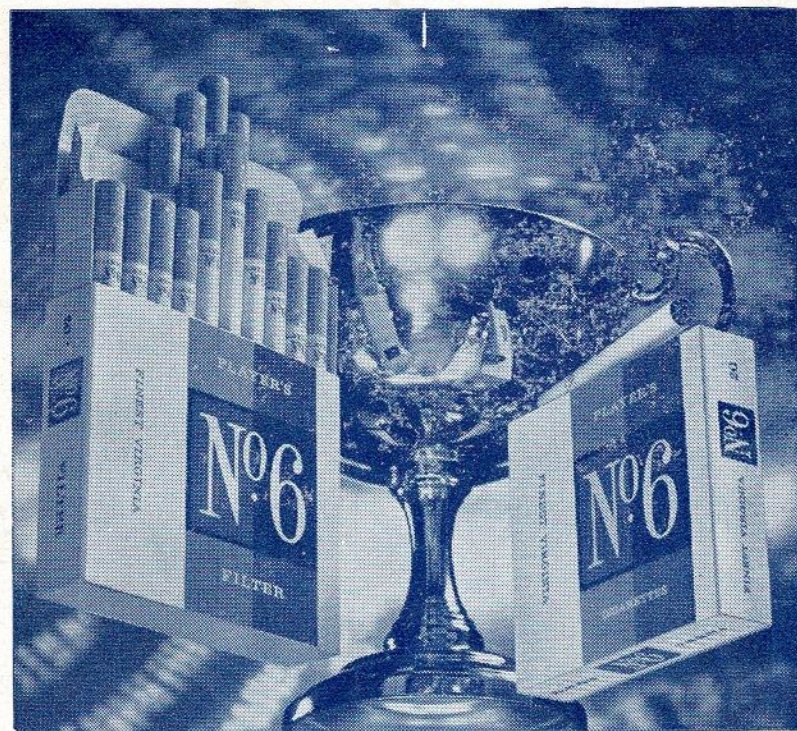


PLAYER'S N°6

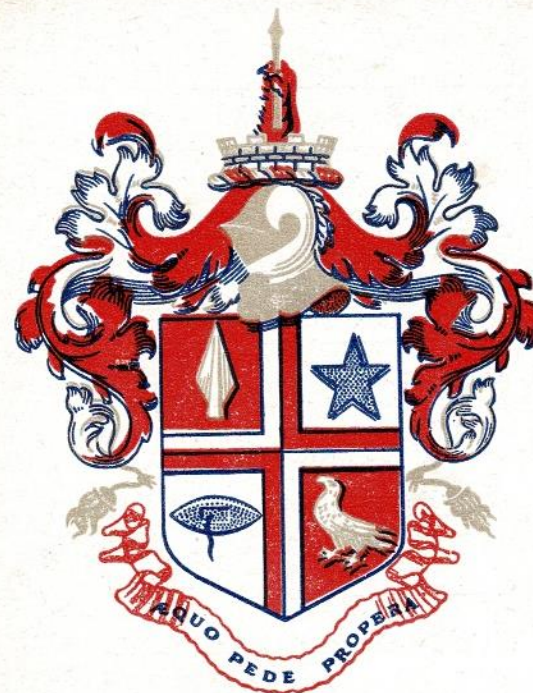
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Football
Club Ltd.**



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Hilton Park

RUGBY LEAGUE MATCH **LEIGH v OLDHAM**

Saturday, 1st February, 1969

Kick-Off 3-0 p.m.

abandoned 23 min

**Official
Programme
6d.**



N° 1520

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Bitter Disappointment

All our supporters were bitterly disappointed with last Saturday's defeat by Rochdale Hornets in the First Round of the Rugby League Cup. It is true that the Hornets, with Huyton and Blackpool, have been our 'bogy' teams for some time, but with two league wins against them this season, most people were confident we could comfortably reach the Second Round. However, our boys were right off form, and on the day Rochdale Hornets probably deserved to win. Naturally we must ask, why should such teams upset our own players' form. This season we have produced some wonderful open and attractive attacking rugby against Hull K. R., both home and away, and also twice at home against Leeds. In addition we have played three games against Wigan. If we are to gain honours we have to be consistent against the good teams and also against the less successful clubs. Eight to ten years ago we would win by a fair margin when playing the average club. Perhaps something will be done soon to remedy this defect in our makeup. We offer our sympathy to the players in their exit from the Cup, as this is just as big a blow to them as it is to our Directors and Supporters. Although for today's match our team is weakened by injuries and international claims, no doubt the players, including a few from the 'A' team, will respond to the challenge. If we are to finish in the "top four" we cannot afford to lose many more league games. Let us hope today that the home team will recover their form, as shown in the matches referred to above, and give the spectators some excitement and entertainment.

Welcome to Oldham

Whilst we are somewhat disappointed at going out of the Cup so early, Oldham will be jubilant over their success against Hull K. R. in the First Round. Oldham have the most attractive fixture in the next round, which should help to bring the crowds back to Watersheddings. Congratulations to Oldham on their Cup success and best wishes for the next round against the formidable Saints. Oldham's form in the league has been rather up and down. Whilst they have lost home and away to Huyton, they have registered several noteworthy victories. Apparently they are running into form, and this means today's match will be a close fought one. It is interesting to note that the former Leigh player, Geoff Fletcher, now their captain, is getting a great deal of Press attention for his sterling performances. Wilf Briggs, another former Leigh player, whilst off form earlier in the season, is amongst the top try scorers. Murphy, Oldham's full-back, is a native of Leigh, and no doubt the Leigh supporters will be interested in his performance as well as Briggs and Fletcher. Despite the brief dispute on 14th December about the state of the pitch at Oldham, the relationships between our clubs has been most friendly, and we feel sure this will continue. We offer a most cordial welcome to Directors, Players and supporters from Oldham, and may we all enjoy the game.

Casualties

David Eckersley was taken off at half-time last Saturday with a bruised shoulder, which is now diagnosed as a "sprung" shoulder, and may not be fit for today's game. Bob Welding was suffering acutely in the second half against Rochdale and had a very painful arm. The verdict is that he has an infection or virus, and this will keep him out of action for two or three weeks. Kevin

Ashcroft is not available owing to his selection for the international match in France tomorrow. We regret that Gilfedder and Entwistle have not reported for training for some weeks, and we could now do with the services, in some capacity, of Laurie and Terry. Moreover Lowe, Fiddler and Harrison are still on loan to Blackpool. On the other hand we have Kevin Kelly on loan from St. Helens, and maybe we shall have another player on loan for today's 'A' team match at Oldham. David Chisnall is to see a consultant next week, but he is likely to be out of the game for several weeks. Two months ago we had a number of injured players, but the reserves, when joining the first team, rose to the occasion. Let us hope they do the same today.

Derek Higgs's Testimonial

The collection taken at half-time last Saturday realised £30. This was a little disappointing, but we are pleased to report that last Monday night's show, with Georgie Fame and other stars at the Garrick Club, was a great success, and the fund will get a nice addition. We thank the joint committee for their efforts so far, and Mr. Roy Jackson, for allowing us the use of his Club for the event. Watch out for further details in aid of the above Testimonial.

Coming Events at "Hilton Park"

SATURDAY, 8th FEBRUARY—Leigh 'A' v. Workington 'A'. Kick-off 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY—Leigh v. Whitehaven. Kick-off 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, 28th FEBRUARY—Leigh v. Hull K. R. Kick-off 7-15 p.m.

Wembley Tickets

All Stand tickets for this year's Final on May 17th have been sold, and we regret our club has none to sell. Already bookings are being received for next year's Wembley Final. Therefore, if you wish to have a Stand ticket for the 1970 Final, please order from the Rugby League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7.

"Focus on Rugby Show"

At Leigh Miners' Welfare Institute, off Twist Lane, Leigh, Monday, 10th February, 1969 at 8 p.m. Film Show, several Great Britain Test Matches, etc.

RUGBY QUIZ—Panel: Chairman Bill Fallowfield, Secretary Rugby League; REFEREES' TEAM: Eric Clay, Esq.; Joe Manley, Esq.; Dennis Davies, Esq.; PLAYERS' TEAM: Alex Murphy and two other stars. Tickets 2/6 each.

This had previously been arranged to take place at the Casino Club, but please note it has been arranged for the Miners' Welfare Institute. Note the change in venue and change in date. Bar available.



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First Team Scorers

	Appearances	T.	G.	Pts.
WARBURTON	19	9	32	91
MURPHY	22	9	11	49
GRAINEY	20	2	20	46
GILFEDDER	12	—	20	40
WALSH	23	10	—	30
TICKLE	24	9	—	27
COLLINS	28	8	—	24
LEWIS	22	7	—	21
FOX	19	1	8	19
ECKERSLEY	18	3	1	11
ASHCROFT	24	2	2	10
CHISNALL	22	3	—	9
HIGHCOCK	13	2	—	6
WATTS	11	2	—	6
CLARKE	18	2	—	6
ENTWISTLE	13	1	—	3
FIDDLER	4	1	—	3
HIGGS	4	1	—	3
WELDING	26	1	—	3
STRINGER	5	1	—	3
LESTER	4	1	—	3

Leigh Rugby Supporters' Club Notes

Good Afternoon everyone, and a very big welcome to all the Oldham supporters and team. The team, Oldham that is, have started to play some good rugby in the last month. They had a splendid win at Salford and another good win in the First Round of the Cup against Hull K. R. and they are no easy team to beat, so I think our boys will have to play better this week than they did last Saturday against the Hornets. Oldham should have in their line-up ex Leigh player Wilf Briggs. He always seems to be on the score sheet whenever he plays. I suppose we will be seeing Geoff Fletcher (Capt.) on the field this afternoon leading his pack of forwards. Anyhow I think at this point I will wish Oldham the very best of luck in the cup-tie with St. Helens.

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Leigh

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. N. Other | Full-Back |
| 2. Tickle | Right Wing |
| 3. Lewis | Right Centre |
| 4. Collins | Left Centre |
| 5. Walsh | Left Wing |
| 6. Warburton | Stand-off |
| 7. Murphy | Scrum-Half |
| 8. Watts | Prop Forward |
| 9. Higgs | Hooker |
| 10. Major | Prop Forward |
| 11. Grimes | 2nd Row Forward |
| 12. Lester | 2nd Row Forward |
| 13. Clarke | Loose Forward |
| Substitutes— | |
| 14. Fox | |
| 15. Middlehurst | |

Oldham

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. Whitehead | |
| 2. Elliot | |
| 3. Crellin | |
| 4. Larder | |
| 5. Davies | |
| 6. Briggs | |
| 7. Canning | |
| 8. Wilson | |
| 9. Taylor | |
| 10. Fletcher | |
| 11. Irving | |
| 12. McCourt | |
| 13. Clarke | |
| Substitutes— | |
| 14. Buckley. | |
| 15. Ogden | |

Referee—Mr. G. T. SCHOFIELD (Salford)

T.J.'s—T. H. Rynn (Wigan) W. H. Williams (Grappenhall)

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It is quite obvious that we will be without the services of our hooker, KEVIN ASHCROFT, who is on duty in France for Great Britain. We all wish him the best of luck at Leigh.

I don't know if Bob Welding will be playing today or not, because he has been having treatment at Leigh Infirmary. Hooker for today, my guess, Charlie Middlehurst. A lot of supporters may like to see Derek Higgs on the field, to be honest, so would I. So what the team is, I hope we win.

NEW MEMBER No. 3 . . .

Yet again it gives me great pleasure in welcoming our third new member in four weeks to the Supporters' Committee. He is: Mr. JOHN LEATHER, 6 TENNYSON AVENUE, LEIGH. If YOU can spare one and a half hours on Tuesday night, come along to the Liberal Club, Church Street, Leigh, at 7-45 next Tuesday. You will be made most welcome.

TESTIMONIAL . . .

I would like to say first of all thank you for your support on the collection last Saturday. It wasn't very good, but it resulted in £30 being collected. Thanks to the boys who helped.

GARRICK . . .

... The Garrick was a very big success, and it was quite a good show too. The Garrick resulted in a cheque for £150 towards the Derek Higgs Testimonial Fund.

We have got quite a few items lined up yet, so as soon as I get dates and functions, etc., I'll let you know when and where they are.

ST. PETER'S DEVELOPMENT FUND . . .

Don't forget your tickets for the Focus on Rugby Show at Leigh Miners' Welfare on Monday, 10th February, at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale, 2/6d. each or pay at the door.

BADGES . . .

We have now got a new supply of badges. Owing to circumstances beyond our control the price has been increased by 3d. They are now 2/3d. each from our Office and the Shops behind the scoreboard.

SHOPS . . .

The Shops behind the scoreboard are open for items such as Pens, Rock, Key Fobs and other things, including old programmes.

2d. DRAW . . .

The Supporters' Club are holding the popular 2d. Draw this afternoon. Tickets on sale 2d. each or 7 for 1/-. Usual Prizes. Draw takes place at half-time and holders of winning tickets can collect their prizes at the Supporters' Club office after the match (behind the scoreboard).

CANTEENS . . .

Are open for the sale of Teas, Pies, Minerals, Chocolates, Cigarettes, etc., so please pay us a visit before, and during the match. Thank-you.

LEIGH'S Mr. RUGBY LEAGUER

FIXTURES AND RESULTS 1968-69

1968	FIRST TEAM	F. A.
August—		
9	Widnes (Charity)	7-30 A 21-24
12	Hull K. R. (7-15)	A 27-15
17	Leeds	H 22-19
21	Barrow (7-30)	H 23-13
23	Castleford (7-0)	H 5-10
31	Rochdale Hornets	A 24-3
September—		
2	Wigan (7-30)	A 10-12
7	Blackpool B. (L.C. 1st Rd.)	H 15-15
11	1st Rd. Replay	A 32-15
14	St. Helens	A 2-27
21	Doncaster R.	H 7-14
28	Leeds	A 13-32
October—		
4	Widnes (7-30)	H 18-8
7	St. Helens (L.C.)	H 6-17
11	Swinton (7-30)	A 12-4
15	Hull K. R. (7-15) (B.B.C. 2 Competition)	H 27-19
25	Castleford	A 2-2
November—		
1	Wigan (7-30)	H 7-7
9	Whitehaven	A 18-9
12	Leeds (B.B.C.2 Comp.)	H 25-11
15	Barrow (7-0)	A 10-20
23	Blackpool B.	H 13-8
29	Salford (7-30)	H 5-20
December—		
3	Wigan (B.B.C. 2)	A 7-9
7	Huyton	H 19-8
14	Oldham	P.
20	Swinton (7-30)	H 19-8
1969		
January—		
4	Rochdale H.	H 16-7
8	Blackpool (at Wigan)	A 20-0
10	Salford (7-30)	A 6-6
14	Warrington (7-30)	H 2-2
25	Rochdale Hornets (1st Rd. R.L. Cup).	H 4-13
February—		
1	Oldham	H
8	Workington T.	A
15	2nd Rd. R.L. Chall. Cup	
22	Whitehaven	H
28	Hull K. R. (7-15)	H
March—		
8	Doncaster R.	A
14	St. Helens (7-30)	H
29	Semi-Final R.L. Cup	
April—		
5	Workington T.	H
7	Warrington (7-30)	A
11	Widnes (7-30)	A
19	Huyton	A

1968	'A' TEAM	F. A.
August—		
10	Widnes (Farrell Cup)	H 22-12
17	Barrow	A 24-5
24	Oldham	H 19-13
31	Rochdale Hornets	H 23-10
September—		
7	OPEN.	
14	St. Helens	H 18-25
21	Langworthy J.	A 14-5
28	Wigan	H 15-13
29	Whitehaven L.S.	H 13-9
October—		
5	Widnes	A 8-20
12	Swinton	H 12-13
19	Whitehaven (L. S.)	A 14-11
26	Workington Town	A P
November—		
2	Wigan	A P
9	Whitehaven	H P
16	Barrow	H 19-16
22	Swinton (7-30)	A 5-18
December—		
4	Salford	H 5-15
7	Huyton	A P.
11	Salford	A 8-21
21	Warrington	A 21-11
28	Wigan	A P.
1969		
January—		
4	Rochdale Hornets	A 5-24
11	Salford	H 13-32
18	OPEN.	
25	1st Rd. R.L. Chall. Cup	
February—		
1	Oldham	A
8	Workington T.	H
15	2nd Rd. R.L. Chall. Cup	
22	Whitehaven	A
March—		
1	OPEN.	
8	OPEN.	
15	St. Helens	A
22	Semi-Final R.L. Cup	
29	Semi-Final R.L. Cup	
April—		
5	OPEN.	
7	Warrington	H
12	Widnes	H
19	Huyton	H

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