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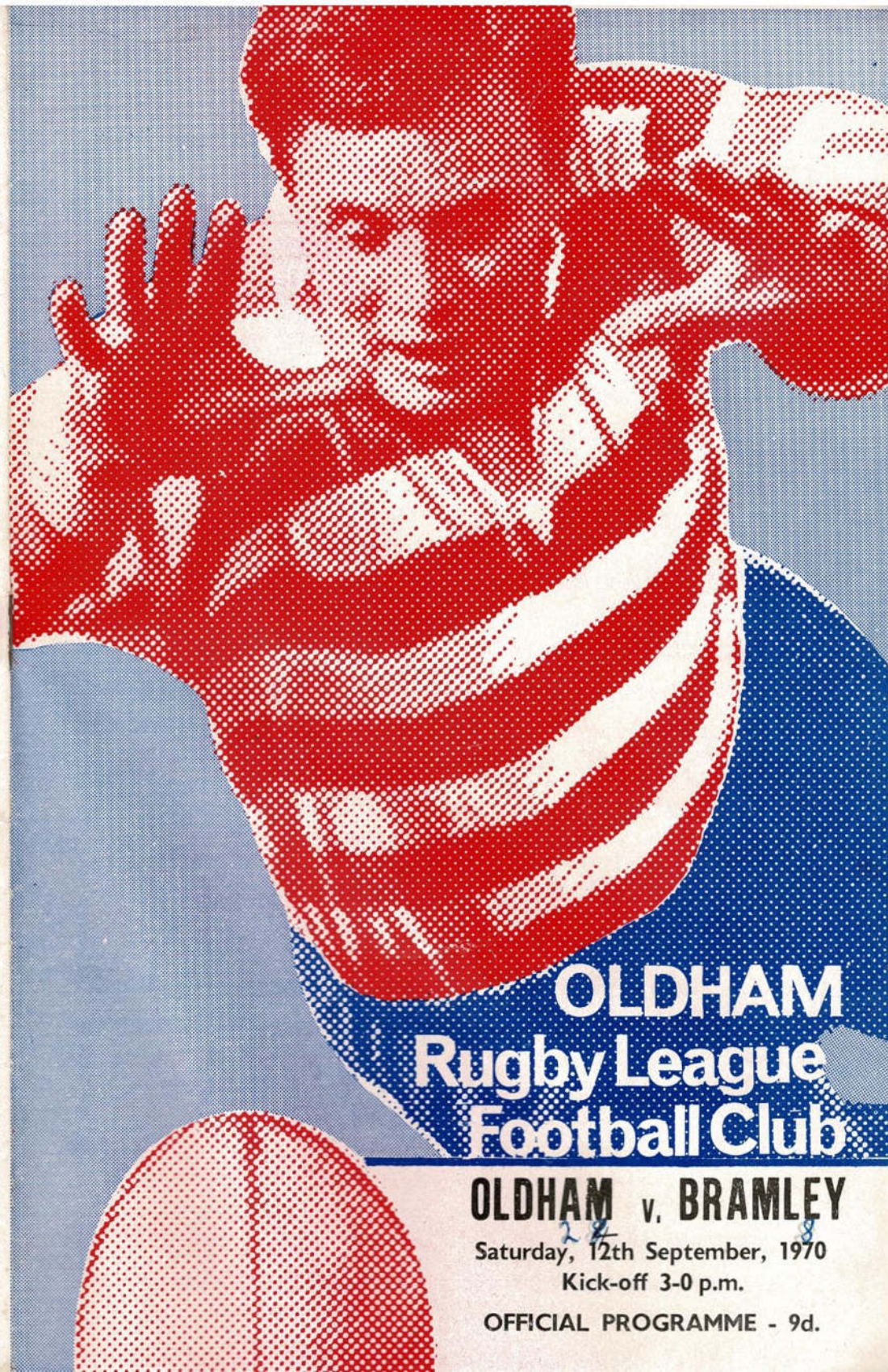
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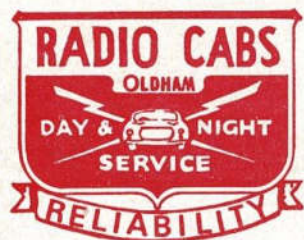
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Secretary's Office: 624 4865 — Social Club: 624 4131 (Steward); 624 7240 (Door)



PROGRESS ?

Since the last programme notes, our team have had very little luck, having lost 35-12 to Salford in the first round of the Lancashire Cup on August 29th, lost 9-4 at Huddersfield on September 2nd, and been narrowly beaten by Barrow 23-17 last Saturday.

In the Cup game, and at Barrow our players put up a creditable performance against very good opposition, but at Fartown everyone was in agreement after the match that this was one of those games best forgotten by all concerned !

The scorers at Barrow last Saturday were Ged Smith, Jim McCormack and Ray Clark, Graham Starkey kicking four goals.

TODAY'S VISITORS

Bramley are something of a surprise packet this season, having already beaten Rochdale Hornets, Halifax and Bradford, and last Saturday even holding St. Helens to an 8-15 result !

Nothing can be taken for granted against the lads from McLaren Field, or from any Yorkshire side for that matter, and I am sure our own boys are well aware of this !

We hope for a good game, and extend a sincerely warm welcome to our Bramley friends for this, one of their rare visits to Watersheddings in recent years.

PLAYING STRENGTH

Having signed Keith Ashcroft from Wigan in time for the Lancashire Cup game, we are now beginning to add further still to the playing strength. Keith is a great guy and a good footballer who has already established himself as a firm favourite with our supporters.

Jim Reynolds, the promising young loose-forward from Leigh Junior Football, signed professional forms for Oldham this week, and we shall be seeing a lot of good rugby from this boy this season !

Clearance has now been given for the two Australian players, Lee Squires and Paul Berry, and by the time these notes appear in print, they too will be Oldham professional players. Lee is a second-row and Paul plays loose-forward 'Down Under', their last club being Gulagong in New South Wales.

We are grateful to a former Oldhamer and O.R.L.F.C. supporter, Mr. Stuart Doyle now domiciled in Johannesburg, for first bring these two 'Aussies' to our notice.

Further signings to strengthen the side are now under consideration and we are hoping that today's match will see the tide turn in our favour !



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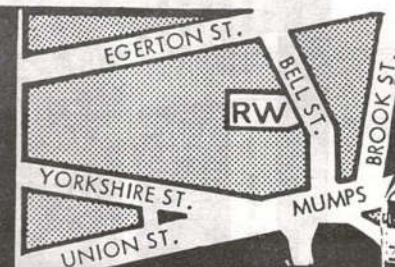
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To have them and then keep them needs substantial financial backing. The new Cherry Red & White Pool has been started for this purpose. The Pool has got off to an excellent start. We must now substantiate the good progress already made. A programme of further and continuing expansion is essential. If you are interested in the future of the Oldham Rugby League Football Club please contact me at the Pools Office in the Social Club.

If each Member and Supporter sold just one pound's worth of pools tickets each, the future success of the Club would be assured.

Don't leave it to everyone else. Please give us your assistance and share in the ensuing benefits.

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PROFILE '70

Rory Hartley, the new Club Treasurer, has been a club follower for quite a number of years.

Rory is an Accountant, and is a director of several companies in the polymer and engineering fields. He lives with his parents in Sheepfoot Lane. Right on the 'latics' door step.

At 27, Rory must be one of the youngest Club officials in the League—he is also Chairman of Chadderton & Royton Round Table—with a special interest in Handicapped Children.

Photograph by courtesy of the Oldham Chronicle

COACH'S CORNER

In these notes I have decided to try and keep away from doing inquests of previous matches. It's not that I'm ducking the issue because we've lost our opening matches. It is because I believe that any comments I have are first and foremost for the players and should be said to them rather than stated publicly. Nobody knows better than a player when he has played badly. The thing to be done is to look for the reason and if possible find a way of improving the performance.

However I can comment about general team play. There are two main aspects of this when your team has the ball. There are the set pieces when the game is stopped and you have time for each player to go to a planned position and know exactly where he is going to run. These are the set moves from scrums and the tap after a penalty kick to touch. These we are not doing too badly.

The other aspect, and this is the major part of the game, is when there is only a semi stoppage as at the play the ball and the game is on the move more. There isn't time for everyone to get into an exact pre-planned position. For this part of the game a pattern of play has to be evolved—for both defence and attack. This is the important part of a team's play, for all the moves added together would only take up eight to ten minutes of a game. This part we are not doing too well.



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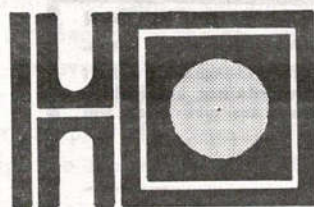
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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

May we take this opportunity of thanking, through the programme, all who assisted the Supporters' Club in their recent sponsored walk which is likely to raise about £150 for club funds.

While this is not a huge figure compared with the financial results of other walks—and, indeed, some members of the organising committee were a little disappointed—it must be remembered that, as far as the Supporters' Club was concerned it was a first attempt, and the experience will prove invaluable when the time comes round—perhaps next Easter—to have another crack.

Now, everything is being geared to our next major event—the "Lancashire Night" in the social club on Tuesday, September 22nd.

Star attraction will be the Oldham Tinkers, the local folk music group, and tickets priced at 6/- are selling very well indeed.

Time is running short so delay no longer if you intend to attend. Tickets are available at the Supporters' Club canteens and from any member of the committee.

Meanwhile, have you purchased your current issue of the Year Book? Because of the arrangement we have with the publisher, every copy sold represents one shilling profit—and, indirectly, your bob will be going on to the parent body, whose main task at present is team strengthening.

In a bid to considerably increase the circulation of the Year Book this time, we have numbered all copies, and a draw will be held in the not-too-distant future.

So you're getting double value for your money—the Year Book AND the chance of picking up a nice prize if your number is one of those drawn out of the hat.

Already, we have sold double the number of Year Books than we did last year, and—another new innovation—you will find them on sale in several local public houses, to suit your convenience.

So far the team has not had much success this season, but it is up to us—the supporters—to rally around all the efforts taking place in the hope that the resulting profits will ultimately lead to a stronger and more accomplished team.

So if you're still not a Supporters' Club member, why not enrol today? Cost—two shillings only.

PLAYER'S No. 6 MAN-OF-THE-MATCH AWARD

This will be judged today by Mr. Tom Webb, well-known local Rugby League historian and journalist. Tom is perhaps not so well-known, but I am sure appreciated for his efforts locally in fostering schoolboy rugby league football.

The £6 prize money will be presented to the winner immediately after the match.



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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
25	Hunslet	home	54	5
29	Salford (L. Cup Rd. 1)	home	12	35
Sept. 2	Huddersfield	away	4	9
5	Barrow	away	17	23
7	Blackpool	away	11	20
12	Bramley	home	2	8-8
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	10	19
Sept. 5	Workington	home	5	11
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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