

Oldham 21

- 1 BLAIR, J. *try*
- 2 ELLIOTT, M.
- 3 LARDER, P. *try 6 goals*
- 4 BARTON, E.
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 WAINWRIGHT, T. *try*
- 7 TREASURE, D.
- 8 ASHCROFT, K.
- 9 TAYLOR, K.
- 10 HALL, F.
- 11 GREGORY, B.
- 12 WELDING, R.
- 13 FARRELL, J.
- 14 PATERSON, J.
- 15 HUGHES, B.

Referee:
P. Geraghty (York)

Workington 14

- 1 MARLAND, H. *try*
- 2 RISMAN, J.
- 3 THOMPSON, T.
- 4 WRIGHT, I. *try*
- 5 McCORCADALE, I. *4 goals*
- 6 ATKINSON, D.
- 7 NICHOLSON, R.
- 8 McCOURT, H.
- 9 ALLEN, H.
- 10 CALVIN, R.
- 11 BOWMAN, B.
- 12 GORLEY, L.
- 13 BANKS, A.
- 14 HOCKING, L.
- 15 CURWEN, D.

T. A. Rynn (Wigan) Red
H. Worth (Widnes) Orange

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. WORKINGTON

was *Johnny Farrell*

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.

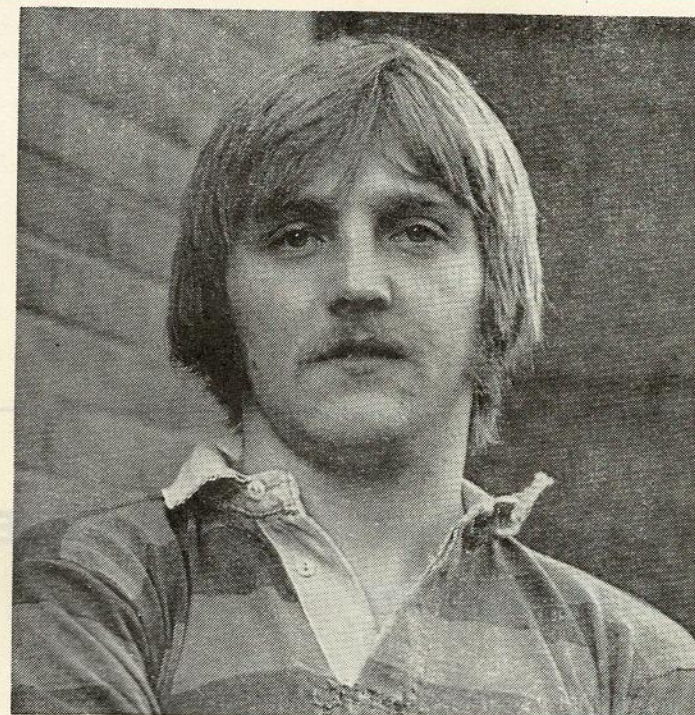
VOTED MAN OF MATCH
v. HUDDERSFIELD WAS—
JOHNNY BLAIR

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OLDHAM 21

WORKINGTON 14



—Picture by courtesy of the Evening Chronicle.
TONY WAINWRIGHT . . . back at stand-off half against Hull K.R. last Friday.

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kick-off 3.00 pm **8p**

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OLDHAM OUTLOOK

WE'RE back on the cup merry-go-round today with the visit of Workington to Watersheddings in the first round of the Player's No. 6 Trophy.

Needless to say, the club is hopeful of success to rekindle that old cup fever, which has been missing from the Watersheddings scene in recent seasons because of our failure to make much impact on the knock-out competitions.

It really is incredible how our supporters rally round when there is so much as a glimpse of the pot of gold — silver in this case — at the end of the cup rainbow.

Remember those fantastic crowds of 18,000 and 19,000 when first Bradford and then Leeds came here in the second and third rounds of the Challenge Cup a few years ago?

Remember the tremendous enthusiasm when we hired a train to take supporters and players to Hull for the second round Challenge Cup tie the season before last?

There are many people in Rugby League who argue that the sudden-death thrill of cup ties is what the fans really want.

This year, because of our place in the Second Division, we have to put league matches at the top of our list of priorities.

But it isn't difficult to see what those cup-tie-minded administrators are talking about when we consider our own experiences over the last few years, here at Watersheddings.

How the fans love a good cup run! Let's hope we can begin one today to make amends for the disappointments in losing to Widnes in the first round of the Lancashire Cup and to Hull K.R. in the preliminary round of the Floodlit Trophy.

In welcoming Workington, special mention must be made of coach Ike Southward, our former wing star, and winger Iain MacCorquodale.

"Corky", as he is well known in this area, learned his early rugby at Keb Lane and then moved to the Waterloo club from where he signed professional forms for Salford.

On transferring to Workington, he had a spell in South America before returning to take up a teaching post in Oldham. A prolific points scorer, he now lives in Saddleworth, and he will be anxious to "put one over" on us today, as he has done in the past.

Workington have a fine, promotion-looking side at Derwent Park and, with the top four positions in mind, the match should not only provide a keen, sudden-death atmosphere but also give a telling indication about our own promotion prospects.

These took a temporary nosedive with our defeats by Huddersfield at Watersheddings and Hull K.R. at Craven Park, but for the benefit of the majority of supporters who didn't make the two long treks to Humberside last week we can safely say that, even in defeat, we shaped 100 per cent better than we did against the Fartown men.

The trip to Blackpool was a roaring success, and similar trips will be run in future. Last week a donation of £250 was handed over to the parent body, producing a total hand-over of £500 in the last few weeks.



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WHO said Rugby League players are overpaid? I pose the question after one of the most hectic starts to a season in living memory.

The early-season pile-up of league matches, county cup ties, the county championship games (increased this season with the restoration of the Other Nationalities team), and the two-legged ties in the preliminary round of the Floodlit Trophy, has meant a whirlwind start which has almost swallowed us up.

Unlike many people within the game I do not intend to be critical of the Rugby League on the strength of early-season fixture congestion.

It is so easy to criticise — it is not so easy to come forward with constructive suggestions.

What we mustn't forget is that, in the old days, which so many people still keep referring to, there was no Floodlit Trophy, and no John Player Trophy, yet another competition that starts for Oldham this afternoon.

However, it is interesting in this day and age to discuss the demands on the Rugby League player, who hasn't only to compete in all these matches, but also has to train for them.

Brian Gregory, for instance, has had a traumatic few weeks and has hardly had one evening at home in the last fortnight.

On Tuesday I excused him from Oldham's training session because he had trained with Lancashire the previous night and was playing at Keighley against Yorkshire the following evening.

But Brian still says, perhaps jokingly but nevertheless with a lot of meaning, that even his alsatian dog growls now when he pushes open the door of his home, near Wigan.

I refer particularly to Brian only because he is one of our own players, and because he has had county duty to squeeze in as well as his training and playing for Oldham.

The other Oldham players have also put in a tremendous amount of time, and remember this: Brian Gregory is but one of scores of players in the game who are currently beset by similar problems.

The pressure all began with our match at Blackpool on Sunday, September 8. Gregory's programme from then on reads like this:—

Monday, September 9, Lancashire training; Tuesday, Oldham v. Hull K.R.; Wednesday, Lancs. v. Other Nationalities; Thursday, Oldham training; Friday, night off; Saturday, Oldham v. Huddersfield.

Monday, Oldham training; Tuesday, Hull K.R. v. Oldham; Wednesday, Lancashire v. Cumbria; Thursday, Oldham training; Friday, Hull K.R. v. Oldham.

Monday, Lancashire training; Tuesday, Oldham training; Wednesday, Yorkshire v. Lancashire; Thursday, Oldham training; Friday, night off; Sunday, Oldham v. Workington.

Today's game, therefore, will be Gregory's ninth in 22 days . . . and that's to say nothing of seven evenings spent training with either Oldham or Lancashire: a grand total of 16 days out of 22 spent on R.L. business.

Who could really call Brian, and all the other lads like him, a part-timer? But part-timer he is and, incredible though it may sound, in addition to that little lot he has had to go to work every day.

I know the boys are young, fit and healthy but I'm sure you will all agree that there is a lot more than meets the eye to this Rugby League business.

Perhaps, like me, you will bear this in mind when mistakes are made or players don't perform as well as you might expect them to.

OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

WORKINGTON have made a pleasing start to this season with a couple of good wins in the Lancashire Cup and they are handily placed in their bid to climb out of the Second Division.

In league matches Town have won 3 of their four matches and they lie in 4th position in the league table. Their only league defeat was away at Hull by 15-8 but in the three matches in Cumbria they have won against Barrow 20-13, Hull 26-11 and the much-improved Huyton 33-7.

Workington had to travel to St. Helens for the first round of the Lancashire Cup and the critics made them second favourites. However, a tremendous display from the Town pack and one touch of Iain MacCorquodale magic which put John Risman in for the all-important try was enough to see Town through by 13-11.

The visit from Swinton in the second round was a much easier task and the Cumbrians duly obliged by knocking out the Lions 17-7 in a match which saw both scrum-halves Ken Green (Swinton) and 'Boxer' Walker sent off for fighting - so that's why they call him 'Boxer'!

Workington are always a difficult side to beat at home and they can also be called upon to give a good account of themselves away from home where they have pulled off quite a few unexpected results.

One such surprise victory was at Watersheddings in season 1967-68 when Oldham supporters certainly were shocked as their team tumbled to a 36-5 home defeat.

On the last occasion Workington visited Watersheddings, however, in August 1972, the match ended, predictably enough, in a 19-5 Oldham victory. That was the season when Oldham made such a successful start to the campaign.

A crowd of 2,702 attended the match and saw Oldham struggle a little against the Town pack before getting on top just before the interval and turning round 10-0 up. Oldham still had to work hard in the second period but they survived to run out 19-5 victors. Oldham's tries were scored by Joe Collins (2) and Geoff Munro whilst Phil Larder (4) and Frank Foster kicked goals. Town's scorers were Bob Nicholson (goal) and Ralph Calvin (try) and the teams were:

OLDHAM: Martin Murphy; Mike Elliott, Phil Larder, Joe Collins, Norman Hodgkinson; Cliff Hill, Mick McCone; Ken Wilson, Kevin Taylor, Frank Foster, Bob Irving, Geoff Munro and Billy Churm. Substitutes: Tommy Davies and Keith Ashcroft.

WORKINGTON TOWN: John Risman; Allan Tait, Bob Nicholson, Ian Wright, Les Hocking; John McQuire, Jackie Newall; Bob Maxwell, Alan Banks, Ralph Calvin, Les Gorley, Derek Branthwaite and Ken Goodall. Substitutes: Harry Marland and Dave Curwen.

This afternoon's match is the first meeting between Oldham and Workington Town in the John Player Trophy and, incidentally, Oldham's first home tie in this competition. With successive first round defeats at Whitehaven, Hull and Warrington behind them, Oldham will be looking forward, not only to a home tie for a change but to their first victory in a competition which ranks second only to the Wembley Challenge Cup.



—Pictures by Times and Star, Workington.

Workington stars on parade . . . (left to right) HAROLD MCCOURT, brother of our former player, Charlie McCourt, HARRY MARLAND, and Ralph Calvin.

Players No. 6 Trophy

Today we open our campaign for the top prizes in the Player's No. 6 Trophy competition — the biggest and richest sponsored competition in the Rugby League.

The competition is now in its fourth successive season and is worth a total of £16,100 prize money including £5,000 and the bronze Player's No. 6 Trophy for the winner. Again the prize structure ensures something for every club on the basis of the further they get the richer the reward. The clubs losing in the first round receive £150, the second round

£300, the third round £450 and the semi-finals £1,000. The runner-up wins a consolation cheque to the value of £2,500.

Previous holders of the Trophy have been Halifax, Leeds and Warrington. Dates for the forthcoming rounds in this season's competition are:— Second Round—weekend of 9 November, 1974; Third Round—weekend of 7 December, 1974; first semi-final—Saturday, 4 January, 1975; second semi-final—Saturday, 11 January, 1975; FINAL—Saturday, 25 January, 1975.

Oldham Rugby League Queen

To take place in the Social Club, Wednesday, October 30th.

THE once-popular Rugby League Queen dance has been revived by our Supporters' Club who will stage the big event in the Social Club on Wednesday, October 30.

Admission will be 50p and the supporters promise a highly-entertaining evening. Girls who wish to enter — and

the organisers hope there will be many — are asked to contact Alan Taylor.

Meanwhile, the drive for more members of the supporters' club is on in earnest. Committee members, and workers in the refreshment bars, will be only too pleased to receive your membership.

If you know any girl, over 16, who wishes to enter for the OLDHAM RUGBY QUEEN, please ask them to fill in the form below.

NAME

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AGE

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FIXTURES 1974-75

Aug. 17—Rochdale (Law Cup) Home 27-15	Aug. 24—Blackpool Away 28-2
" 24—Blackpool Home 17-13	" 30—Widnes (7-30 p.m.) Away 13-10
Sept. 1—Widnes (3-15 p.m.) Home 9-14	Sept. 7—Blackpool Home
" 8—Blackpool Away	" 13—Salford (7-30 p.m.) Away
" 14—Huddersfield Home	Oct. 5—Rochdale Home
" 20—Hull K.R. (7-30 p.m.) Away	" 12—Wigan Away
" 28—Player's No. 6 (1st Rnd.)	" 19—St. Helens Away
Lancs. Cup, Rnd. 1 Home	" 26—Huyton Away
Oct. 6—N. Hunslet (3-30 p.m.) Away	Nov. 2—Swinton Home
" 12—Hull Home	" 8—Warrington (7-30 p.m.) Away
" 18—Whitehaven (7-00 p.m.) Away	" 23—Widnes Home
" 26—Huyton Home	" 30—
Nov. 3—Swinton Away	" 14—
" 9—Player's No. 6 (2nd Rnd.)	" 21—
" 16—Workington Home	" 26—
" 24—Doncaster (2-30 p.m.) Away	" 28—Huyton Home
" 30—Batley Home	Jan. 4—
Dec. 8—Workington (2-30 p.m.) Away	" 11—
" 14—Hull K.R. Home	" 18—Barrow Home
" 21—	" 25—Swinton Away
" 26—Huddersfield Away	Feb. 1—
" 29—Huyton (2-30 p.m.) Away	" 8—St. Helens Home
Jan. 4—New Hunslet Home	" 15—Leigh Home
" 11—Doncaster Home	" 22—Salford Home
" 17—Barrow (7-00 p.m.) Away	Mar. 1—
" 25—Swinton Home	" 8—
Feb. 1—	" 15—Leigh Away
" 8—Challenge Cup (1st Rnd.)	" 21—Rochdale (7-30 p.m.) Away
" 15—Leigh (3-45 p.m.) Away	" 29—
" 22—Challenge Cup (2nd Rnd.)	Apr. 5—Barrow Away
Mar. 1—Whitehaven Home	" 12—Warrington Home
" 8—	" 19—Wigan Home
" 15—Leigh Home	
" 23—Batley Away	
" 30—Hull Away	
Apr. 5—Barrow Home	
" 12—	
" 19—	

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Oldham

Workington

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
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| 3 LARDER, P. 44444 | 3 THOMPSON, T. |
| 4 BARTON, E. | 4 WRIGHT, I. T |
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| 9 TAYLOR, K. | 9 ALLEN, H. |
| 10 HALL, F. | 10 CALVIN, R. |
| 11 GREGORY, B. | 11 BOWMAN, B. |
| 12 WELDING, R | 12 GORLEY, L. |
| 13 FARRELL, J. | 13 BANKS, A. |
| 14 PATERSON, J | 14 HOCKING, L. |
| 15 HUGHES, B. | 15 CURWEN, D. |

Referee:

P. Geraghty (York)

T. A. Rynn (Wigan)

H. Worth (Widnes)

Red

Orange

Next Home Match

Saturday 12th October v HULL