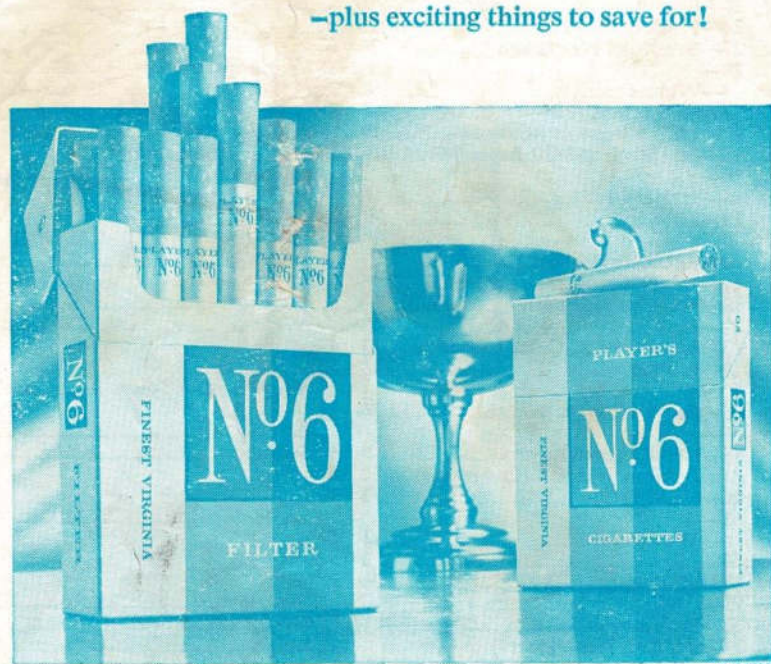


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Northern Rugby Football League
 Central Park

WIGAN

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Official Programme

5p

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A. E. Walls

H. T. Gostelow
W. Ackers
M. Ryan
E. Ayles

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M. Ryan
W. Ackers
E. Ayles

Outfitting:

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W. Wood
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* * *

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Physiotherapist: J. Alstead

1st Team Coach/Manager:

E. Ashton, M.B.E.

'A' Team Coach: J. Lawrenson

1st Team Skipman: T. Dunne

'A' Team Skipman: M. Rourke

'B' Team Coach: E. Toohey

Colts Team Coach: J. Keane

HEADQUARTERS: CENTRAL PARK

TELEPHONE 43079

Wigan v Oldham

Friday, 23rd April, 1971

Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

OUR VISITORS

We welcome our friends from Oldham, who have been absent from our fixtures this season as a result of the new fixture arrangement.

Oldham, under their new committee, have greatly improved their performances this season. It is hoped that it is only a matter of time before they regain the status that they enjoyed during the early 'sixties. In that period players of the calibre of Alan Davies, Frank Pitchford, Jack Keith, Charlie Winslade, Sid Little and Derek Turner made them one of the most attractive sides in the game.

Tonight's team is likely to contain a number of Wigan born players amongst whom will be stand-off Tom Davies and centre Jim McCormack. It is likely that Oldham will be without both our former players Cliff Hill and Keith Ashcroft. Keith sustained a broken leg earlier in the season, whilst Cliff pulled a hamstring in training last week.

Oldham will certainly not be lacking in experience at number eight and hooker as tonight Ken Wilson plays his 245th club game and Kevin Taylor his 242nd. Taylor by the way is still only 24 years of age, so one could visualise an Oldham record in this direction before Kevin's playing days are over.

We look forward to a good open game of football tonight in the best Wigan v Oldham tradition. Replay in the event of a draw, Wed. 28th April.

PRESENTATION OF THE LEAGUE LEADERS ROSE BOWL

We offer our hearty congratulations to our team in finishing league leaders in what must be one of the most difficult fixture lists possible under the present fixture arrangement.

Tonight we welcome Mr. Jack Harding, Chairman of the League Management Committee and also Chairman of the Leigh Club who will present the League Leaders Trophy before the kick-off to our Captain Doug Laughton.

TONIGHT'S CURTAIN RAISER

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OFFICIAL NOTES

After being at the top of the league for most of the season, we finally clinched the league leader's trophy on Friday when we defeated Castleford by 16 points to 4 at Central Park. This was a game in which two new young players made their mark—Chris Fuller (wing) and Dennis Ashcroft (prop). Both had admirable games. Fuller, in his first Rugby League game, did remarkably well and looks sure to be a very valuable acquisition. Ashcroft, in his home "debut", perhaps overshadowed by the publicity given to new signing Chris Fuller, nevertheless emerged with great credit. On this form and with normal progress Dennis looks as though he could become a permanent fixture in the Wigan pack for many years to come, being only twenty-one years of age.

Victory over Castleford is always hard-earned and this was no exception, for although at times hopelessly outplayed, "Cas" stuck to their guns with great resolution to prevent any second-half scores. For the statisticians, the scorers were O'Loughlin, Ayres, Clarke and Rowe (tries) with two Tyrer goals, whilst Redfearn replied with two goals for Castleford. Laughton, with an outstanding display, took the Player's No. 6 Player of the Match award, with Ayres and Francis taking the minor placings.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

		P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
1	Wigan	34	30	0	4	662	308	60
2	St. Helens	34	29	0	5	748	231	58
3	Leeds	34	28	0	6	856	352	56
4	Leigh	34	26	0	8	636	380	52
5	Wakefield Trinity	34	24	1	9	760	330	49
6	Keighley	34	21	0	13	448	375	42
7	Salford	34	20	1	13	641	432	41
8	Hull	34	20	1	13	610	444	41
9	Workington	34	20	1	13	504	467	41
10	Halifax	34	20	0	14	538	497	40
11	Dewsbury	34	17	3	14	474	406	37
12	Castleford	34	18	0	16	467	403	36
13	Hull Kingston Rovers	34	18	0	16	447	524	36
14	Batley	34	16	2	16	492	411	34
15	Huddersfield	34	16	2	16	440	434	34
16	Oldham	34	12	7	15	487	434	31

The above sixteen clubs who finished in the top sixteen positions now compete for the League Championship Trophy and the games are arranged as shown below. The numbers, of course, represent the final league position. Of the clubs taking part, the higher placed clubs to have ground advantage.

First Round: 1 × 16 2 × 15 3 × 14 4 × 13 5 × 12 6 × 11 7 × 10
8 × 9

Second Round: 1 × 8 2 × 7 3 × 6 4 × 5

Semi-Final: 1 × 4 2 × 3

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This formula thus gives the following first round ties:

FIRST ROUND TOP SIXTEEN CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFF

Wigan v. Oldham	Wakefield Trinity v. Castleford
St. Helens v. Huddersfield	Keighley v. Dewsbury
Leeds v. Batley	Salford v. Halifax
Leigh v. Hull Kingston Rovers	Hull v. Workington

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP POST-WAR WINNERS

Year	Winners	Runners-up	Year	Winners	Runners-up
1945/46	Wigan	Huddersfield	1958/59	St. Helens	Hunslet
1946/47	Wigan	Deswbury	1959/60	Wigan	Wakefield T.
1947/48	Warrington	Bradford N.	1960/61	Leeds	Warrington
1948/49	Huddersfield	Warrington	1961/62	Huddersfield	Wakefield T.
1949/50	Wigan	Huddersfield	1962/63	Swinton	St. Helens*
1950/51	Workington	Warrington	1963/64	Swinton	Wigan*
1951/52	Wigan	Bradford N.	1964/65	Halifax	St. Helens
1952/53	St. Helens	Halifax	1965/66	St. Helens	Halifax
1953/54	Warrington	Halifax	1966/67	Wakefield T.	St. Helens
1954/55	Warrington	Oldham	1967/68	Wakefield T.	Hull K.R.
1955/56	Hull	Halifax	1968/69	Leeds	Castleford
1956/57	Oldham	Hull	1969/70	St. Helens	Leeds
1957/58	Hull	Warrington			

*First Division

SUPPORTERS NOTES

Congratulations on winning the League Leaders Trophy and this without having any player sent off during the season. Something to be proud of. Don't forget the Annual General Meeting in the Cocktail Lounge of the Social Club on Monday, 17th May.

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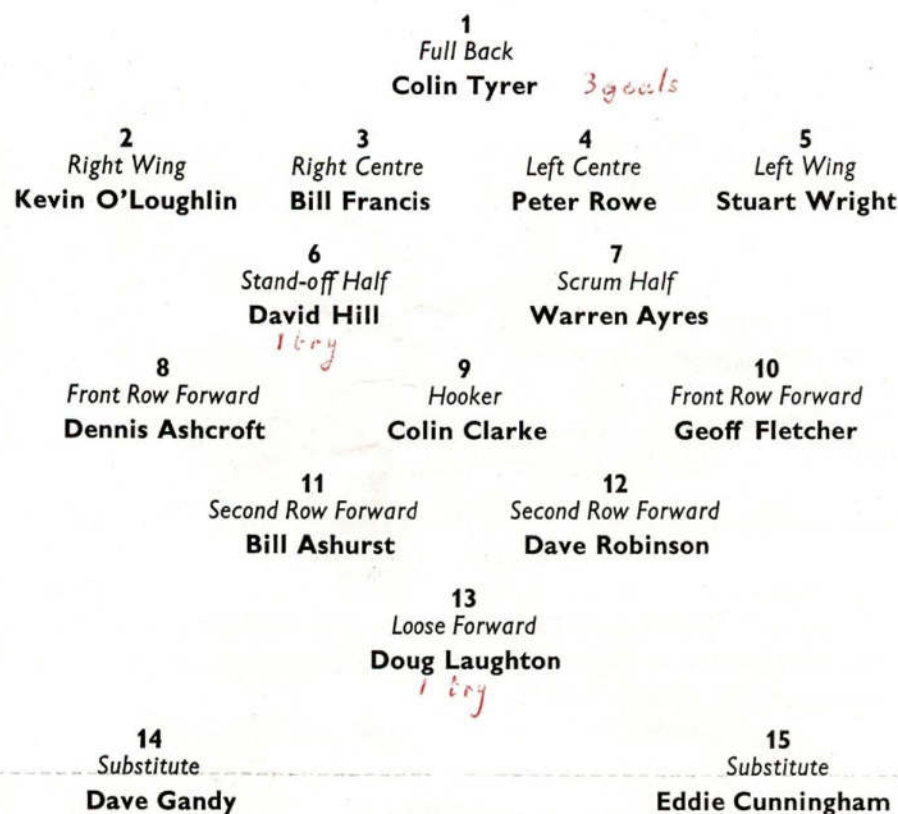
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WIGAN

12

Colours: Blue and White

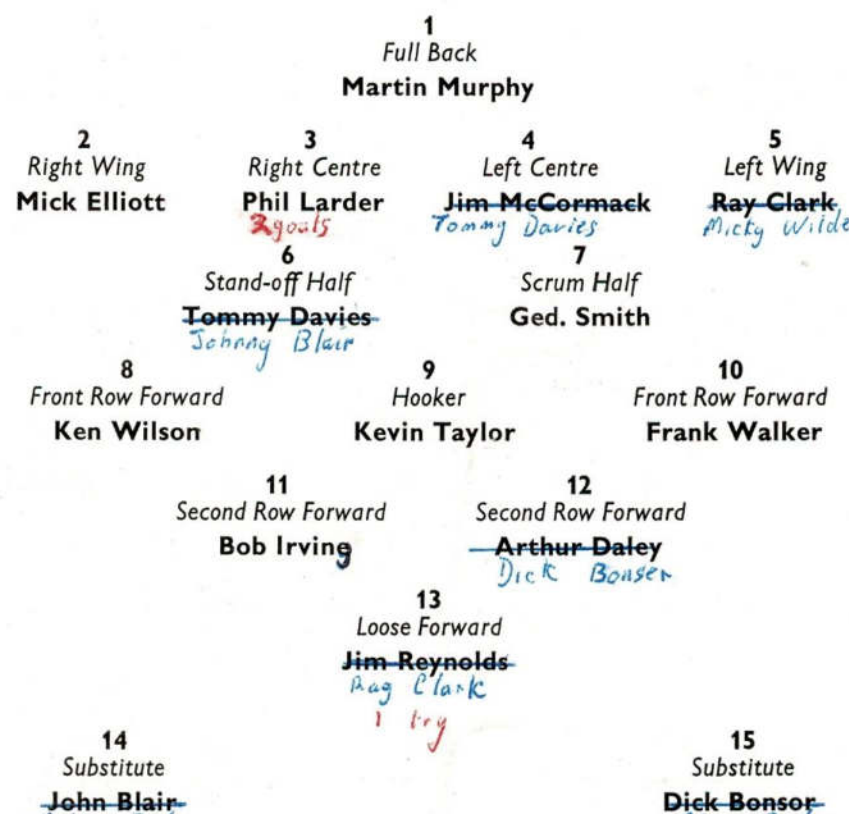


Referee: P. GERAGHTY (York)

OLDHAM

7

Colours: Red and White



Touch Judges: J. CASEY (Pink Flag)

J. MEADOWS (Tangerine Flag)

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WIGAN PLAYERS RECORDS — SEASON 1970-71

(up to and including Friday, 16th April, 1971)

	Appearances All Matches	League Matches	BBC 2 TV Competition	TRY SCORERS					TOTAL
				R.L.C.C.	L.C.C.C.	Top 16 Play-off	Ward Cup		
Ashcroft, D.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashcroft, K.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashurst, W. F.	34	11	—	—	3	—	1	—	15
Ayres, W.	20	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Barrow, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burdell, R.	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clarke, C.	37	3	1	—	3	—	1	—	8
Cunningham, E.	23	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Eastham, P.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fletcher, G.	43	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Francis, W.	41	6	3	—	—	—	1	—	10
Fuller, C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gandy, D.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hill, C.	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hill, D.	30	4	1	—	2	—	2	—	9
Hogan, B.	32	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Jones, K.	26	12	1	—	—	—	1	—	14
Laughton, D.	35	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	9
Molyneux, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
O'Loughlin, Kevin	24	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
O'Loughlin, Kieron	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Park, A.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parr, F.	28	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	7
Robinson, D.	35	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Rowe, P.	32	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Stephens, J.	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tyrer, C.	37	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	9
Whittle, J.	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Wright, S.	41	27	2	1	1	—	—	—	31
A. N. Other	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TRIES SCORED BY SUBSTITUTES							
Ayres, W.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Burdell, R.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cunningham, E.	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hill, C.	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Whittle, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	130	13	1	14	—	8	166

GOAL SCORERS						
Ashurst, W.	33	2	1	4	—	45
Francis, W.	4	—	—	—	—	4
Hill, D.	1	—	—	—	—	1
Parr, F.	4	—	—	—	—	4
Tyrer, C.	94	16	5	13	—	128
	136	18	6	17	—	182

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1970	FIRST TEAM	F. A.	"A" TEAM	F. A.
Aug. 14	Warrington (Wardonia Cup)	34 6	Warrington (Friendly)	38 8
21	Warrington	17 11	St. Helens	8 18
22			Whitehaven (L.C.C.S. 1st leg)	0 15
26	Featherstone Rovers	29 11	Salford	26 10
29	Barrow (L.C.C.C. 1st round)	32 2		
Sept. 4	Salford	13 7	Huyton	4 7
11	Castleford	17 16	Whitehaven	10 28
13	Salford (L.C.C.C. 2nd round)	12 12	Whitehaven (L.C.C.S. 2nd leg)	7 23
15	Keighley (BBC 2 F.C. 1st round)	28 0	Oldham	14 19
16				
19	Whitehaven	41 12	Rochdale Hornets	10 10
20	Salford (L.C.C.C. 2nd rnd replay)	32 6	Warrington	55 0
23	Swinton	21 10	Huyton	11 8
26	Hull	25 9	Rochdale Hornets	19 11
30	Swinton	16 7	Widnes	18 12
Oct. 3	Leeds	30 17	Barrow	P
7	Wakefield Trinity	18 5	Workington Town	8 15
10	St. Helens (L.C.C.C. Semi-final)	0 23		
14	Featherstone Rovers	21 12	Oldham	27 7
16	Leigh	P		
19	Rochdale Hornets	P	Warrington	P
23	Leigh	P	Swinton	10 18
31			Widnes	7 8
Nov. 6	Rochdale Hornets	25 5	Workington Town	23 12
Fri. 13	Widnes	15 10	Barrow	27 12
14			Swinton	0 7
Fri. 20	Barrow	P	St. Helens	13 18
24	Huddersfield (BBC 2 F.C. 2nd rd.)	25 9		
Fri. 27	Bradford Northern	36 6	Warrington	21 20
28			Whitehaven	P
Dec. 4	Widnes	8 5	Leigh	16 10
8	St. Helens (BBC 2 F.C. S. final)	7 7		
12	Hull Kingston Rovers	19 16	Leigh	7 5
13	St. Helens (BBC 2 Replay)	15 16	Salford	8 12
18			Barrow 11-30 a.m.	
Sat. 26	St. Helens	12 5		
28	Barrow	28 10		
1971				
Jan. 8	Rochdale Hornets	28 12		
11	Warrington	16 9		
Sat. 16	Bradford Northern	23 5		
22				
23	Batley (R.L.C.C. 1st round)	13 4		
Fri. 29	Huddersfield	23 7		
30				
Feb. 5	Barrow	36 2		
6				
Sat. 13	Hull Kingston Rovers	9 14		
21	Swinton (R.L.C.C. 2nd round)	2 8		
Fri. 26	Huddersfield	13 9		
Mar. 3				
6	Wakefield	11 5		
Wed. 10	Leigh	3 15		
Sat. 13	Hull	26 7		
Mon. 15				
Sat. 20	Whitehaven	24 5		
27	R.L.C.C. Semi-final (1)			
30	Leeds	10 8		
Apr. 3	R.L.C.C. Semi-final (2)			
6	Leigh	20 7		
Fri. 9	St. Helens	6 9		
Mon. 12	Salford	7 16		
Fri. 16	Castleford	16 4		
24	Championship Play-off 1st round			
May 1	Championship Play-off 2nd round			
8	Championship Play-off Semi-finals			
15	R.L.C.C. Final at Wembley			
22	Championship Play-off Final			

All Saturday K.O's 3-15 p.m.