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## Fixtures for the Season

| Date    | CLUB                | Grd. | F. A. |
|---------|---------------------|------|-------|
| Aug. 19 | HALIFAX             | Home |       |
| 21      | BARROW              | Away |       |
| 26      | BLACKPOOL B.        | Away |       |
| 28      | YORK                | Home |       |
| Sept. 2 | BARROW (Lancs. Cup) | Away |       |
| 4       | OLDHAM/ROCHDALE 13  |      |       |
|         | v. NEW ZEALAND      | Home |       |
| 9       | HALIFAX             | Away |       |
| 16      | ROCHDALE H.         | Home |       |
| 23      | HUNSLET             | Away |       |
| 30      | BARROW              | Home |       |
| Oct. 7  | WORKINGTON T.       | Home |       |
| 14      | YORK                | Away |       |
| 21      | WARRINGTON          | Home |       |
| Nov. 4  | WHITEHAVEN          | Away |       |
| 11      | HUDDERSFIELD        | Away |       |
| 18      | HULL                | Home |       |
| 25      | SALFORD             | Away |       |
| Dec. 2  | WHITEHAVEN          | Home |       |
| 9       | WORKINGTON T.       | Away |       |
| 16      | ST. HELENS          | Away |       |
| 23      | SALFORD             | Home |       |

| Date   | CLUB           | Grd. | F. A. |
|--------|----------------|------|-------|
| 25     |                |      |       |
| 26     | SWINTON        | Home |       |
| 30     | WIDNES         | Home |       |
| Jan. 1 |                |      |       |
| 6      | WARRINGTON     | Away |       |
| 13     | WIGAN          | Away |       |
| 20     | WIGAN          | Home |       |
| 27     | ROCHDALE H.    | Away |       |
| Feb. 3 | LIVERPOOL CITY | Away |       |
| 10     |                |      |       |
| 17     | LEIGH          | Home |       |
| 24     | WIDNES         | Away |       |
| Mar. 3 |                |      |       |
| 10     | LEIGH          | Away |       |
| 17     | ST. HELENS     | Home |       |
| 24     | HULL           | Away |       |
| 31     | LIVERPOOL CITY | Home |       |
| Apr. 7 | HUNSLET        | Home |       |
| 14     |                |      |       |
| 20     | SWINTON        | Away |       |
| 21     | BLACKPOOL B.   | Home |       |
| 23     | HUDDERSFIELD   | Home |       |

# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

THE PAVILION :: WATERSHEDDINGS



SEASON - 1961-62

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - - 3d.

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H. Goodwin, T. E. Rees, R. L. Thomas, E. Watkins

Club Doctors: Dr. A. CAMPBELL, Dr. A. R. NETTLETON

Manager-Coach: A. J. RISMAN

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No. 5—Saturday, 30th September, 1961

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

**OLDHAM v. BARROW**

#### WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

On Saturday last we consider that our first team touched rock bottom in their display at Hunslet, in fact the boys realised their inept display themselves and did not require telling about same, nobody knows better than a player or a team when they have a bad game. With ample possession of the the ball from the set scrums in the first half of the match the game should have been well won before half time, but bad passes and inability to hold the ball discounted any possibility of a score, we had chances galore but the mistakes in the field appeared to go through the whole team and nothing went right. Our team could not play any worse during the season, this appears to be impossible so evident was the poor form of the whole team. Individually the players are good enough, but they have lost that blend temporarily and we hope for better things to come.

#### CHANGES

It is amazing when one realises the composition and changes in our first team from the end of season 1956/57, the season we won the League Championship, the Lancashire Senior Cup and the Lancashire League, only one cup avoided our collection during that season, the Rugby League Challenge Cup. The following players have been transferred to other clubs or have retired from the game since that glorious season of 1956/57. What famous names they are : backs include, Dick Cracknell, Alan Davies, Frank Daley, Bernard Ganley, Frank Stirrup, Dennis Ayres and John Etty; of the forwards there are Don Vines, Jack Keith, Sid Little, Derek Turner and Ken Jackson, what memories their names bring back of the delightful football they played, as a team. Whatever club we visited we played before capacity crowds. Of the above players only Vines, Turner, Davies and Ayres are in the game today. It is amazing that a period of four years can make such an alteration in the composition of a team, yes a team of stars, the replacement of the above players is a super human task when the demand exceeds the supply. Teams are not built up to stardom in one, two, or three seasons, it takes a longer period, as other clubs have no doubt found out. We consider that we have the material at Watershedding to build up another great team, yes we are also continually on the lookout for new talent.

## NEW SIGNING

The signing of Peter Smethurst from the Swinton Club as a centre or second row forward is the latest addition to our ranks and we trust that Peter has a successful career with us. We know this player has ability and without doubt will strengthen our side. Peter by civil occupation is a window cleaner on his own account, and will be getting married towards the end of the year and will reside in the Wardley (Manchester) district.

## INJURIES

Our two players injured at Hunslet on Saturday last, Mike Bird and Geoff Sims are not so serious as we originally expected, Mike had stretched ligaments of the ankle and Geoff contusion of the chest. Both have responded to treatment and we hope to have their services today.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Cumberland County in having won the County Championship in spite of the glitter of Yorkshire and Lancashire star studded teams. It is, indeed, a credit, to Cumberland with its limited resources having only two senior teams and 12 teams playing junior football, open age and under 19 years of age. However, next week we shall have the pleasure of seeing some of these Cumberland stalwarts in the Workington team, which visit Watershedding, and we hope it will include our old friend Ike Southward.

## "A" TEAM FOOTBALL

We have stressed the point again and again of the lack of interest taken in "A" team football by clubs and especially with regard to fixtures. Yorkshire are somewhat better off by way of having more clubs than Lancashire, hence the Lancashire section are devoid of fixtures for several Saturdays during the season. What a lamentable state of affairs in the game. The reason is very easy to find why the attendances at "A" team matches are so alarmingly low. Lancashire teams are not playing every Saturday and the policy of drifting away from the game is obvious. We are of the opinion that "A" teams should be run on the principle of first teams and a full seasons programme of matches would be in operation. Our game and attendances might well be on the toboggan. The value of players when transferred now runs individually into thousands of pounds, the game at present cannot afford it, the attendances do not warrant it, and anything that lives on a subsidy can only live a certain period. Today there is more interest taken in gambling and we can state without contradiction that Pools Organisations, Bingo etc., has saved clubs from extinction. The financial pace is too great for the game to stand and how long this will last we cannot predict. The game is the thing that matters and all the money in the world will not improve it.

## HELP THE HOSPITALS — THROUGH THE H.B.S.

Ever been a hospital patient especially during the football season? Isn't it miserable? Its pretty awful at any time, but when you are prevented from seeing some special game or games, owing to illness, details of the match or your favourite team are very welcome.

That's why the Hospital Broadcast Systems have helped brighten up the patients' stay in hospital. — (writes CYRIL BRIGGS)

The HBS have now become exceptional in that there are now link-ups between other grounds and it is possible to listen to a full match commentary even if a match is played out side the district. Cup ties or special games are eagerly anticipated by patients..

The HBS are purely voluntary. Some R.L. clubs provide the cash for the equipment which is quite expensive, but the biggest expense is from the line rental. Lines have to be laid from the football ground, through the G.P.O. telephone exchange and then to the hospitals.

The line can be open at any time so long as the hospitals are notified before-hand that commentaries are expected and a switch puts all the ward sets or head-phones in action.

## CEASING?

Now, because of increased expenditure, some of the lines look like ceasing. The G.P.O. have decided to increase the annual rentals as they have done in the cases of private telephones and also those belonging to industrial concerns. The increased charge is so large in some areas, where there are several branch lines, that the local Hospital Broadcasts Committee have said that they cannot continue.

Most clubs are generous in their attitude to the HBS. They either pay an annual fee to the officials to help meet the bills, or they allow a collection to be taken at one of the grounds when a match is played.

But in many instances, this financial assistance is not enough and the officials of the H.B.S. have to search for other sources of revenue.

There are very few R.L. clubs who don't have this system on their grounds but in some towns and cities there are as many as five or six (more in some instances) branch lines. Each line costs extra, and besides the hospital patients who receive the commentaries either on sets or through special head phones, there are lines to the Blind Institutes, etc.

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1—SIMS, G. <i>SS</i>          |                       | 1—REID               |
| 2—HOLDEN, K. <i>SS</i>        |                       | 2—BURGESS            |
| 3—SMETHURST, P. <i>SS</i>     |                       | 3—WOOKEY             |
| 4—NOON, J. <i>SS</i>          |                       | 4—WOOLVERIDGE        |
| 5—KENNY, V. <i>SS</i>         |                       | 5—FENTON             |
| 6—KELLETT, A. <i>SS</i>       |                       | 6—SKEELS             |
| 7—PITCHFORD/PYCROFT <i>SS</i> |                       | 7—FALLON             |
| 8—PAYNE, W. <i>SS</i>         |                       | 8—KELLAND            |
| 9—McINTYRE, L. <i>SS</i>      |                       | 9—WILSON             |
| 10—DUFTY, R. <i>SS</i>        |                       | 10—CAMPBELL          |
| 11—WINSLADE, C. <i>SS</i>     |                       | 11—SANDERSON         |
| 12—ROBINSON, G. <i>SS</i>     |                       | 12—DUCIE             |
| 13—PARKER, D. <i>SS</i>       |                       | 13—SMALES            |

Referee :  
Mr. L. GANT  
Wakefield

Touch Judges :  
Mr. W. E. Gibson, Warrington (Yell.)  
Mr. F. Whiteley, Warrington (Crim.)

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## ANNUAL FEE

The organisers of the H.B.S. are plugging for a reduction in the annual G.P.O. fee. If it doesn't come about, then they may have to pack up an idea which brings joy to many, especially those who many be suffering pain in the hospitals. If you are asked to contribute to the upkeep of the local H.B.S., then I hope you will do so.

The organisers of the Bingo Clubs are making nice profits for one object or another. A few £s. to the H.B.S. would be welcome at any time. The point about the matter which some people don't seem to understand is that an annual fee is called for by the Post Office Telephones despite the fact that the lines may only be in use for eight months of the year.

The same happens, of course, to telephone subscribers, and the G.P.O. have announced that they cannot make any reduction because of the cost of materials, labour etc. have increased enormously during the past few years.

Therefore, all R.L. fans should rally round and see that this fine scheme is not lost. It would be very costly indeed if it was dropped and re-started again.

The commentators attend the games in fair weather or foul and they are not paid in any way for their services. There were many snags at the outset of the schemes but the standard of report, together with the reception has improved through experience. It should also be taken into account that the commentaries are sent out every week, and not occasionally.

For the most part, the commentaries are not as professional as those by the B.B.C., but it has to be realised that the reporters and also the commentators who are engaged by the B.B.C. are experts and have been specially trained for their job.

Moreover, these commentators and reporters are backed up by more experts behind the scenes.

## WELCOME REPORT

If you are asked to contribute to the H.B.S. do so without a grumble. Sooner or later (it is a very hard thing to say) either you or a member of your family may be struck down with a sudden illness and taken to hospital. The weekly report from Watersheddings will be welcome to them if they are males and keen rugby fans.

At the moment efforts are being made to try and have the recent increased charges reduced. There is a nation wide appeal against the G.P.O. decisions. If it should not succeed then all the more help the H.B.S. can get the better. But it is cash the H.B.S. officials require, and they want it quickly. Microphones, lines and so forth all need replenishing from time to time, and therefore money is continually going out.

## OUR VISITORS

Today we welcome visitors from Barrow and they have several well known players in their ranks. The Barrow club have been big spenders in their efforts to revive interest in the Furness district. Much has been spent on the acquisition of new players but so far their enterprise has not been rewarded, owing to injuries etc. We hope they will have a full representative side out for today's game and that we shall see a game worthy of the name. In our League game at Barrow on August 19th, we met with unexpected defeat by 11 points to 5 points. We again travelled to Barrow for the first round of the Lancashire Cup and with a full team out we returned with victory by 10 points to 3 points.

## WEMBLEY FINAL, 1962

For those who wish to see the Wembley Final of 1962, please make a note of the date—Saturday, 12th May, 1962. Clubs are not allowed to order tickets in block order from now and individual applications must be made to the Rugby League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7. The prices of tickets are 25/-, 15/-, 12/6, 10/6, and 3/- ground. Please enclose remittance and stamped addressed envelope with application. There are very few remaining 25/- tickets left. So you have now been warned, order **now** and save disappointment.

## SATURDAY NEXT AT WATERSHEDDINGS

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# **FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS—1961-62**

(Up to and including 21st August, 1961)

| Palyer     | App. | T. | G. | Palyer   | App. | T. | G. |
|------------|------|----|----|----------|------|----|----|
| Noon       | 7    | 9  | 7  | Morgan   | 1    |    |    |
| Sims       | 8    | 1  | 29 | Parker T | 1    |    |    |
| Patterson  | 7    | 1  |    | Robinson | 7    | 2  |    |
| Holden     | 5    | 3  |    | Nestor   | 6    | 1  |    |
| Davies     | 3    |    |    | Bird     | 6    | 6  |    |
| Kenny      | 3    | 1  | 3  |          |      |    |    |
| Kellett    | 9    | 5  |    |          |      |    |    |
| Pitchford  | 9    | 6  |    |          |      |    |    |
| Payne      | 9    |    |    |          |      |    |    |
| McIntyre   | 9    | 2  |    |          |      |    |    |
| Winslade   | 7    |    |    |          |      |    |    |
| Duffy      | 7    | 1  |    |          |      |    |    |
| Rae        | 5    |    |    |          |      |    |    |
| Parker, D. | 7    | 1  |    |          |      |    |    |

# **LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

(Up to and including Saturday last)

|              | Barrow | Blackpool | Huddersfield | Leigh | Liverpool | OLDHAM | Rochdale | Salford | St. Helens | Swinton | Warrington | Whitehaven | Widnes | Wigan | Workington |
|--------------|--------|-----------|--------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Barrow       | ...    |           |              |       |           | 11-5   |          |         | 2-34       |         |            |            |        |       | 8-12       |
| Blackpool    |        | ...       | 2-23         |       |           | 5-20   |          |         |            |         |            |            |        | 8-33  | 5-22       |
| Huddersfield |        |           | ...          |       |           |        |          |         |            |         |            |            |        |       |            |
| Leigh        |        |           |              | ...   |           |        |          |         |            |         |            |            |        |       |            |
| Liverpool    |        |           |              |       | 5-9       |        |          |         |            |         |            |            |        |       |            |
| OLDHAM       |        |           |              |       |           | ...    | 53-9     |         |            |         |            |            |        |       |            |
| Rochdale     |        |           | 0-10         |       |           |        | ...      |         | 2-14       |         |            |            |        |       | 4-14       |
| Salford      |        |           |              |       |           |        |          | ...     | 7-24       |         |            |            |        |       |            |
| St. Helens   |        |           |              |       |           |        |          |         | ...        |         |            | 44-0       |        |       |            |
| Swinton      |        |           |              |       |           |        |          |         | 15-6       | ...     |            |            |        |       |            |
| Warrington   |        |           |              |       |           |        |          | 32-11   |            |         | ...        |            | 15-10  |       |            |
| Whitehaven   |        |           | 5-5          |       |           |        |          |         | 0-24       |         |            | ...        |        |       |            |
| Widnes       |        |           |              |       |           |        |          |         |            |         |            |            | ...    |       |            |
| Wigan        | 31-5   |           |              | 25-6  | 45-0      |        |          |         |            | 6-13    |            |            |        |       |            |
| Workington   |        |           |              |       |           |        |          |         |            |         | 11-2       |            |        |       |            |

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

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Manchester, 1**