

Oldham 17

- 1 BLAIR, J. 4 goals
- 2 BARTON, E.
- 3 ELLIOTT, M. try
- 4 WAINWRIGHT, T. try
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 TREASURE, D.
- 7 PATTERSON, J. try
- 8 ASHCROFT, K.
- 9 TAYLOR, K.
- 10 HUGHES, B.
- 11 DALEY, A.
- 12 WELDING, B.
- 13 HALL, F.
- 14 MUNRO, G.
- 15 MAYE, J.

Referee:
H. E. Mason (Halifax)

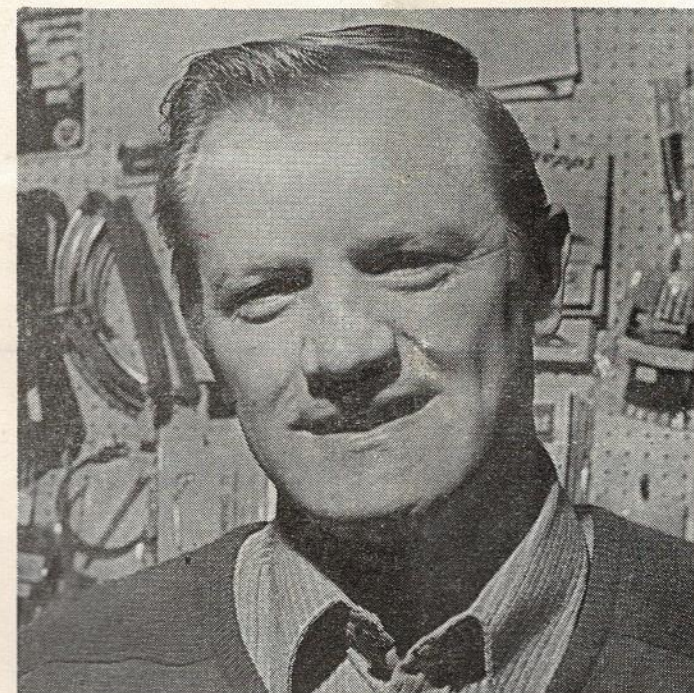
Blackpool 13

- 1 REYNOLDS, D.
- 2 JOHNSON, J.
- 3 ROWE P.
- 4 CRANK, P.
- 5 HAIGH, T.
- 6 A. N. OTHER Wilkins 2 goals
- 7 DARBYSHIRE, C. try
- 8 LOUGHLIN, T. try
- 9 MARTLAND, R.
- 10 GAMBLE, P.
- 11 MOLYNEUX, J.
- 12 CANTILLON, W. try
- 13 WRIGHT, D.
- 14 GREENOUGH, L.
- 15 MELLING, T.

W. J. Greenhalgh (A-I-M) Red
J. Casey (St Helens) Orange

TODAYS MATCH BALL
presented by
The Evening Chronicle
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OLDHAM 17 v Blackpool 13



—Photo by courtesy of *The Evening Chronicle*.
JIM CHALLINOR

OLDHAM MAN OF MATCH

Fill in the coupon below to nominate the Oldham player, who in your opinion was the most outstanding in today's match,

Drop your voting slip in at the Secretary's office, or Souvenir Shop, on your way home, or post it to reach us no later than 3 days after the game to "Man of the Match" The Pavilion Watersheddings, Oldham.

Name

Address

The Man of the Match
v BLACKPOOL

was Bob Welding

OLDHAM PLAYER OF YEAR

At the end of the season, the player who has received most Man of the Match votes over the whole season will become Oldhams Player of the Year.

All voting slips will be kept, and the Player of the Year will be asked to draw one out at random when he receives his award. The lucky voter will receive a £20 cash prize, so don't forget your name and address when you cast your vote — YOU could be on a winner as well as the player for whom you vote.

xx Only voting slips from the Oldham programme will be accepted —plain paper votes will be void.

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CHIT - CHAT

GET your rattles out of the attic, your red and white scarves out of moth balls. Rugby League is here again! And at the start of this brand new season, which sees us in the second division, we at Watersheddings do not intend to sit back and bemoan our luck. We refuse to have an inferiority complex at our second division status . . . and we intend to make it show to you, the most important sector of our club, the SUPPORTERS.

A pointer to our ambition, our determination to bring to town the best that is possible within the confines of division two, was our signing of ace coach Jim Challinor to succeed Griff Jenkins.

Many eyebrows were raised, on Challenge Cup final day, when the Oldham Sport Final exclusively revealed our big scoop.

Now the dust has settled and Gentleman Jim, Great Britain's team boss on the recent tour of Australia, will be here to guide us through what we confidently predict will be only a short stay out of Rugby League's top grade.

Excuse us a little bit of egotistical back-slapping and permit us to claim that we believe we now possess the finest back room team in the game . . . Challinor as senior coach, the ever-popular club servant Ken Wilson as his assistant, and Great Britain physiotherapist Dennis Wright to look after the injuries.

We believe we have shown ambition, too, in other spheres during this very hectic close season.

Everton came — and went — in their unsuccessful bid to lure away our promotions boss Alan Taylor. And we

hope to give you, the loyal fan upon whose support we know we can rely, the opportunity to play a much more active part in the activities at Watersheddings.

A new-look supporters club will welcome you with open arms, we are going to have a brand new innovation at the back of the main stand — a souvenir shop — and we are hoping to go ahead with our plans to provide you all with the facility of Sunday morning market shopping right on our club doorstep.

We are pushing forward for two reasons — the absolute need to pull in cash from off-field activities and the longer-term plan of stepping up our public relations which is a vital ingredient in the recipe for success.

There are other schemes in the pipeline, too. But more about those later. Today, we are all here to herald in the start of the 1974-75 season . . . a season which is going to be an exciting challenge not only for Oldham but for the code as a whole.

With a new secretary in David Oxley and a new chairman in Brian Snape it can reasonably be assumed that our code is about to launch itself into new horizons.

Oldham RLFC has every intention of playing a leading role in that development. We know we can do it best by success on the field of play, and that's why we're looking not only to success in the league but success, too, in the various cup competitions.

We feel we can claim justifiably that we have what it takes. So here goes for the very first match of a very vital season. A sincere welcome to you all.



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THAT MAN CHALLINOR

JIM CHALLINOR, star centre, top coach and master tactician, flew into Manchester Airport last week to begin a new chapter in his personal success story in the game he loves . . . a chapter which began on a mild spring night last May when three Watersheddings officials, undismayed by Oldham's record last season, knocked on the door of his Cheshire home to lure him to Watersheddings.

Quietly-spoken Jim, as most of you will know, has a Rugby League pedigree which takes some beating.

Often enough in the past, when he was a teenage Warrington centre to that great of all greats, the incomparable Brian Bevan, Jim Challinor's rugby brain had Oldham's defence in a tizzy—and that took some doing when Oldham were at the top of the rugby tree.

As an 18-year-old he played in that memorable 1954 Challenge Cup final against Halifax which ended in a draw and had to be replayed at Odsal in front a record 102,000 crowd.

International appearances followed . . . and then, after moving to Barrow in the twilight of his career, he emerged as a top coach in his own right by steering the Furness side to Wembley in 1967.

For a time after his departure from Barrow's Craven Park, Jim was out of the limelight. He had a brief courtship with Huyton and was later exposed by a national newspaper playing for a Cheshire RU side.

But you can't keep a good man down for long and St. Helens quickly moved in to put "Gentleman Jim" back in

the Rugby League driving seat as coach of one of the game's most fashionable clubs.

Once back in harness success followed success. Under Challinor, the Saints won the Northern League championship in 1970-71 and 12 months later Challinor was back at Wembley where his Saints took on the might of Leeds and triumphed 16-13.

The same two teams contested the championship final a week later and this time Leeds won the battle of the giants to take the title.

But Challinor's name was already back in the top bracket and he reached what many will regard as the pinnacle of his career when he steered Great Britain to World Cup triumph in 1972.

Jim was a popular choice as coach and assistant manager on the recent tour of Australia and New Zealand—his second visit down under, because he toured in 1958 with other top-class centres, Phil Jackson, Eric Ashton and Oldham's Alan Davies.

Many times an international, Jim came to Britain's rescue three weeks ago. Because of crippling injuries, and the nearness of the third and decisive Test against the Kiwis, he turned out in the centre against South Island at Greymouth . . . though he had celebrated his 40th birthday only a few days earlier.

That's Jim Challinor . . . a man of many triumphs, a man to meet an emergency. A sports outfitter with his wife Wendy in Warrington, we fervently believe he is just the man to deliver the goods for Oldham.

OUR VISITORS

THE exact composition of the Blackpool Borough team is somewhat undecided for during the summer months several promising junior players made their way to the seaside, and this afternoon one or two of them could be making their debuts in first team football.

However, Boro' have one or two familiar faces on their books and one of these is full-back Dave Hallas, the 27 years old former Sale rugby union player who played 18 times for Cheshire before joining Swinton in July 1971. In September 1972 he was transferred to Blackpool and had a rather unfortunate debut against Leeds when, although he kicked 3 goals, the Seasiders lost 51-9.

There certainly does not seem to be any shortage of wing talent at Boro' Park for apart from former junior stars Frank Delooze and Joe Lewis there are two very experienced players in Jim Johnson and Tol Callister. Delooze is a former England junior who was signed from Crosfield Recreation in February 1972 whilst Lewis was signed some seven months later from U.G.B.

The joint holder of Blackpool's try scoring record is Jim Johnson with 22 tries in season 1970-71 and another experienced player is Tom Callister who was signed from Barrow last January.

Probably the most experienced player in the Blackpool Borough line-up is Peter Rowe, the former Swansea RUFC star who made the Welsh youth team before signing for Wigan in October 1966.

In season 1969-70 Rowe represented Wales against France both at Salford and Perpignan and he also has the experience of several big occasion matches

with Wigan such as the Championship Final of 1971. He was a very useful signing by Boro' last January and he made a try scoring debut against Halifax.

Another candidate for one of the centre spots is Les Greenhough who at 18 years of age is an outstanding prospect judging by his performance when he made his debut at Huddersfield last October and scored a couple of tries.

It was in December 1972 that Doug Robinson turned professional from the Fylde RUFC and he, too, is proving to be a capable centre.

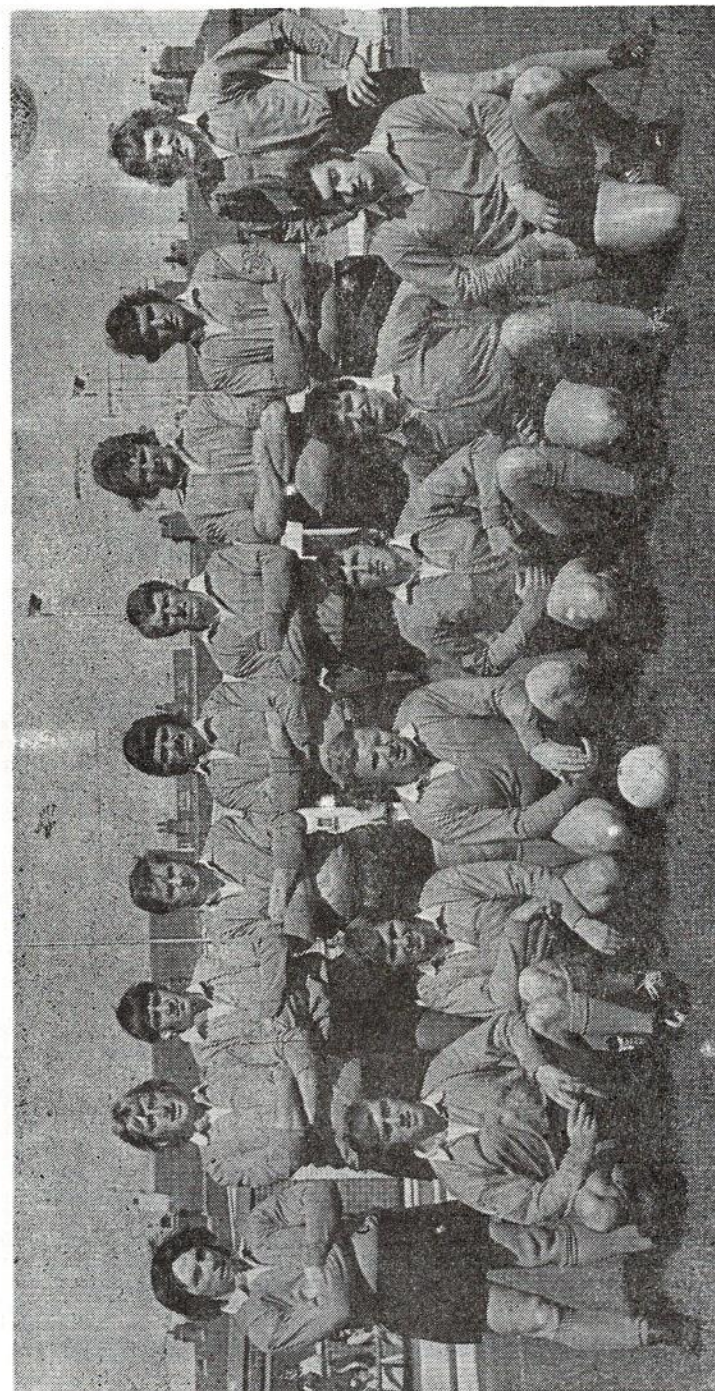
At scrum-half Boro' are expected to field the former Blackpool junior David Cavanagh who is 21-years-old and in his third season with the club. Cavanagh's half-back partner will probably be Ged Marsh, a tricky stand-off who is also a useful goal-kicker.

The Boro' pack contains several players who have had plenty of first team experience and in particular Joe Egan, Paddy Loughlin and Jimmy McLoughlin, a very capable front row.

In the second-row Blackpool will have the speedy Geoff Holland or former Wigan juniors Denis McCann and Graham Seddon. Seddon was signed from Wigan Saint Patricks in March 1972.

The leader of the Boro' pack is 27 years old Don Walker who is a tremendous inspiration to the side with his enthusiastic approach to the game.

Peter Crank is a most versatile player who is equally at home whether playing at full-back, centre or loose-forward. This former Langworthy Junior was signed in January 1971 from Salford and is a very popular member of the Boro' set-up.



—Photo by courtesy of *West Lancashire Evening Gazette*.

BACK ROW (left to right): D. Cavanagh, W. Cantillon, D. Hallas, P. Crank, D. Walker, D. Robinson, S. Breheny, G. Seddon, T. Haigh.

FRONT ROW (left to right): P. Lowe, F. Delooze, J. Egan, J. McLoughlin, P. Gamble, J. Molyneux.

QUICK SNAPS

BLACKPOOL — SEPT. 8th

THE Supporters Club are organising a 'Full Day Out' for the Blackpool match on Sunday, September 8th. It will be leaving the Social Club at 10-0 a.m. and returning from Blackpool at 11-0 p.m. Tickets can be obtained from the Souvenir Shop, the Pools Office, or from the Social Club after 8-30 p.m.

—:—

CONGRATULATIONS from all at Watersheddings go to second-row man Geoff Munro who recently took part in the biggest signing of his life . . . to pretty Oldham fan, Kathryn Lalley at Our Lady's Church, Moorside.

—:—

Best wishes, too, to Ken Wilson on his appointment in his testimonial year as assistant coach. The benefit fund is going superbly. Thanks to all concerned.

—:—

Two club officials also merit congrats . . . chairman Arthur Walker on his election to the Rugby League's international committee and committee man Jack Bowden on his election as vice-president of the Lancashire county committee.

—:—

The curtain-raiser before today's game is between local schoolboys and a team from the party of French boys who are currently in Oldham on their annual visit.

—:—

Last season we received several complaints from members about the withdrawal of their exclusive match-day drinking facilities in the pavilion. This resulted only from a move which the committee felt vital as another money-making effort—the opening of the vice-presidents' lounge.

However, to try and make life more comfortable for our members, there will be a new innovation this season: they will have exclusive match-day use of the social club lounge with non-members accommodated in the concert room.

—:—

The Golden Gamble Pool has proved to be a big success thanks to a fine selling effort by members and pool agents. The competition starts on September 21st so there is still plenty of selling time left.

—:—

Membership of the Bronze Club is 50p and it entitles the member to discounts off goods bought in the new souvenir shop, away travel, etc., but once underway will bring other privileges and the chance to become more involved and participate in club activities.

—:—

The Supporters Club have re-organised themselves during the summer and have mapped out an ambitious programme of events they will be organising during the season.

These will be done in conjunction with the newly formed **BRONZE CLUB**. This has been created to bring the club into contact with supporters on occasions other than match days, and increase involvement in the club. Membership will not only entitle discounts off goods bought in the souvenir shop and away travel, but once underway bring other privileges. Membership is only 50p and can be obtained from officials of the Supporters' Club or from the Development Office.

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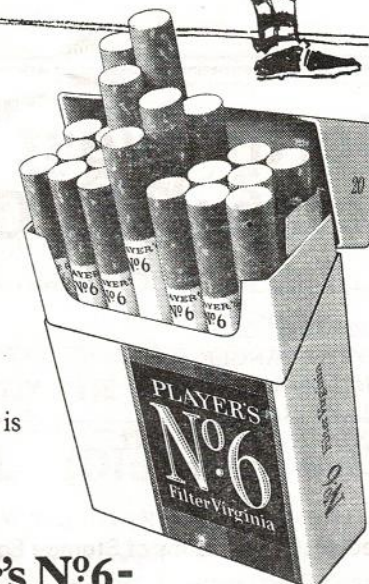
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Secretary: K. WILKINSON

Coach: J. CHALLINOR

FIXTURES 1974-75

Aug. 17—Rochdale (Law Cup)	Home
24—Blackpool	Home
Sept. 1—Widnes (3-15 p.m.)	Home
8—Blackpool	Away
14—Huddersfield	Home
20—Hull K.R. (7-30 p.m.)	Away
28—Player's No. 6 (1st Rnd.)	Home
Lancs. Cup, Rnd. 1	Home
Oct. 6—N. Hunslet (3-30 p.m.)	Away
12—Hull	Home
18—Whitehaven (7-00 p.m.)	Away
26—Huyton	Home
Nov. 3—Swinton	Away
9—Player's No. 6 (2nd Rnd.)	Home
16—Workington	Home
24—Doncaster (2-30 p.m.)	Away
30—Batley	Home
Dec. 8—Workington (2-30 p.m.)	Away
14—Hull K.R.	Home
21—	Home
26—Huddersfield	Away
29—Huyton (2-30 p.m.)	Away
Jan. 4—New Hunslet	Home
11—Doncaster	Home
17—Barrow (7-00 p.m.)	Away
25—Swinton	Home
Feb. 1—	Home
8—Challenge Cup (1st Rnd.)	Home
15—Leigh (3-45 p.m.)	Away
22—Challenge Cup (2nd Rnd.)	Away
Mar. 1—Whitehaven	Home
8—	Home
15—Leigh	Home
23—Batley	Away
30—Hull	Away
Apr. 5—Barrow	Home
12—	Home
19—	Home

Aug. 24—Blackpool	Away
30—Widnes (7-30 p.m.)	Away
Sept. 7—Blackpool	Home
13—Salford (7-30 p.m.)	Away
Oct. 5—Rochdale	Home
12—Wigan	Away
19—St. Helens	Away
26—Huyton	Away
Nov. 2—Swinton	Home
8—Warrington (7-30 p.m.)	Away
23—Widnes	Home
30—	Home
14—	Home
21—	Home
26—	Home
28—Huyton	Home
Jan. 4—	Home
11—	Home
18—Barrow	Home
25—Swinton	Away
Feb. 1—	Home
8—St. Helens	Home
15—Leigh	Home
22—Salford	Home
Mar. 1—	Home
8—	Home
15—Leigh	Away
21—Rochdale (7-30 p.m.)	Away
29—	Away
Apr. 5—Barrow	Away
12—Warrington	Home
19—Wigan	Home

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