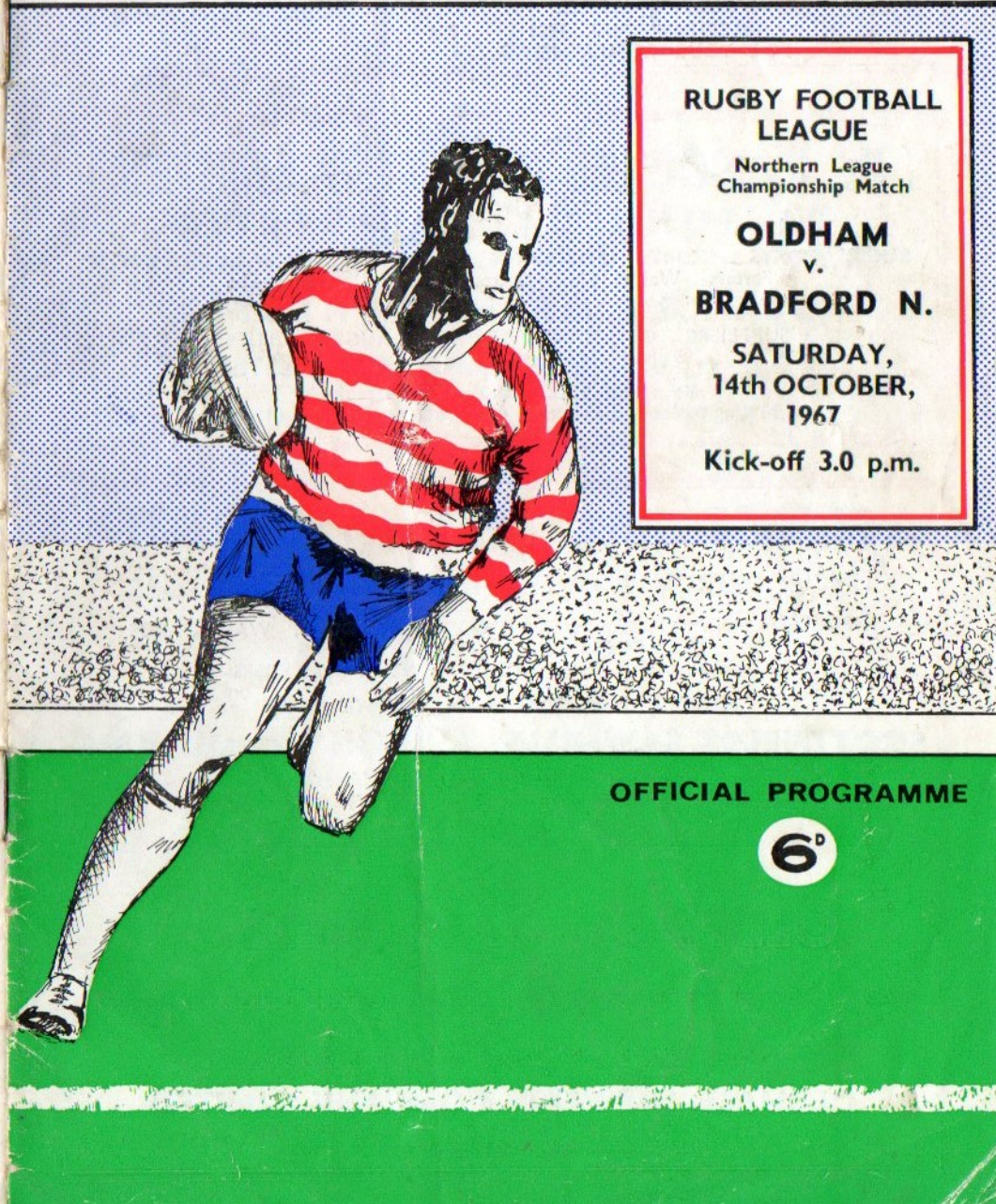


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LEAGUE**

Northern League
Championship Match

OLDHAM
v.
BRADFORD N.

SATURDAY,
14th OCTOBER,
1967

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

6^D

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OUR VISITORS

Played 9, Won 8, Lost 1 is the proud record of our visitors today, Bradford Northern. The boys from Odsal were undefeated in League football until last Saturday when Leeds won 18-14 at Odsal.

The story of Bradford Northern's revival in 1964 is a remarkable one. In December 1963 the old 'Bradford Northern' announced that it could no longer carry on because of tremendous financial difficulties. Their massive ground was far too expensive to keep good and their gates were not helping matters. Only 841 saw their last game against Leigh and this speaks for itself. The League reluctantly accepted 'Northern's' resignation from the League and a Club who had set up such a proud record over the years had died or so we thought!

Former Bradford star Trevor Foster led a group of sportsmen in and around Bradford and set about an almost impossible task of forming a new Bradford Northern. Their campaigners grew from strength to strength and sure enough at the start of the 1964-65 season they were back and 15,000 rugby hungry followers turned up to see them. Their average 'gate' for that season was 5,000 (not bad on today's figures). In their second season their gates increased to an average of around 7,000. In this season 'Northern' won the Yorkshire Challenge Cup, finished 7th in the league table and reached the 3rd round of the Challenge Cup only to be defeated by Wigan before a crowd of 28,000.

Last season their average 'gate' went up to 8,000 and Northern finished just outside the top four.

This season so far in their 5 home games they have not had a 'gate' of less than 10,000, so last season's average again looks like being beaten.

So much for the facts and figures of the Club, now about their team.

Terry Price, their full back, is of course a former Welsh Rugby Union Star, Terry has made his name already on the Rugby League scene with a series of

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articles for a Sunday newspaper on his experiences in Rugby Union circles. He is an accurate marksman and looks like developing into a first rate 'League' full back.

On the wings Bradford have the one time sprint star Berwyn Jones who joined them from Wakefield for £3,000 last season. Berwyn, a Wakefield schoolmaster once threatened to retire from Professional rugby, but is now a firm favourite with the Odsal fans. George Ambrum, a Thursday Islander, is on loan to Bradford from North Sydney. He is a powerful runner and George too has created a good impression already at Odsal.

Geoff Wrigglesworth, the former Leeds player and former Halifax centre Alan Rhodes make up the positions 3 and 4, and the strong running of these two is a strong feature of the Northern team. Rhodes is currently Northern's top try scorer.

David Stockwell at stand off is a brilliant performer and is certainly in the running for test honours this season. Yorkshire County player, also ex Halifax.

Stockwell's scrum half partner these days is Bak Diabira. Raised in Hull, although French born, this player is one of the games most colourful newcomers. At only 19 years old he certainly has a fine future ahead of him.

Bradford have recently purchased Terry Ramshaw from Halifax and it is likely Terry will be making his debut for Northern this afternoon.

Ken Roberts (another former Halifax star), Welsh hooker Tony Fisher and David Hill a former Bradford Junior player make up a formidable front row.

Four second rowers will be battling for two positions. To repeat myself, Terry Ramshaw will no doubt take one of these and my guess is that Terry Clawson will get the other despite the competition from Alan Hepworth and Bob Taylor.

At No. 13 will be former Oldham player Johnny Rae. Johnny has represented Cumberland and Great Britain and is one of the fastest forwards playing. He is a prolific try scorer with 37 to his credit in 113 games.

No one can argue that Bradford Northern are a fine team and we are proud to have them as our visitors today.

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At the beginning of the season 'Northern' defeated us by 28 points to 10. We shall be all out for revenge this afternoon.

MR. GERRY HELME

Gerry Helme, coach at Leigh until recently when the 'Hilton Park' Club acquired the services of Alex Murphy, has joined the Oldham staff as Club Coach.

Gerry has already gained the respect of the players and he will work in close liason with "A" Team coach Alex Givvons and First team Trainer/Physiotherapist Dennis Wright.

He commenced his duties officially last Thursday week and he will take charge of the team for the first time this afternoon.

I am sure everyone at Watersheddings wishes Gerry the very best of luck with his new Club and it is hoped that under his guidance we may reach that inevitable Wembley before very long.

MR. DENNIS WRIGHT AND MR. BOB IRVING

These two gentlemen are to be congratulated on their selection to represent Great Britain in the forthcoming Test match against Australia at Leeds.

Dennis has been chosen as Trainer/Physiotherapist to the Test side and Bob is selected for a second row spot.

We hope that Dennis's job is made easier by the fact that no one will require attention to serious injuries and we hope that Bob too will come out of the game with flying colours.

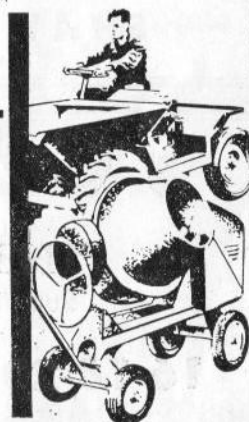
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- 7—DIABIRA, D.
- 8—GODDARD, P.
- 9—FISHER, A.
- 10—HILL, D.
- 11—CLAWSON, T.
- 12—TAYLOR, R.
- 13—RAE, J.
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PLAYERS No. 6 COMPETITION

Today sees the beginning of the Players No. 6 'Player of the Match' and 'Player of the Season' award scheme.

In the 'Player of the Season' competition fans will have a regular weekly vote. Voting slips are enclosed in today's programme. All you have to do is to vote for **your** player of the match. Vote for the man who you think puts up the best all round performance.

The number of votes he gets from you will be counted up every week and the six players with most votes at the end of the season will share prize money of £600.

So make sure you vote and post your slip in the 'Players No. 6' Posting boxes at the exits from the ground.

The other competition will also interest fans.

Our Committeeman Jack Errock is here today acting on behalf of Players No. 6 Cigarettes to judge his 'Player of the match'. The name of this player will be announced right at the end of the game and he will get a £6 award from the Players No. 6 Personality girl who is attractively dressed in a White Trouser Suit and turquoise sweater.

The award will be presented in the Pavilion 30 minutes after the end of the match.

These two competitions will be run at all senior League games right through the season, and should add excitement to the game.

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OUR SOCIAL CLUB

Full details of the opening of our new luxury Social Club will be announced officially in the very near future.

It is proposed to open the Club to its members on either 8th or 9th of November.

APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP NOW BY COMPLETING THE FORM BELOW AND RETURNING IT TO THE CLUB SECRETARY, MR. JOHN STRINGER IN THE PAVILION.

Many people have asked me what exactly is the Social Club going to be like. Well I can tell them through the medium of this programme that there is a large 'concert room' which we expect will seat about 400 people.

Adjoining the 'concert room' there will be luxurious members lounge, superbly furnished and with magnificent decor.

A men's games room is also under erection.

I wish to apply for membership to the O.F.C. Social Club. I am over 18 and I enclose remittance for being the fee required.

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FIXTURES 1967-8

1967 Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	1968 Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 15	(Tu) Liverpool City	Home	L 12-13	Jan. 1	(M) Workington T.	Away	
" 19	(S) Leigh (Lancs Cup - 1)	Home	W 17-11	" 6	(S) Batley	Away	
" 23	(W) Bradford Northern	Away	L 10-28	" 13	(S) Wigan	Away	
" 26	(S) Hull	Away	L 20-29	" 20	(S) St. Helens	Home	
Sept. 2	(S) Whitehaven	Home	W 34-14	" 27	(S) Barrow	Away	
" 4	(M) Blackpool Borough	Away	L 19-15	Feb. 3	(S) (1)		
" 7	(Th) Swinton (Lancs C - 2)	Away	L 8-11	" 10	(S) Batley	Home	
" 9	(S) Warrington	Away	L 2-28	" 17	(S) Widnes	Home	
" 16	(S) Rochdale H.	Home	W 13-12	" 24	(S) (2)		
" 23	(S) Whitehaven	Away	W 24-12	Mar. 1	(F) Rochdale H.	Away	
" 30	(S) Wigan	Home	L 13-17	" 9	(S) Workington T.	Home	
Oct. 3	(Tu) Hull K.R.	Home	L 7-9	" 23	(S) Leigh	Home	
" 14	(S) Bradford N.	Home		Apr. 12	(F) Swinton	Home	
" 20	(F) Salford	Away		" 15	(M) Hull K.R.	Away	
" 28	(S) Blackpool Boro'	Home					
Nov. 4	(S) Leigh	Away					
" 7	(Tu) Salford	Home					
" 17	(F) Widnes	Away					
" 25	(S) Hull	Home					
Dec. 2	(S) Liverpool C.	Away					
" 8	(F) Warrington	Home					
" 16	(S) St. Helens	Away					
" 26	(Tu) Swinton	Away					
" 30	(S) Barrow	Home					



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