

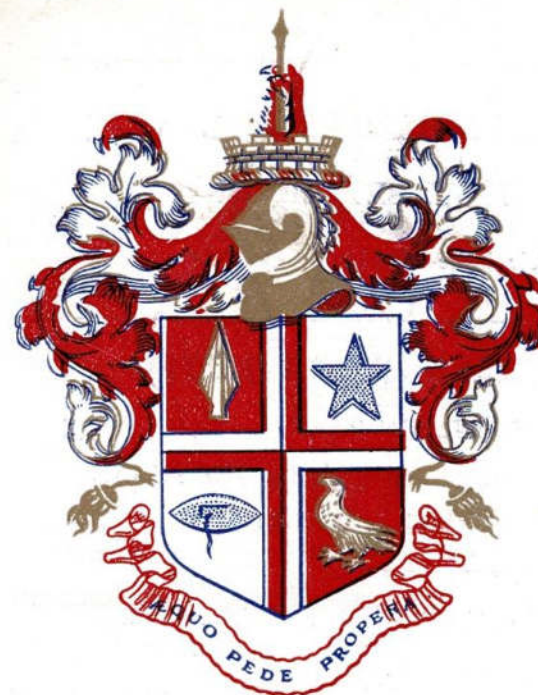
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Leigh
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Club Ltd.



Headquarters :
Hilton Park

Rugby League Match

LEIGH v OLDHAM

Saturday, 8th November, 1969

Kick-Off 3-00 p.m.

Official
Programme
6d.



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Welcome Oldham

It is a pleasure to welcome to 'Hilton Park' today our very good friends from Oldham.

The boys from Watersheddings are unfortunately having a mediocre season, but it would appear from their outstanding performance last week against Whitehaven that they are on their way back.

In the Whitehaven game they fielded several reserves on account of injury and suspension and apparently turned in one of their best performances of the season. Unfortunately they again lost the services of 'Skipper' Ken (Tug) Wilson with a leg injury after only two minutes play. Ken was making a comeback following another injury and it is saddening to see him stricken again.

Just recently Oldham shocked the Rugby League when they parted with their outstanding goal kicking full-back, Derek Whitehead, who joined Warrington for a fee of £4,500. Earlier in the season they received a £4,000 cheque from Wigan for their outstanding forward, and then captain Geoff Fletcher.

The terrible financial squeeze in the country caused Oldham to sell these players, and had the Club not been in such a financial position both Whitehead and Fletcher would have been playing here today for Oldham.

Despite the selling of the two key players referred to, Oldham have quite a few players of class who should, in time, get the Club back where they belong, amongst the League leaders. Martin Murphy, a Leigh boy who got away, is playing exceptionally well in the Oldham full-back position and has done well for the Club on several occasions, acting as a utility player and occupying any back position.

The Oldham three-quarters have been permuted many different ways this season, mainly on account of injuries to key players.

Coloured winger Mike Elliott is one player who has more less kept his place, but with Phil Larder and Jim Crellin getting more than their share of injuries, coach Gerry Helme has had his work cut out trying to get a forceful back-line together.

Jim McCormack has done some sterling work in the Oldham centre position just recently, and last Saturday was named 'Player of the Match'.

Last Saturday's half-backs in Oldham's game against Whitehaven were Ged Smith (Tom Brophy's former partner at Barrow) and Wigan born Cliff Sayer. They replaced the Club's leading try scorer, Wilf Briggs and scrum-half Tommy Canning who were under suspension imposed by the Club.

Gerry Helme's problem will be whether to leave the half-backs who played so well last week, or to bring back Briggs and Canning after their one match suspension.

Oldham recently strengthened their pack with the acquisition of Danny Gardiner from Wigan. Danny, I understand, is doing quite well with his new Club.

Hooker Kevin Taylor is a fine club man and a really first class player. He and our own hooker Kevin Ashcroft have battled for the hooking job in representative games time and time again.

In the second row Oldham are very well blessed with International Bob Irving and Cumbrian Charlie McCourt. Irving is having a very good season and the Oldham club have already made it public that Irving is not for sale at any price.

Charlie McCourt has been attracting the attention of Barrow just recently but Oldham will not let him go either. McCourt is likely to miss the match this afternoon on account of an injury he received at Barrow just recently.

Loose forward Ray Clark from Warrington is another player who missed the game last Saturday. No doubt he will be back in action this afternoon.

Lancashire Cup Final

On their way here this afternoon, Oldham passed a Club just this side of Manchester who are the present Lancashire Cup holders. I avoided, on purpose, to mention the name of the Club for obvious reasons.

They were however, worthy winners, for on the day they were the better side and took their chances. We did not take advantage of the chances which came our way, and consequently we do not have the Cup in our possession today.

It was not one of our best performances, and had we shown anything like our true form there would have been no doubt at all about the eventual winners. It is ironical that we have to save our worst performance of the season for our date in the Lancashire Cup Final.

At this stage the Club would like to thank all our supporters for the tremendous support so far this season and particularly the excellent support at Central Park last Saturday afternoon. I am sure two thirds of the 13,500 crowd at Wigan last week were supporting us, and the lads are extremely sorry that you had not got more to shout about.

The Players and Officials would also like to thank the crowd who turned up at the Town Hall on Saturday evening to welcome the team home. It was indeed very touching for the players to see such a large gathering to just cheer and say "hard luck".

Players No. 6 'Man of the Match' Awards

The leading positions in the running for the title of the Players No. 6 'Player of the Year' are as follows:—

ALEX MURPHY (Leigh)	26 points
R. Millward (Hull K. R.)	20 points
J. Roper (Whitehaven)	20 points
T. Brophy (Barrow)	19 points
A. Bates (Dewsbury)	17 points
(up to and including October 29th)	

The Players No. 6 team are here again today and the Player of the match will be presented with a £6 prize by Miss June Taylor, the Players No. 6 Personality girl.

The judge today is the Chairman of the Widnes Club.

Leigh R.L.F.C. Scorers - Season 1969/70

(All Matches - up to and including November 1st)

Name	Apps.	Goals	Tries	Pts.
BROWN	13	11	—	22
TICKLE	14	—	10	30
LEWIS	15	—	10	30
COLLINS	18	—	7	21
STRINGER	13	—	6	18
WARBURTON	14	1	3	11
KEEFE	1	—	1	3
MAJOR	4	—	—	—
MIDDLEHURST	8	—	1	3
CHISNALL (D)	18	—	7	21
WELDING	17	—	4	12
CLARKE	9	—	1	3
HIGHCOCK	1	—	—	—
ECKERSLEY	16	—	1	3
LESTER	5	—	—	—
MURPHY	18	37	4	86
ASHCROFT	16	—	—	—
WATTS	18	—	3	9
GRIMES	5	—	1	3
WALSH	10	—	9	27
LYON	12	—	2	6
GRAINEY	13	32	2	70
FIDDLER	13	6	5	27
WHITWORTH	3	—	—	—
DORRINGTON	3	—	—	—
HART	2	—	—	—
LOWE	2	—	—	—
CHISNALL (L)	1	—	—	—

B.B.C. 2 Floodlit Contest

On Tuesday, November 18th, 1969, kick-off 7-15 p.m., we play Hull Kingston Rovers at Hull in the second round of the B.B.C. 2 Floodlit Rugby League contest. The referee for the match is Mr. Joe Manley from Warrington.

Thanks . . .

To The Mayor and Mayoress, the Town Clerk and Officials of the Corporation for a wonderful Civic Reception last Saturday.

To Peter Mensforth of the Leigh Journal for his help with the 'Pen Pictures' of the Leigh team in last Saturday's Lancashire Cup Final programme.

Due to pressure of space the 'Meet the Players' series has been left over until next week.

Meet the Players No. 5 and No. 6 will appear in the Whitehaven match programme next Saturday.

Leigh Rugby League Club Supporters' Notes

Good afternoon fans, and may I say welcome to our friends and rivals from Oldham, who are a team that always produce their best play against Leigh. Irving and Elliott scored four tries between them when they beat Whitehaven last week, but they seem to be missing a goal-kicker, because Oldham scored six tries and only one goal. Still we will have to wait and see.

I don't think we had any injuries apart from Harold Stringer (shoulder injury). To Harold we say get well soon.

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Leigh

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Grainey | Full-Back |
| 2. Tickle | Right Wing |
| 3. Chisnall L./
Warburton | Right Centre |
| 4. Collins | Left Centre |
| 5. Walsh | Left Wing |
| 6. Eckersley | Stand-off |
| 7. Murphy, A. J. | Scrum-Half |
| 8. Chisnall, D. | Prop Forward |
| 9. Ashcroft | Hooker |
| 10. Watts | Prop Forward |
| 11. Welding | 2nd Row Forward |
| 12. Fiddler | 2nd Row Forward |
| 13. Lyon | Loose Forward |
- Substitutes—
14.
15. Grimes

Oldham

1. Murphy, M.
2. Elliott
3. Crellin
4. Collins, J.
5. Mullarkey
6. Sayer
7. Smith
8. Gardiner
9. Taylor
10. Russell
11. Irving (Capt.)
12. McCormack
13. Fletcher
- Substitutes—
14. Beverley
15. Daley

Referee: Mr. G. PHILPOTT (Leeds)

T.J.'s: Mr. E. Lea (St. Helens) Mr. H. Worth (Widnes)

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We at Leigh are very pleased that Jim Fiddler (the clown prince) since Derek Higgs, has decided to stay at Leigh, so I say to Jim good luck in the future.

When the team got back to Leigh last Saturday for the reception I was only sorry I couldn't be there, because I was on my way to Blackpool. Anyhow, it wasn't Wigan or Saints in the Final was it, which was a change.

NOTES . . .

I hope everyone will forgive me, as these will be my last notes for a while. I hope you have enjoyed what I have written in the past and will support your next writer the way you have supported me.

I will have in the programme a Query Corner, so if you have anything you want answered, please write to—

Mr. RUGBY LEAGUER.

16 HENRY STREET, LEIGH.

Last week a letter went to the club suggesting a Query Corner, so Mr. Stringer (Secretary) and myself said it was a very good idea, also the Supporters' Committee were in favour.

The first question was—"Who has scored the highest number of tries in one season on Leigh books?"

ANSWER—Bill Kindon in 1956/57, who scored 39 tries, all games, which include 36 league, 1 county and 2 friendly.

The above question was sent in by A. Caldwell, 46 Hooten Lane, Leigh.

'XMAS DRAW . . .

We have now got the tickets for our Giant 'Xmas Draw, 75 prizes, tickets 6d. each or 5 in a book 2/6. You can win Turkeys, Cigarettes, Spirits, Chocolates and Cash. I nearly forgot, there are Chickens too. To give you an idea of the prizes, here is the 1st Prize—£10 Cash, 1 Turkey, 1 Bottle of Sherry, 1 Bottle of Port, Gin, Rum and Whisky, 100 Cigarettes and 1 2lb. Box of Chocolates. That's worth a tanner's worth isn't it? Tickets on sale today from any committee member.

DIARY TICKET DRAW . . .

Will the winners of the following Diary numbers please collect their tickets this evening after the match, if you have not already done so, from the Supporters' office.

OLDHAM MATCH—Two Stand No. 301 — Two Ground No. 302.

ALL DIARIES HAVE NOW BEEN SOLD.

TESTIMONIAL . . .

On the 1st December, 1969, at the Garrick Club, Leigh, a Grand Charity Show with all star cast in aid of The Gordon Lewis Benefit. Gordon is in his 11th year with Leigh, and a fine player. He has been a very good club man and still is.

Topping the bill are "The Grumbleweeds". Tickets are on sale at 4/- each from yours truly and any committee member, so don't forget to support this wonderful player.

SHOPS . . .

Visit the Supporters' shops behind the score board and buy your souvenirs, badges, programmes and other novelties, etc.

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If anyone would like to become a member of the "400 Club", go along to the Supporters' Club office and ask for an enrolment form.

BAR . . .

Don't forget to visit the Bar under the Supporters' Stand.

LEIGH'S Mr. RUGBY LEAGUER
(D. Lloyd)

FIXTURES AND RESULTS 1969-70

1969 FIRST TEAM F. A.

August—
 9 Widnes (A. & B. Cup)...H 20-20
 13 Warrington (L. Cup) ...H 15-12
 20 Wigan (7-30) A 8-24
 23 Hull K. R. H 22-2
 27 Workington T. (7-30) ...H 14-4
 30 Huyton A 36-8

September—
 1 Wigan (7-30) H 14-6
 6 Blackpool B. A 40-8
 14 Rochdale H. A 19-2
 20 Swinton H 12-2
 27 Hull K. R. A 14-13

October—
 1 Rochdale (L.C. 2nd Rd.) A 11-10
 4 Huyton H 57-0
 7 Wakefield T.
 B.B.C. 2 Comp. 25-8
 11 Blackpool H 33-13
 13 Widnes (L.C. S-Final) H 15-4
 15 Salford (7-30) A 5-15
 19 Batley A 16-12
 24 Widnes (7-30) H 27-12

November—
 1 Swinton (L.C. Final) 2-11
 8 Oldham H
 10 St. Helens A
 15 Whitehaven H
 22 Keighley A
 29 Barrow H

December—
 6 Wakefield T. A
 13 Rochdale H. H
 26 Warrington A
 27 Salford H

1970
 January—
 3 Keighley H
 9 Barrow (7-00) A
 17 Wakefield T. H
 23 Widnes (7-30) A
 31 St. Helens H

February—
 7 1st Rd. R.L. Cup.
 14 Oldham A
 21 2nd Rd. R.L. Cup.
 28 Batley H

March—
 7 3rd Rd. R.L. Cup.
 14 Whitehaven A
 20 Swinton (7-30) A
 21 R.L. Cup Semi-Final (1)
 28 OPEN.
 30 Warrington H

April—
 4 R.L. Cup Semi-Final (2)
 Workington A

1970 'A' TEAM F. A.

August—
 8 Widnes (Farrell Cup)
 (7-30) A 16-23
 16 OPEN.
 23 OPEN.
 25 Salford (Shield) (7-30) H 6-12
 30 Huyton H 42-3

September—
 13 Rochdale H. H 17-18
 20 Swinton A
 27 OPEN.

October—
 4 Huyton A
 11 Wigan H
 18 OPEN.
 25 Widnes A

November—
 1 St. Helens H
 8 Oldham A
 15 OPEN.
 22 OPEN.
 29—Barrow A

December—
 6 OPEN.
 13 Rochdale H. A
 20 Swinton H
 26 Warrington H

1970

January—
 3 Wigan A
 10 Barrow H
 17 Workington T. A
 25 Widnes H
 31 St. Helens A

February—
 7 1st Rd. R.L. Cup
 14 Oldham H
 20 Salford (7-30) H
 21 2nd Rd. R.L. Cup.
 28 OPEN.

March—
 6 Salford (7-30) A
 7 3rd Rd. R.L. Cup.
 14 OPEN.
 21 R.L. Cup Semi-Final (1)
 28 Workington T. H
 30 Warrington A

April—
 4 R.L. Cup Semi-Final (2)

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