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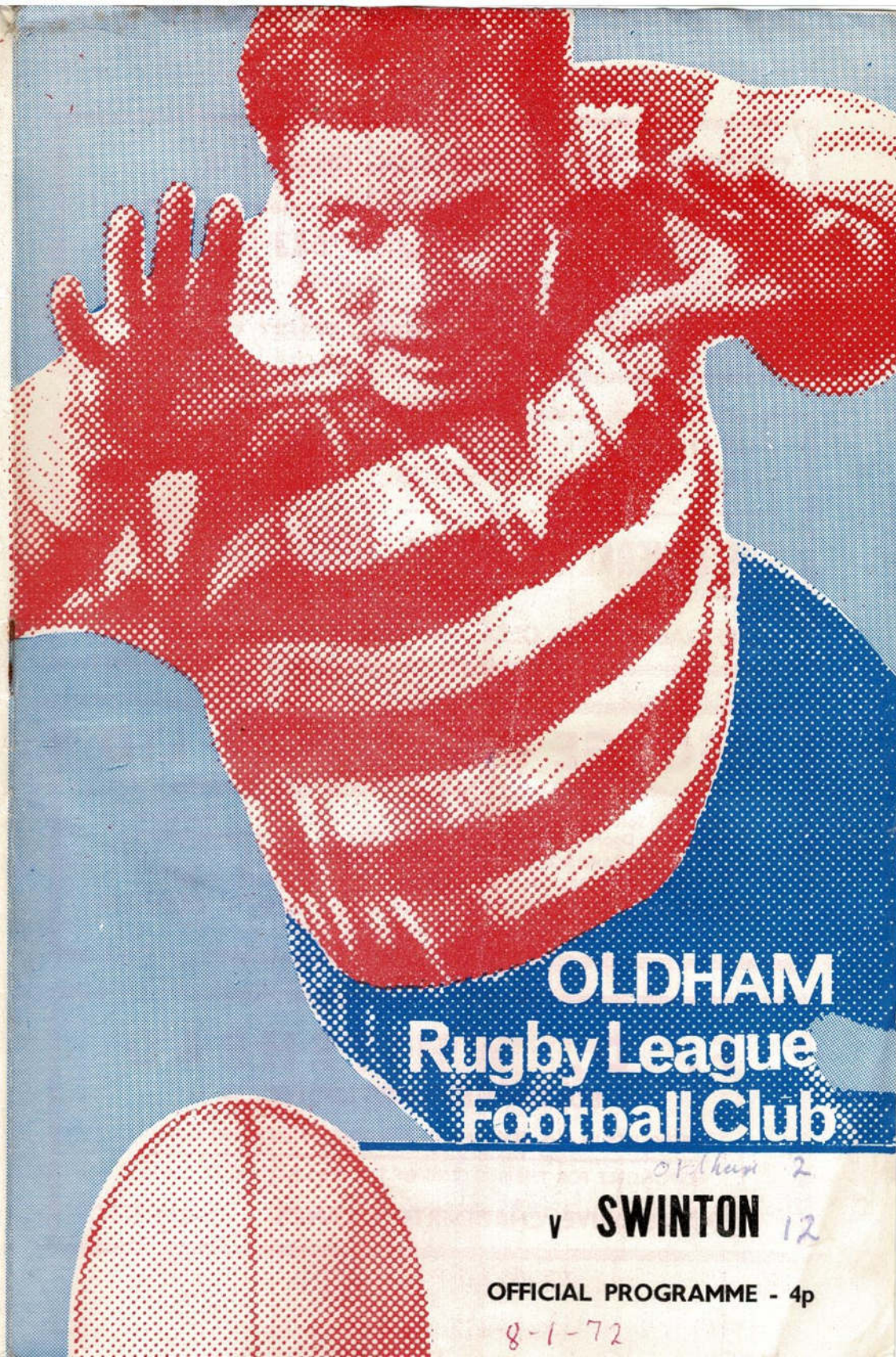
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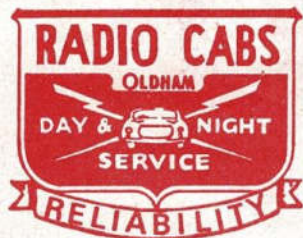


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OUR VISITORS

With a fine win up at Barrow safely tucked under their belts Oldham return home today to take on local rivals and league leaders Swinton.

The full-back position in the Swinton line-up is at present being held down by Brian Robinson, a loyal clubman who was signed 10 years ago from Folly Lane Juniors. Another recruit from Folly Lane is Don Preston, a versatile player who has been turning out on the left wing in recent games. On the other wing is Bob Fleay a very much under-rated Welshman who Swinton signed from Aberavon R.U.F.C. The centre positions will probably be filled by John Gomersall and Alan Buckley. Both are former rugby union players. Middlesborough-born Gomersall was previously with Bourneville R.U.F.C., whilst Buckley was signed from Broughton Park R.U.F.C. 10 years ago. A member of the Great Britain team which toured Australasia in 1966, Buckley has also represented England and Lancashire and he fully deserved the £1,213 benefit cheque which came his way last summer. At stand-off Billy Davies has been turning in some outstanding displays. This 24-year-old represented Lancashire at schoolboy and under-17 levels before joining Swinton in May 1964 from St. Thomas's, the Leigh junior club.. 1968-69 was his best season for that was the year he represented England and then gave an outstanding display in Great Britain's 34-10 hammering of the French. Surprisingly, his only representative honours since then have been in the Lancashire jersey. He is Swinton's top try scorer with 16 to his credit so far this season. Peter Kenny, equally at home in either half-back position, is a junior signing from the Ambrose Barlow amateur club. Earlier this season he was a try scorer for Lancashire against Yorkshire. This was his first representative honour but he seems set for many more, ask Hunslet, for he crossed for three tries as well as landing three goals against them in Swinton's 53-6 John Player Subsidiary Cup win against those luckless Yorkshiremen. When Swinton met Oldham on Xmas Day 1954 they introduced a young junior signing from Kirkholt, and now, 17 years later Ken Gowers is still turning out impressive displays, whether it be from scrum-half, stand-off or full-back. He has represented Lancashire and Great Britain including the 1966 tour to Australasia immediately after winning the 'Jim Windsor Trophy' as the best and fairest player of season 1965-66. This season his scoring record reads 2 tries and 77 goals. The Swinton pack is a fine blend of youth and experience. Oldhamer Ian Entwistle needs no introduction, he was signed on a free transfer from Rochdale. Other inexpensive acquisitions include Granville Hoyle from Huddersfield junior football, Barry Philbin from Blackbrook juniors, and Tom Young who was snapped up from Wigan 'B'. Albert Halsall, the former Salford and St. Helens prop cost £2,000 last February and

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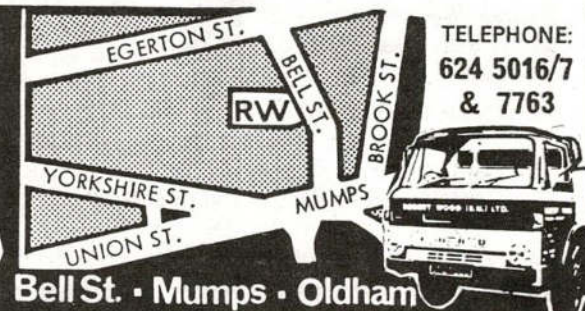
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N°6 Player of the Year Awards – will continue, but under different rules. 6 votes will be cast by each club for players other than their own, with £500 in prize money for the top three lucky lads. See if *your* choice is the same as your club's!

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PNS 437

he provides the experience along with the trio of Cumbrians, Bill Pattinson, Rod Smith and Graham McKay. Pattinson has recently come off the transfer list. He first played for Workington Town before moving down to Warrington and then on to Swinton the summer before last. Smith was signed directly from Workington Town and this season has played in both Cumberland's fixtures against Lancashire and Yorkshire. Graham McKay also played in those two county games which were his first representative honours since he joined Swinton from Broughton Moor juniors.

Even considering their easier fixture programme, Swinton are enjoying a far more successful season than last term. They were placed 23rd last season with just 13 wins but now, with the season just over halfway through they have already recorded 16 wins including double victories against Blackpool Borough, Bramley, Hull and Warrington. However, the three defeats inflicted upon Swinton have all been away from home—at Salford, Workington and Whitehaven—so perhaps Oldham can extend that run to four today. In cup football, Swinton have not been so successful although they did reach the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup by defeating Oldham and Salford before losing to the eventual winners Wigan, 12-2. In both the BBC 2 TV Floodlit Cup and the John Player Trophy Swinton went out in round one. St. Helens won their Floodlit Cup-tie 14-9, at Station Road, whilst Barrow scored a narrow home victory 10-9, in the Player's Cup. For the Player's Subsidiary Competition, the luck of the draw aided Swinton, who met Hunslet at Station Road where they ran in 13 tries to take top prize. That Subsidiary Competition was for the 16 first round losers, but it would be interesting to know where the two amateur sides disappeared to, for they, more than anyone, find the gate receipts very welcome.

Last season Oldham did not meet Swinton in league warfare but the previous season, 1969-70 Swinton defeated Oldham both at home (28-2) and away (25-11) and with Swinton already having scored three victories against Oldham this season they must be regarded as favourites. This season's matches have been in the Rochdale Sevens, Lancashire Cup and League. In the sevens Oldham led 10-3 until well into the second half before losing 10-13 and again the following week in the Lancashire Cup Oldham put up a brave show before losing 10-7. They did, in fact, have slightly the better of the exchanges and scored the only try of the game, but then gave away a couple of penalties to concede defeat. There was not much doubt in the league fixture as Swinton raced to a comfortable 20 points to 2 victory, with Peter Kenny scoring a try and 4 goals, but if Oldham find the form which brought victories at Bradford and Barrow then the Lions will be in for quite a shock this afternoon.



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- 2—MIKE ELLIOTT
- 3—PHIL LARDER *goal*
- 4—MICK SIDDALL
- 5—MICK WILDE
- 6—CLIFF HILL
- 7—TOMMY DAVIES
- 8—KEN WILSON
- 9—KEVIN TAYLOR
- 10—FRANK WALKER
- 11—BOB IRVING
- 12—BILL CHURM
- 13—JIM REYNOLDS

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- 14—JOE COLLINS
- 15—JEFF MUNRO

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- 4—ALAN BUCKLEY *try*
- 5—DON PRESTON
- 6—PETER KENNY
- 7—KEN GOWERS *3 goals*
- 8—ALBERT HALSALL
- 9—IAN ENTWISTLE *try*
- 10—GRANVILLE HOYLE *try*
- 11—ROD SMITH
- 12—BILL PATTINSON
- 13—BARRY PHILBIN

Substitutes:

- 14—LES ATKINSON
- 15—TOM YOUNG

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CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

Player's No. 6 are sponsoring a goal-kicking competition and man-of-the-match-award, covering the Challenge Cup Competition.

Goal-kicking Competition

The goal-kicking contest will be held immediately before the start of each first round match in the R.L. Challenge Cup.

Each team will elect from their players or substitutes taking part in the Cup-tie, two kickers, to take six goals from selected positions:

One from the centre of the 25 yards line;

One 20 yards from the side of the centre spot;

One 32 yards to the same side of the centre spot.

The same pattern is then repeated at the opposite end of the pitch.

For successful kicks, players will be awarded points as follows:
Centre Spot—1 pt. 20 yds. Spot—2 pts. 32 yds. Spot—3 pts.

The six players with the most points will be at the final at Wembley on May 13th.

Prize Money will be:-

1st—£150; 2nd—£100; 3rd—£60; 4th—£40; 5th—£30; 6th—£20

Player's No. 6 girls will assist in this competition by acting as judges and scorers.

Man-of-the-Match Award

Two judges, one from each club in the match, will be invited to select one player in every match throughout the Cup contest, except the Semi-Final and Final.

TESTIMONIAL MATCH

Before selecting the British team to play against France at Toulouse on February 6th, the selectors decided to pick a provisional team to play against Leeds at Headingley on Tuesday, 11th January, kick-off 7-30 p.m. The gate receipts from this match will be paid into the Mick Shoebottom Testimonial Fund.

We would like to offer our congratulations to Bob Irving, who has been selected as substitute for this match.

NEXT MATCHES AT WATERSHEDDINGS

OLDHAM 'A' v SAINT HELENS 'A'

Saturday, 22nd January, 1972, kick-off 3 p.m.

R.L. Challenge Cup Competition 1st Round

OLDHAM v SAINT HELENS

Saturday, 29th January, kick-off time to be announced — ALL PAY

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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Club	Ven.	F	A
Aug. 8	Swinton (Lancs Cup)	A	7—10	
21	Barrow	H	13—13	
25	Swinton	A	2—20	
28	Hunslet	A	13—14	
Sept. 1	Leeds	H	12—16	
8	Wigan	H	7—23	
11	Leeds	A	12—49	
15	Rochdale	A	2—28	
19	Huyton	H	29—9	
24	Widnes	A	19—7	
Oct. 2	Featherstone	H	17—21	
8	Wigan	A	13—28	
16	St. Helens	A	2—50	
23	Blackpool	H	19—24	
30	Widnes	H	13—7	
Nov. 6	Hunslet	H	31—0	
13	Whitehaven (P.C.)	A	0—5	
30	York	A	8—9	
27	Leigh (P.Comp.)	H	5—11	
Dec. 4	St. Helens	H	0—28	
11	Bradford	H	9—13	
18	Bradford	A	14—7	
27	Rochdale	H	9—13	
Jan. 1	Barrow	A	19—9	
8	Swinton	H		
15	Whitehaven	A		
22	Featherstone	A		
29	Challenge Cup (1)			
Feb. 5	Bramley	H		
11	Warrington	A		
19	Challenge Cup (2)			
26	Blackpool	A		
Mar. 4	Doncaster	H		
11	York	H		
18	Doncaster	A		
22	Rochdale	A		
25	Whitehaven	H		
Apr. 1	Huyton	A		
5	Warrington	H		
8	Bramley	A		

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Club	Ven.	F	A
Aug. 21	Barrow	A	13—9	
28	Swinton	H	7—22	
Sept. 11	Workington	H	17—2	
18	Huyton	A	25—5	
25	Widnes	H	14—5	
Oct. 2	Wigan	A	44—11	
9	Wigan	H		
29	Salford	A	12—20	
Nov. 6	Workington	A		
27	St. Helens	A		
Dec. 18	Salford	H		
27	Rochdale	A		
Jan. 1	Barrow	H		
8	Swinton	A		
22	St. Helens	H		
Feb. 12	Warrington	H		
19	Widnes	A		
Mar. 18	Leigh	H		
Apr. 1	Huyton	H		
3	Warrington	A		
8	Rochdale	H		
15	Leigh	A		

Times of kick-off

All Saturday games at home—k.o. 3 p.m.
Evening k.o. times—as advertised
All 1st and 'A' team matches

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