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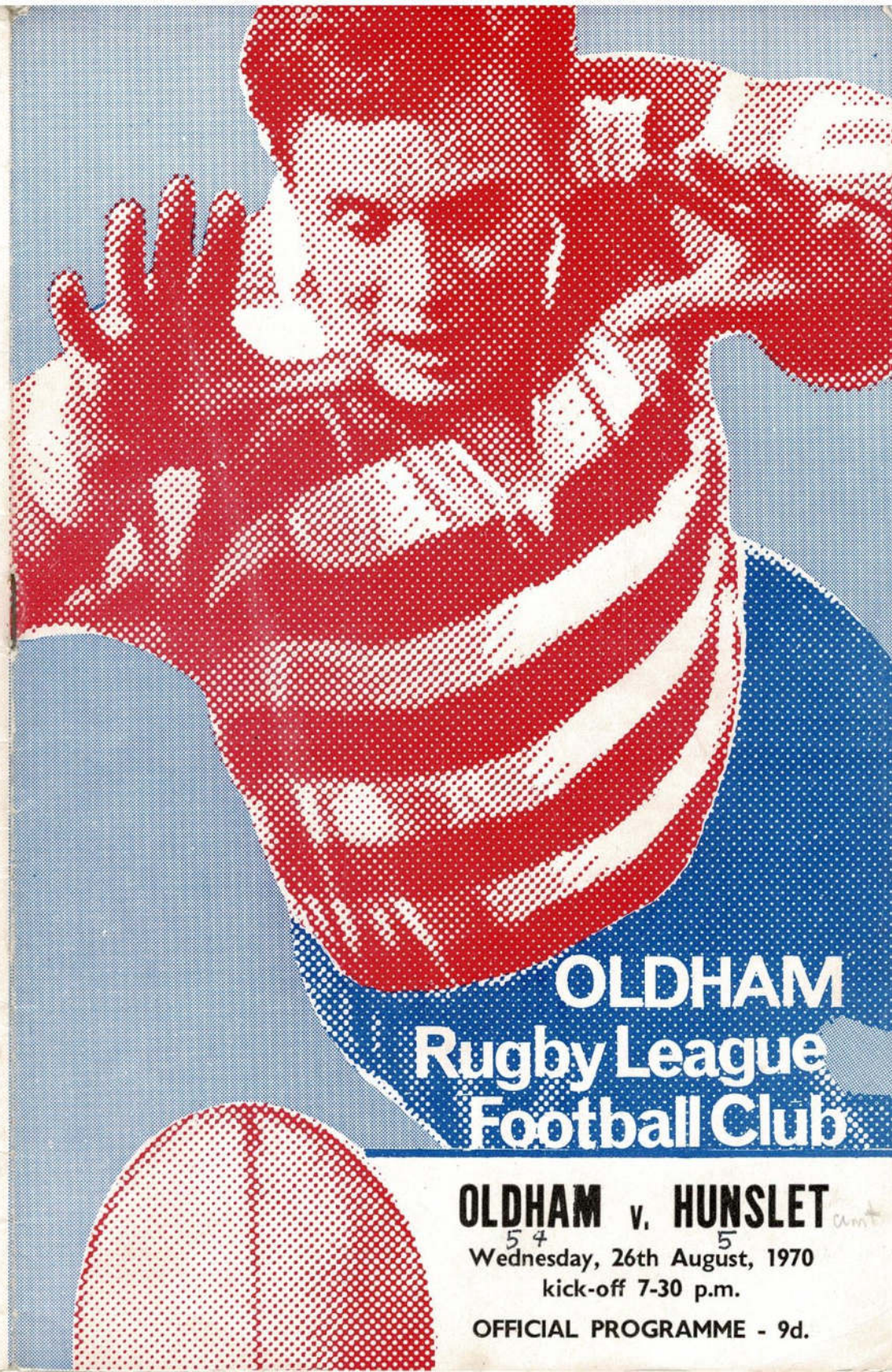
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⁵ ⁴ ⁵
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Secretary: Mr. L. ROBINSON

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A NEW 'ERA' ?

The last decade at Watersheddings has brought plenty of change but never has a season started with such a drastic change, nor one filled with such promise as this one.

The changes have been—and indeed still are too numerous to list in these short notes but a whole new administration, a new coach, a new pools promoter, several new Supporters Club Officials, and several new players cannot just happen without an air of expectancy and optimism being present. It is hoped to be able to introduce all these new faces and others behind the Watersheddings scene throughout the season, in the new programme feature "Profile '70", which starts with Chairman Arthur Walker tonight. Graham Starkey will also write a "Coach's Corner" each week which again starts tonight.

OUR VISITORS

For our first home league match of the new season, we extend a warm welcome to our friends from Hunslet. The Club's difficulties regarding playing terms have not been resolved at the time of going to press, and it would appear that they will be fielding a side of junior players for this game. We are therefore unable to name the Hunslet side—this will be announced over the public address system just before the kick-off.

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Over the past five seasons our playing record against Hunslet shows that in both League and Cup matches we have won six, drawn one and lost one! The odds are obviously in our favour, but our main hope is for a good, open game of Rugby League Football.

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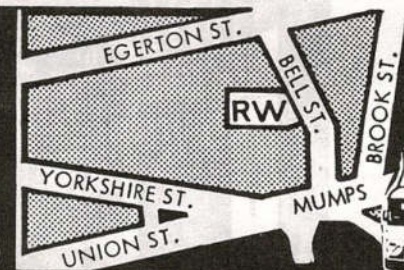
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This is the British Standard Specification for the red paint used at Watersheddings.

It would be very remiss to write these notes and not refer to all the volunteer labour that turned up weekend after weekend, evenings and afternoons to get the job done, and the very fact that some still remains to be painted proves how hard these people worked in all weathers and without any consideration but to give the place a brighter outlook—Committeemen, Players, Supporters, Members, Officials, and anybody and everybody worked with one purpose in all weathers and the ground is now a fitting testimony to their endeavours.

Over one hundred and twenty gallons of paint have been put on—some places have had their first coat for twenty years—but a terrific amount of specialist repair work still remains to be done—and as finance becomes available I am assured by Ground Chairman, Jack Bowden, that this will systematically be done.

On the lighter side of all this work it has proved in removal of fences, etc. that the foundations of the Club are still as strong as ever — and I must report that the first casualty of the season was Jim Rochford with a cut scalp as early as June but with Doctor G. Shaw's administration he soon mended—but hard luck, Jim, all the same.

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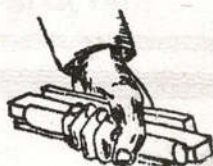
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OLDHAM 54

- 1—MURPHY, M. 1 try
2—ELLIOTT, M. 1 try
3—STARKEY, G./GARRETT, T. 2 tries
4—McCORMACK, J.
5—LARDER, P. 4 tries
6—DAVIES, T. 3 tries
7—SMITH, G.
8—WILSON, K.
9—TAYLOR, K.
10—ASHCROFT, K.
11—IRVING, R. 1 try
12—RUSSELL, F.
* 13—CLARK, R.

Substitutes:-

- 14—BUCKLEY, T.
15—OGDEN, A.

Referee:
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(Halifax)

Voted man of the match

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3—PATERSON
4—KELLY
5—P L E E
6—BARRON
7—BURNELL
8—WATSON 1 try
9—RATCHIFFE
10—BELLIS
11—CHAWNER 1 goal
12—DARCY
13—D F E L L I S

Substitutes:-

- 14—SKERRIT
15—FANNON

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PROFILE '70

Arthur Walker, the new Chairman of the Club lives, with his wife, in Buckley Hill, Milnrow. 50 years old, Arthur is a former Chairman of the Rugby League Council and of Rochdale Hornets and was also Assistant Manager of the 1962 R.L. Australasian Tour.

A Director of the "Piccadilly Club" in Manchester, and also a Packing Case and Packet-making Company in Whitworth, Arthur has a liking of dogs, fast cars (he drives a Mercedes 280 S.L. Convertible) and good Rugby.



COACH'S CORNER

Here we are at the start of a new season. I would just like to look back for a moment at one aspect of last season—the touring party which went out to Australasia and gave such a wonderful performance. I think we should congratulate them all; and in particular be happy that one member of our club, Bob Irving, was out there with them and figuring prominently.

Back to the season ahead of us. We on the playing staff will all be hoping for and working for a better season than the last one. It seems that Oldham have been hit with everything over the past three or four seasons. Injuries at crucial times in the season, financial difficulties, Gerry Helme's illness, all of which culminated in a loss of spirit throughout the club. Eventually the loss of spirit spread to the field producing performances well below par from many of the players. It was ridiculous that a club with players on its books of the calibre of some of Oldham's players should finish next to the bottom of the league.

This is the immediate task as I see it—getting the club in general to believe it can be a great club again; and the players in particular to believe in themselves again. A lot of hard work and ENCOURAGEMENT are the keynotes.



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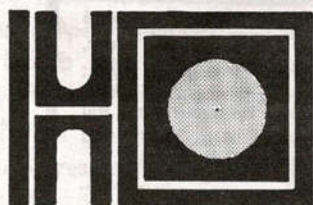
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SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Falling in line with the general trend of events at Watersheddings, the Supporters' Club also has a new-look this year. In the chair as President is Mr. Eric Schofield, who has replaced Mr. Tommy Guest, while Mr. David Blackburn has succeeded Mr. Alan Craig as club Secretary.

Mr. Craig and Mr. Guest continue to serve on a Committee which has pledged itself to considerably increase its financial help to the parent body.

The Supporters' Club recognises that it has a key role to play in the support given to the parent body which needs every possible aid in its terrific fight to lift the club back to former glories.

To this end, Mr. Schofield and the Committee have already planned several major events for the next few weeks which, they hope, will boost the club's bank balance and, eventually, help to swell the finances of the parent body.

Last Sunday, the first of these events was held when it was expected that around 100 youngsters, including members of the 'B' team, would take part in a sponsored walk.

Next big date for your diary is Tuesday, September 22nd when the club is organising a "Lancashire Night" in the social club. That well-known and popular folk group, the Oldham Tinkers, will provide an evening of folk music in the traditional style of old Lancashire.

The Tinkers have recently had their second LP released—"Oldham Edge"—and the title song includes a verse about rugby at Watersheddings.

Tickets, price six-shillings, can be obtained from any member of the Committee, who you will find operating the canteens around the ground tonight, and at every home game.

The possibilities of holding a brass band concert is also under discussion, while the club is in the middle of a big drive for membership (cost two shillings).

A vice-presidents' list (cost five shillings) has also been opened and, to date, about 80 supporters have subscribed to the list.

Remember—it's all go these days in the Supporters' Club. So if you want to feel part and parcel of the set up, why not become a vice-president, or a member, keep a close eye on these notes for future events, and have your say in the annual election of officials and committee.

Meanwhile, don't forget that the canteens are open at every home game, and that Supporters' Club coaches run to most away games.

And don't forget that slogan . . . it's all go with the Oldham Supporters.



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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Club	Ven.	F	A
Aug. 8	Halifax (Charity) ...	home	25—23	
15	Huddersfield (Ch'rity) ...	home	4—18	
22	York	away	11—24	
26	Hunslet	home	54—5	
29	Salford (L. Cup Rd. 1)	home		
Sept. 2	Huddersfield	away		
5	Barrow	away		
7	Blackpool	away		
12	Bramley	home		
19	Doncaster	away		
21	Whitehaven	home		
26	Dewsbury	home		
30	Whitehaven	away		
Oct. 3	Workington	away		
10	York	home		
17	Huyton	away		
Nov. 2	Blackpool	home		
14	Wakefield	away		
21	Keighley	home		
29	Batley	away		
Dec. 5	Wakefield	home		
12	Warrington	away		
19	Barrow	home		
26	Rochdale	away		
Jan. 1	Huddersfield	home		
9	Huyton	home		
16	Batley	home		
23	Challenge Cup 1st Round			
30	Halifax	away		
Feb. 6	Keighley	away		
13	Warrington	home		
20	Challenge Cup 2nd Round			
27	Halifax	home		
Mar. 6	Workington	home		
13	Dewsbury	away		
20	Doncaster	home		
Apr. 9	Rochdale	home		
10	Hunslet	away		
17	Bramley	away		

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Club	Ven.	F	A
Aug. 22	Swinton	home	26—17	
29	Leigh (Shield 1st leg)	away		
Sept. 5	Workington	home		
14	Leigh (Shield 2nd leg)	home		
19	Salford	away		
26	Leigh	away		
Oct. 3	Wigan	home		
10	Barrow	away		
17	Huyton	home		
24	St. Helens	home		
31	Widnes	away		
Nov. 7	St. Helens	away		
14	Barrow	home		
28	Leigh	home		
Dec. 5	Swinton	away		
12	Warrington	home		
18	Wigan	away		
26	Rochdale	home		
Jan. 9	Huyton	away		
16	Whitehaven	away		
Feb. 13	Warrington	away		
Mar. 6	Workington	away		
13	Widnes	home		
Apr. 10	Rochdale	away		
17	Salford	home		
24	Whitehaven	home		

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