damaged knee, the exact nature of the injury will be known during the next few days, although improving the final result will be known on Monday next when the specialists will give a report as to his fitness to play against Hull on 11th February.

CUP-TIE TICKETS

We have still some cup-tie tickets for the 1st Round of the Challenge Cup at Hull on Saturday next. These are reserved seats at 5/- each, also Ringside seats at 4/3 each. Any member or supporter can now purchase these, so hurry along before it is too late.

Our team are travelling to Hull for the Cup-tie on Friday afternoon next so as to keep them in peak of condition and freshness, returning to Oldham after the match.

WHAT A SEASON FOR SHOCKS

writes Cyril Briggs

There will be many of the older school of R.L. followers who will think that the "world has gone daft" about signing on fees. But it may not be long before we get prices up to £12,000 and beyond.

The fact is that the clubs have to keep pace with their rivals and supporters themselves get rather upset if their club is not in the transfer news.

The old school can remember the time when a player switched from a junior club for a few bob, and before the 1918 war signing on fees were well under £50.

Men who came up from South Wales did not get a fraction of what is offered today and this fact can be borne out by the men who have worn club R.L. colours over the years.

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- 6—KELLETT A.
- 7—PYCROFT J.
- 8—PAYNE W.
- 9—GODDARD P.
- 10—ROBINSON G.
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—GRAY T.
- 13—PARKER T.

Referee:

Mr. R. GELDER
Wilmslow

BARROW Blue

- 1—DAWES
- 2—ROPER
- 3—WOOKEY
- 4—REA
- 5—TREEN
- 6—SHARP
- 7—HARRIS
- 8—HUBBOLD
- 9—WILSON J.
- 10—DUCIE
- 11—WALTERS
- 12—SMALES
- 13—WILSON D.

Touch Judges:

Mr. J. Tyrer, Leigh (Yellow)
Mr. J. C. Clapham, Pemberton Crim.

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WILSON'S FAMOUS ALES

But what would happen if there were no pounds to spend from the football pools? That is a thought which some of us try to forget. The simple fact is that while signing on fees have shot up, the admission fees to games have not increased in comparison.

DON'T MOAN

It is not a bit of use grumbling about the standard of play, and commenting that this or that player is not as good as the man who occupied the position a few years ago. It is not a bit of use saying that the game is not as attractive as it was, or blaming the referees for any faults. We can all help to bring about better play if we will shoulder our responsibilities.

It is not a bit of use coming to the ground occasionally and paying a few bob to see the game. The club has to pay wages out **every** week and for four months of the year there is not a great deal of revenue coming in to balance the budget.

The pools are useful, very useful, but we think that some of the people who grumble about this and that should support the club a little better. For instance, the number of programmes sold is not what it should be, and the various efforts for the well being of the club should be better supported.

Of course, there are the regulars. These are the people who are welcome at any club, and the amazing fact is that they grumble less than those who "pick their matches" and have the cheek to say so. No sporting club can pay its way on "occasional support." We want more regulars and when men are in the transfer market then the club is in a position to bargain. The market is hotting up these days and an ordinary player can bring £3,000.

HARD WORK

Therefore, let us all play our part in making Watersheddings the centre for bigger crowds and bigger deeds. An enormous amount of work goes on behind the scenes every day, and those who are ready to offer criticism should come and see what is done, and perhaps lend a hand. But it is usually the moaners who are absent when there is any real work to be done.

Happily at Oldham we don't get so many of these folk as they do at other sports clubs, but the fewer we see the better for all concerned. The committee don't get paid for their tasks and many times these jobs take a great deal of time. What Oldham F. C. require is for **everyone** to pull the same way, and then we may see Wembley after all.

There are bound to be ups and downs, and in fact our visitors, Barrow, know something of these disappointments this season. R.L. is becoming very competitive not only in the transfer market, but also in the actual fixtures. Just take a peep at the Northern League Chart and you will see what I mean.

Some of the clubs who are now in the top six, may find themselves well below those placings long before the season concludes. Mind you, it is all the better for the game, but not for the ulcers of the club officials!

CHEERS

So the cry goes up, cheer, don't jeer—and we can do with all your vocal support on February 11th at the Boulevard, Hull in round one of the R.L. Challenge Cup. Let us try and drown the threepenny stand roar at Hull.

It will be a terrific task, but not if the moaners do their stuff and turn up among the regulars.

A win at Hull could put Oldham on the road to the club's first Wembley. It will be a hard task, but given plenty of support (it means so much to the players) Oldham can win through to the second round.

Yes, the supporter of today is becoming more fickle than ever, but he should remember if there was no rugby on Saturday afternoons he would be very disappointed.

Never was public support required by the R.L. game as it is today. You can all help, by turning up regularly. The officials are pledged to keep the club among the leaders. And they will do their level best to retain that high standard which has been reached for several seasons.

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(League and Cup Matches only—including Law Cup)

Player	A.	T.	G.	Player	A.	T.	G.
Southward	18	14		Kellett	22	10	1
Noon	23	11	11	Mumberson	5	1	
Davies	21	4		Winslade	22		
Quinlan	6	3		Goddard D.	4		
Nestor	8	1		Parker T.	5	1	
Pitchford	20	5		Sims	2		1
Payne	25	1		Goddard P.	8	1	
McIntyre	19	5		Patterson	15	10	
Duffy	24	4		Hatherall	3		
Warburton	5	1		Lord	5	2	
Robinson	21	6		Parker D.	12	3	
Ganley	20		70	Holden K.	7	3	
Gray	1			Jones	8	3	
Pycroft	1						

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Halifax	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	3-3				11-2	15-3	15-0	15-29			2-13	17-9		5-26
Blackpool	11-2	...	8-8	10-7		10-11			13-24		8-20	10-13	12-24		5-20
Halifax			...		18-0		15-5				8-4	17-7	15-5		22-12
Leigh	16-5	15-9	...			13-4			13-28			6-4		7-25	18-3
Liverpool	9-14		9-31	2-10	...	10-28	4-11	22-26			3-30		7-16		
OLDHAM			17-15	9-12	49-12	...		37-0	16-4	4-6			25-5	5-15	
Rochdale			13-20			14-29	...		5-38	4-45	0-27		9-2		4-17
Salford	9-0		11-17	4-17			20-9	...	5-17	5-24			18-9		20-8
St. Helens				10-4	17-9	26-12	51-4		...			18-8		11-6	47-2
Swinton	33-9		15-5		47-3							36-13	21-5	10-12	30-0
Warrington		28-2		3-4	38-5	25-9	25-0	48-4	5-8	9-25	...	45-7			42-9
Whitehaven	20-5	12-13			15-0	2-16		13-0			2-31	...		14-2	16-3
Widnes	26-13		10-5				28-14			7-12	10-14	17-6	...		5-3
Wigan	44-0	16-11		15-17			14-5	47-6		4-16	5-10				
Workington	11-8	8-17	22-7	11-2	36-5	2-17				18-3			11-8	10-11	...

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

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