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WORKINGTON TOWN

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Vol. 25 No. 2

SATURDAY, 30th AUGUST, 1969

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NOTES

Once again, so early in the season, we are all asked by the Secretary of this game, one William Fallowfield, of 180, Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7, Yorkshire, to advise through the pages of all club programmes, that **ALL SEATING FOR THE RUGBY LEAGUE CUP FINAL at WEMBLEY STADIUM ON SATURDAY, 9th MAY, 1970, IS SOLD.** It is no use now writing to me, or to anyone else in the hope of obtaining seats for this Final, but you can still get tickets for the standing enclosures at the ends of the Stadium. The whole of the accommodation is under cover, the standing enclosure tickets are ten shillings each, and if you require any of these the advice is to get your application in right away. There are not a lot of these available even at this early stage of the proceedings, and none at all at Workington. You will have to write to the address given above, enclosing either a stamped addressed envelope, and remittance to cover, or a deposit of twenty per cent. of the cost of your requirements and a stamped addressed envelope, the balance having to be paid not later than 30th November, if you wish to keep the reservation. If you do not wish to continue the reservation, and advise the powers that be to that effect by 30th November, you will get your money refunded, **PROVIDING** that they are able to dispose of your tickets before the Final date. If one may proffer a little advice on this business, it would be "if you are thinking of going order your tickets and pay for them now". By doing that you will be sure to get them, and when they arrive, there will be enclosed a pink slip, on which you can order tickets for the Final to be played in May, 1971. If you return this with a list of your requirements immediately you receive it, you will most probably get what seats you require for the 1971 game, if you delay for any even short length of time, you will probably be unlucky. I have seats for Wembley, 1970, for certain people who apply for them each year, and to give you some idea of how that is done, the tickets that I have reserved for next May were paid for in March of this year. So they were paid for two months before the last Final, fourteen months before the game is due to be played, but at the end of May, 1969, you could not have bought a ticket for a seat at Wembley for the 1970 Rugby League Cup Final no matter what you

were prepared to pay for it. This message will not come from this source again this season, so remember if you want seats, get your application in early, you know the old adage "its the early bird —".

We got off to a most disappointing start against near neighbours Whitehaven on Sunday, 10th August, not the most sceptical among us expected a defeat in that game. What is more and worse is that at no time did we look like being their masters. John Roper led his team in admirable fashion, he always looked to be a move ahead, and it was no surprise as the game wore on that the shadow on the wall became the proverbial writing, because there were many who knew before it was no side, that there was only going to be one winner, and it was not going to be the Town. Whitehaven have two great assets, one, they have bags of guts, and two, they have a pack of forwards who are not prepared to be considered second to any other. It has been said many times of sides in this game, that if you have thirteen triers you are half way there, and with the prompting of John Roper, aided by his experience and knowledge in the game, Whitehaven would appear to be a little more than half way this season. Three out of three is certainly a good start, and as they would say in Scotland, "lang may their lumb reek".

Sunday, 10th August, beautiful day, local Derby Game., first game of the season, an ideal day to test the feeling with regard to the acceptance or otherwise of Sunday sport, and what did we get; we had a gate of just over seventeen hundred. If we cannot get more than seventeen hundred on this ground, on a favourable day from a weather point of view, for a derby game, early in the season, then I have no hesitation in saying that it does not look as though Sunday sport is any answer to the depleted gate question. It was the end of the holiday period, many were just getting back, interest may not have been sufficiently wound up, but with all the excuses in the world, 1,700 on that day is a pityable response to those who are trying to keep the professional side of the game alive in West Cumberland.

Talking to a newspaper friend of mine, he told me that a letter had been sent to them from a supporter of the Town Club, saying that writer of that letter had been in a town approximately twenty miles from here,

and had not been able to find a single advert for the Whitehaven game, and that three people (all non Cumbrians) to whom he had spoken, knew nothing about a game of rugby league being played at Workington on that day. I was asked about this letter, and had I an answer. My answer was that approximately twelve large wall calenders, and the same number of match bills were distributed in that town, among the local publicans, hairdressers, and fish friers, and that if he had seen one, then he must have been in the wrong pub, barbers, or, as they say in Yorkshire, "Fish-hole". The game was advertised in a paper sold daily in that town, it appeared in two weekly editions, and I am not prepared to believe that any lack of publicity contributed to the shockingly low attendance figure. Hard to account for our quick exit from the Lancashire Cup at the hands of Widnes. We were down in this game by fourteen points to two, we picked up until we were in front, fifteen points to fourteen, and we were put out of the Cup by a penalty goal given in the eighth minute of extra time, so late in the game in fact, that it was not even allowed to re-start. It is a cruel decree of fate, after a team has pulled back from fourteen two down to fifteen fourteen up to lose the game with the last kick of the match, in what was admitted to be at least eight minutes of overtime, but on that matter, the rules forbid any comment. I will still say however, we should never have gone out.

Since writing the foregoing, there has been a visit to Leigh, and the transfer from this Club to Warrington of Bill Pattinson, which was more or less completed that evening. Not all of our supporters will agree with the Club for allowing Pattinson to go, but last season he expressed a wish to leave the Club, and if you remember this was refused, or as good as, when a fee of approx. £10,000 was put on him. It was thought that he made up his mind to settle in again at Workington, but during the close season he was a bit offhand about training, in spite of a long injury lay off, and when the team started training again in earnest, he seemed as though he could not whip up any interest in the preparations. He has expressed a desire for a move on more than one occasion, and finally his requests were acceded to and he was put on this time at a fee of £6,000. When a player becomes unsettled, and makes up his mind that he will be better off with a change of club, it is not within the power of this Club to tie him down to Derwent Park, and indeed, when this position arises, I doubt whether it would be wise to try. At any rate the position exactly is, that Bill Pattinson wanted away from Derwent Park, he has got away only at his own request, and the writer and all connected with the Town Club will wish him everything that is good with his new colleagues.

If all goes well the Club should have signed as an aftermath to the Pattinson signing, John Coupe, the former Egremont half and full back, who became a professional with Whitehaven, and when the exigencies of his employment took him to Ruislip, became a Warrington player. A

Continued on page 10

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- 6 KITCHIN
- 7 NEWALL
- 8 MOORE
- 9 ALLEN
- 10 CURWEN
- 11 McCOURT
- 12 McFARLANE
- 13 CALVIN
- 14 BELL
- 15 MARTIN

Referee:

Mr. P. GERAGHTY (York)

Lakeland

Cleaned

Clothes

look

Smarter

last

longer

OLDHAM

- 1 WHITEHEAD
- 2 ELLIOTT
- 3 CRELLIN
- 4 BUCKLEY
- 5 DAVIES
- 6 MURPHY
- 7 SMITH
- 8 WILSON
- 9 TAYLOR
- 10 RUSSELL
- 11 IRVING
- 12 McCOURT
- 13 HICKS
- 14 BEVERLEY
- 15 RABITALE

Touch Judges:

E. PROUD
J. GOLDIE

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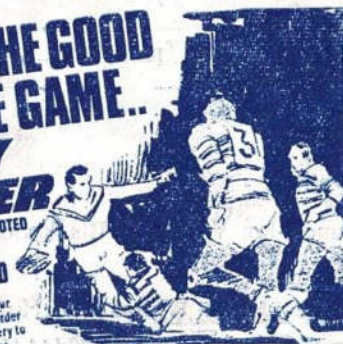
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LAST SEASON'S RECORDS

Name.	Appearances.	Tries.	Goals.	Pts.
Charkton	37	15	27	99
Davies	29	17	—	51
Wright	33	21	—	63
Whitaker	36	8	28	80
Smith	21	3	—	9
McFarlane	27	2	2	10
Pattinson, W. K.	33	8	1	26
Sewell	31	8	—	24
Moss	27	3	—	9
Kitchin	20	3	—	9
Eve	11	2	—	6
Crellin	15	3	13	35
Allen	10	4	—	12
McCourt	22	1	—	3
Wilson	6	1	—	3
Martin, D.	24	1	—	3
Glastonbury	5	1	—	3
Turnbull	5	—	—	—
Curwen, David	16	—	—	—
Southward	3	—	1	2
Hodgson	2	3	—	9
Martin W.	2	—	—	—
Calvin	9	1	—	3
Rooney	2	—	—	—
Newell	4	1	—	3
Bell	21	1	—	3
Moore	18	4	—	12
Tait	24	7	—	21
Rickerby	2	—	—	—
Goldie	1	1	—	3
Mossop	1	—	—	—

Charlton has scored in 22 games.

Whitaker has scored in 17 games.

Record tries in any one game—Ian Wright v. Blackpool—
26-12-68—5.

Record goals in any one game—Harry Whitaker v. Huyton,
16/11/68—5 goals. Jim Crellin v. Rochdale 23/11/68—5 goals

WORKINGTON TOWN FIXTURES

(NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE)

Aug. 10—Whitehaven	H 13 18	Dec. 7—Blackpool	A
17—Widnes (LC)	A 15 16	14—Widnes	A
23—St. Helens	A 11 31	21—Salford	H
27—Leigh	A 4 14	26—Featherstone	A
30—Oldham	H	Jan. 4—Swinton	H
Sept. 1—Whitehaven	A	10—York	A
6—Barrow	A	18—Blackpool	H
8—Featherstone	H	25—Huyton	H
14—Widnes	H	31—Rochdale	A
19—Salford	A	Feb. 7—R.L. Cup	
27—St. Helens	H	14—Hull	H
Oct. 4—Oldham	A	21—R.L. Cup (Batley)	H
11—Barrow	H	28—Warrington	A
18—Warrington	A	Mar. 7—R.L. Cup (Batley)	A
26—Huyton	H	14—Wigan	A
Nov. 1—Rochdale	H	Apr. 4—Leigh	H
8—Hull	A		
15—Wigan	H		
22—Swinton	A		
29—York	H		

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AGENT straight away.

further move to a base in Scotland put an end to that, and he is now back at Sellafield permanently, and anxious to be back in the game. He was a regular in good Warrington sides two to three years ago, and could do a useful job in the middle of the field for the Town Club. Just had him in to sign the form, so that is that. After that a little bit about our friends and visitors from Watersheddings, Oldham. They are having a rough time injury wise, but there is one playing there who will be well acquainted with most of our boys, and he is Jim Crellin. Be sure that James will have told the opposition of today all that he knows about the strengths and weaknesses (if any) of the Town team, for he is the type that will be as faithful to the new master as he was to the old. They have a pretty star studded outfit there when all is well, names like Whitehead, Elliott, Davies, Briggs and Canning, are good backs, assuming Canning is settled in yet, while forward wise they have Tug Wilson, hooker Taylor, international Irving, Charlie McCourt, brother of our Harold, and loose forward Clarke among useful others. We have yet to get off our mark, not a victory in four games, a most unusual position for the Club, and if we are to start our winning campaign for 1969-70 today, we will have to get the ball back to the backs. It will have to be given to the men who can run if you expect to see tries run in, up the middle dying with the ball kind of stuff so obviously does not win games, it is up to the Town forwards to see the ball is used to the best advantage, if Oldham are to give us victory number one.

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