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On the photograph, the Rugby Ball has been removed. Using your skill and judgement decide the most likely place the ball would be and mark the position with a cross. Whoever places the ball closest to where our panel of experts decide it should be will be judged the winner. Then fill in your name and address and hand your entry in at the bar of your Burtonwood Pub or Club. Closing date November 7th 1976.

RULES

- 1) One entry per person only.
- 2) The judges decision is final. Judges will be impartial experts appointed by Burtonwood Brewery (Forshaw's) Ltd., hereinafter called the Company.
- 3) Employees of the company and its agents, or their relatives are ineligible.
- 4) All entries become the property of the Company.
- 5) All entrants must be over eighteen years of age when they enter.
- 6) No correspondence will be entered into.
- 7) "Free beer for a year" means 365 pints of beer served in the Burtonwood public house nominated by the winner. Any beer unclaimed one year after the presentation of the prize will be forfeit. Pints need not be claimed daily and may be allowed to accumulate, but such accumulated quantities will be served in any one session at the discretion of the landlord.
- 8) The accumulation rule and discretion of the landlord will apply to the second prize of 50 free pints of beer also.
- 9) Winners will be notified by post, and results of the competition will be published in the Competitors Journal.

Name _____

Address _____

I would like my free beer at _____

_____ (Pub or Club)

I have read the rules and agree to abide by them.

Signed _____

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Centenary Season

OLDHAM v BRADFORD

SUNDAY 31st OCTOBER 1976

Kick Off 3-30 p.m.

TODAY'S MATCH BALL
presented by
TOWNFIELD SERVICE STATION
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10p

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB
THE PAVILION, WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM

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Social Club Manageress: Mrs. F. BOWDEN, Tel. 061-624 7240

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Assistant Coach: K. WILSON

Physiotherapist: F. NAVESEY

Assistant Physiotherapist: B. CHURM

Groundsman: W. BUCKLEY

Assistant Groundsman: A. WOOLLEY

HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off winners: 1909-10, 1910-11 and 1956-57.

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22 and 1954-55.

First Division Champions: 1904-05.

Second Division Champions: 1963-64.

Rugby League Challenge Cup winners: 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27.

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26.

Lancashire Cup winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69.

Lancashire Championship winners: 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55.

Lancashire Shield winners: 1975-76.



1958 — and Oldham have done it again! For the third successive year they brought the Lancashire Cup back to town and it's a happy Alan Davies, at the mike, and John Etty, holding the cup.

Picture by courtesy of the OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE.

OLDHAM OUTLOOK

A SPECIAL welcome to Watersheddings today for the match that celebrates our centenary. Various functions have been held in the past few months but, of course, the celebrations would not have been complete without a special **Match** here at Watersheddings, the scene of our club since 1899.

The committee gave a great deal of consideration to the possibilities of holding a special centenary game. But there is so much football these days, particularly at this time of year with the Player's No. 6 and Floodlit Cup competitions going on, that it was felt advisable to link the centenary with a League match.

This Sunday was chosen as the date nearest to the club's first recorded game against Stalybridge in October, 1876 and the committee specially requested the visit of Northern for the centenary match because they are a club that is well supported away from home and will probably bring a good following to today's match.

We did not want the whole affair to fall flat—and it might have done so easily had there been only a small crowd.

Talking of small crowds we were very disappointed again with the turn-up of only 2,000 for the Player's No. 6 Trophy tie against Batley last Sunday.

Quite honestly, these sort of gates spell doom and if things don't improve we are going to be really in a tight corner.

This is not gloom mongering or overstating a case in the hope that the fans will suddenly turn up. It is a true and realistic assessment of the situation: a warning, if you like, that we are desperate for some good attendances.

Today we specially welcome all the guests and all those former players of the club who have accepted our invitation to attend today's match.

To the boys who will be providing entertainment with seven-a-side rugby before the kick-off we say welcome to Watersheddings, as we do to those local lads who are here today on special passes.

The boys of today are the Dads of tomorrow—and it is vital that we look after the customers of the next generation. This is a policy that Bradford, in particular, have followed very closely in the last year or two.

If the scheme is a success today we may extend the concession to all home League games for the rest of the season.

At present, however, we have cups on our mind—the Player's Trophy and the Floodlit Trophy to be more precise.

On Tuesday night (7-25) we go to Hull in the second round of the BBC cup and then next Sunday, here at Watersheddings, we are at home to Leigh in the second round of the Player's competition.

The match at Hull will be televised—the second half, that is—but we hope as many supporters as possible make the trip, not only to help swell the crowd but to give our boys a cheer against a side that has really made the big guns think in cup ties in the last two seasons.

Most important of all, however, is the need for a really big attendance next Sunday in the tie against Leigh.

There is some good money to be picked up in the two cup competitions and with YOUR help we can make it a centenary year of which to be proud.

The best way, of course, would be to put some silver on the sideboard! See you next week.

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IN DEPTH

IN MONDAY'S

OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE



1958 — and the last time Oldham won the Lancashire Cup. A happy dressing room scene as the players celebrate their third successive county cup victory. Behind coach Griff Jenkins note two men still on the Watersheddings scene—physiotherapist Frank Navesey, back after a long absence, and Fred Howarth, who is now secretary of the ex-players association.

Picture by courtesy of the OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE.

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Oldham FC Down the Years

No. 5

by TOM WEBB

WHEN the Maoris toured this country in 1888-89 it was a gala day at the Clarksfield ground. The Oldham team, slightly reinforced, won by one dropped goal from Bill McCutcheon, who also scored a try, and one try each by Jowett and Whittaker.

The Oldham team which defeated the Maoris was: T. B. Broadbent; J. Hurst (Leigh), W. McCutcheon, W. H. Pennington (Rochdale Hornets), J. B. Mills; J. Dolan (Rochdale Hornets), T. Whittaker (Manchester); H. Court, E. Blomley, J. Armstrong, S. H. Nuttall, J. Mellor, H. Wolstencroft, W. Lees, H. Jowett (Failsworth).

The formation was one full back, three threequarters, two half-backs and nine forwards. The four threequarter back formation did not appear for another year or two.

On New Year's Day, 1889 Newport played Oldham in South Wales. The home club claimed a win, but the Oldham side claimed a draw. The press gave the result as Newport three tries, Oldham one goal, so that scoring values were changing.

The players by now were dressing at the Old Soldier Hotel, Huddersfield Road, and travelling by wagonette to the ground at Clarksfield, or Hollin Hall as it was sometimes known.

On September 28, 1889, the club moved, along with Oldham Cricket Club, to Knucklet, which was the old name for part of Watersheddings. The ground was first used for the match with Swinton at the start of that season. The crowd numbered 7,000 to see Oldham, in their new strip of red and white, lose to the Blues.

During the same season the Oldham Chronicle reported that in the match against Leicester, Hurst dropped a goal but the Oldham Standard maintained that it was McCutcheon who scored!

McCutcheon and Dai Gwynne, who had both joined Oldham from South Wales, were included in the Lancashire team in 1890-91 on residential grounds. About this time Oldham were accused of professionalism but the charge was dismissed on April 18, 1891.

The club's first international was Ab Ashworth. He played for England against Ireland in 1891-92. After his retirement from the senior game he assisted Luzley Brook in the Oldham Junior League. His colleague, Pennington, kicked 37 goals from 77 tries, adding two penalty goals and one dropped goal.

S. Taylor of Bankfield was secretary in 1892-93 when Arthur Lees, a youth of 18, was signed from the Lees club. He became a star in the game. Another dispute with Newport concerned the result. A try was worth two points in the North of England but three points in South Wales.

In 1893-94 Jack Hurst scored 43 tries, Bill McCutcheon 24, and Fillingham 11. Pennington kicked 23 conversions and Gwynne 15. This scoring took Oldham to the championship of the Lancashire RU Senior Competition in its second season.

Other matches were with Swansea, Llanelli, Hartlepool Rovers, Wakefield Trinity, Leeds and Manningham. The Swansea match was attended by 10,000 spectators.

● After a long struggle for the payment of broken time—that is, time taken off work in order to play rugby—the bulk of the leading clubs in Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire broke away from the Rugby Union in the summer of 1895 to form the Northern Rugby Union, normally known as the Northern Union.

The Oldham club played a leading part in this struggle ... but that is another story which I shall deal with in the next programme.



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- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 MUNRO, G.
- 5 LUND, S.
- 6 WAINWRIGHT, A.
- 7 TREASURE, D.
- 8 OWEN, G.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 TAYLOR, I.
- 11 WELDING, R.
- 12 HERBERT, S.
- 13 POLLARD, G.
- 14
- 15

Referee:
D. G. KERSHAW
(York)

T G Dg P

Bradford

- 1 MUMBY, K.
- 2 GANT, L.
- 3 EVANS, G.
- 4 CARLTON, S.
- 5 REDFEARN, D.
- 6 SLATER, I.
- 7 SEABOURNE, B.
- 8 MURPHY, M.
- 9 JARVIS, F.
- 10 FORSYTH, C.
- 11 JOYCE, G.
- 12 FEARNLEY, S.
- 13 WOOLFORD, J.
- 14 BLACKER, M.
- 15 CLAWSON, T.

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OUR VISITORS

BY DON YATES

ALTHOUGH this afternoon's match marks the 100th birthday of the Oldham club and today's game will be overshadowed somewhat by this nostalgic occasion, it must be remembered that the visit of Bradford Northern for today's League encounter is also an important occasion in this season's First Division campaign (writes Don Yates). An Oldham victory this afternoon would enable the club to continue its climb away from the relegation zone but second placed Bradford will also be chasing the points in order to try to close the two point gap between themselves and League leaders Castleford.

The last five matches between Oldham and Bradford Northern have all ended in victory for the visitors and no doubt Bradford will be hoping that this trend continues today. Last December Oldham won 20-14 at Odsal but lost here last April 39-16 and the previous League meetings, in season 1971-72, saw Bradford victorious by 13-9 at Watersheddings only to lose at home to Oldham by 14-7. Sandwiched in between those League matches was a John Player second round cup-tie in November 1974 which looked all the way a thriller and was booked as match-of-the-week and shown live on BBC television. In the opening round of that season's competition Oldham had defeated Workington Town 21-14 whilst Bradford had defeated Dewsbury 12-8 so the stage was set for Second Division Oldham, who had won five of their previous six matches, to take on the reigning Second Division Champions, Northern, who themselves had made a fine start to their First Division campaign as well as reaching the Yorkshire Cup semi-final where they took Hull Kingston Rovers to a replay before being eliminated. Both sides were at full strength and lined up as follows:

OLDHAM: Martin Murphy; Mike Elliott, Phil Larder, Tony Wainwright, Eddie Barton; David Treasure, Mick McCone; Keith Ashcroft, Kevin Taylor, Brian Hughes, Fred Hall, Bob Welding and Johnny Farrell. Substitutes: Johnny Blair and Dickie Brown.

BRADFORD NORTHERN: Keith Mumby; Mike Lamb, Phil Ward, Jackie Marston, Les Gant; Mike Blacker, Barry Seabourne; Bill Ramsey, Francis Jarvis, Colin Forsyth, Phil Jackson, Graham Joyce and Stan Fearnley. Substitutes: Stuart Carlton and Bill Pattinson.

Much to the disappointment of the two club treasurers, the match coincided with the first cold spell of the winter and these wintry conditions together with the screening of the match on television reduced the attendance to a mere 2,113, well below the expected figure. The unfavourable weather also left the Watersheddings pitch in a muddy state and as a result of this, the match was reduced to a forward slog as the two sets of backs got bogged down in the watery conditions. Oldham won an overwhelming supply of ball from the scrums but were unable to show anything from it because of the fine Bradford defence. When Northern did get possession they proved that, on the day, they were much better than Oldham and they went on to win 12-3 after leading 5-0 at the interval. The Oldham try was scored by Mike Elliott whilst for Northern half-backs Barry Seabourne and Mike Blacker scored tries and Keith Mumby obliged with three goals. Bradford went on to lift that trophy with victories over Leeds, Whitehaven and Widnes so in view of that, the Oldham performance was not as bad as was first thought.

Bradford have failed to lift a major trophy since that 3-2 victory over Widnes in January 1975 but this season they have made a fine start to their League programme and have lost only one of their opening seven First Division matches. That solitary defeat was at Workington in the first League match of the season so Bradford travel to Watersheddings hoping to extend a six match unbeaten run. Oldham, too, have enjoyed a recent run of success with five victories in their last six matches and will enter today's game knowing that it is the first of three vital games in an 8 day spell which could see the club reach the quarter-final stage of the Floodlit Cup and Player's Trophy as well as climb into the top half of the First Division table. It all points to an intriguing afternoon's sport which should provide plenty of entertainment for the bumper crowd which is expected to gather and join in on Oldham's 100th birthday treat.

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

GERRY KERSHAW (born 24-10-43). Married with no children. Schoolmaster. Passed referees' examination at 18, promoted to Grade 2 at approximately 23 years of age and upgraded to Grade 1 after one season. He is Secretary of the R.L. Senior Referees' Association. Honours include Player's No. 6 Final 1973-74 and the Floodlit Final in the same season.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

AWAY TRAVEL

A coach will be departing from the Social Club on Tuesday at 5-00 p.m. for the Floodlit Trophy second round game at Hull. Anyone wishing to book for this coach can do so today at any canteen or the bar behind the scoreboard.

SECONDS' PARTY

A Seconds' Party will be held in the Social Club on Tuesday, 9th November, when a selection of well-known branded goods, Christmas cards and toys will be on sale. Tickets are available, price 15p.

CENTENARY BROCHURES

As today is our Centenary Match I would like to remind supporters that "Centenary Brochures" are on sale. Copies (price 50p) can be obtained from the Secretary's Office, the Souvenir Shop or any canteen.

CENTENARY NEWS

The Centenary Committee are very pleased with the design of the Centenary Tie, these are available in two colours, blue or green, price £2 from any member of the Centenary Committee, Secretary's Office, Souvenir Shop, Royal Hotel, Honsedge the Centenary Committee, Secretary's Office, Souvenir Shop, Royal Hotel, Horsedeg Street.

Centenary Brochures are also available priced 50p.

On sale at the Secretary's Office are red holdalls, priced £3.50. These are the bags you see carried to the trainer's bench.

The following publications are available from the Rugby League:

COACHING WALL CHART: Price £1 plus 15p postage/packing.	LAWS OF
THE GAME: Price 10p plus 10p postage/packing.	MANUAL OF RUGBY
LEAGUE COACHING: Price 15p plus 10p postage/packing.	JOHN PLAYER
RUGBY LEAGUE YEAR BOOK: Price £2.95 plus 40p postage/packing.	RUGBY
LEAGUE OFFICIAL GUIDE: Price 50p plus 11p postage/packing.	RUGBY
CAR STICKER: Price 10p plus 10p postage/packing.	
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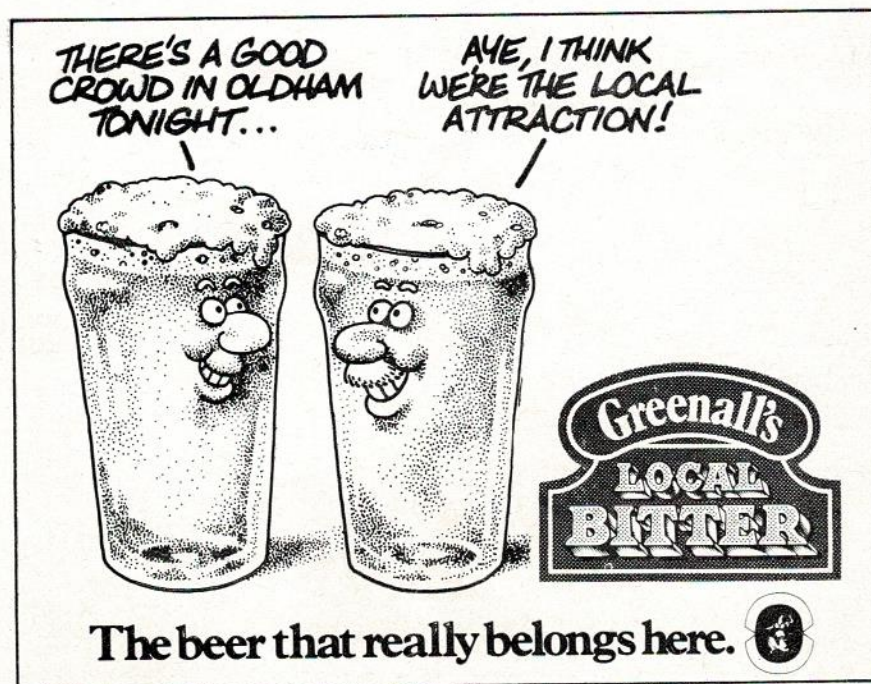
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NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

NOVEMBER 7th K.O. 3.30

PLAYERS No. 6 2nd ROUND

Oldham v Leigh

FIXTURES 1976-77

FIRST TEAM							
Date	Opponents	Ground	F. A.	Date	Opponents	Ground	F. A.
1976				Mar. 12	(Sat.) Leeds (3-00)	A	
Aug. 22	(Sun.) 1st Round County Cup—Blackpool (3-00)	A		20	(Sun.) Castleford (3-30)	H	
Sept. 5	(Sun.) Widnes (3-00)	A		27	(Sun.) Bradford N. (3-30)	A	
12	(Sun.) Leeds (3-30)	H		Apr. 3	(Sun.) Salford (3-30)	H	
19	(Sun.) Leigh (3-30)	A		8	(G.F.) Rochdale H. (3-00)	A	
26	(Sun.) Wigan (3-30)	H		11	(E.M.) Hull K.R. (3-30)	H	
Oct. 3	(Sun.) Wakefield T. (3-30)	A		17	(Sun.) Warrington (3-00)	A	
10	(Sun.) Barrow (3-30)	H		24	(Sun.) Widnes (3-30)	H	
15	(Fri.) Castleford 7-30	A					
23/24	(Sat./Sun.) Player's No. 6 1st Round Batley	H					
31	(Sun.) Bradford N. (3-30)	H					
Nov. 6/7	(Sat./Sun.) Player's No. 6 2nd Round						
14	(Sun.) Barrow (2-30)	A					
21	(Sun.) St. Helens (3-30)	H					
28	(Sun.) Workington T. (3-30)	H					
Dec. 5	(Sun.) Featherstone R. (2-30)	A					
12	(Sun.) Featherstone R. (3-30)	H					
19	(Sun.) Wigan (3-00)	A					
26	(Sun.) Rochdale H. (3-30)	H					
1977							
Jan. 2	(Sun.) Salford (3-00)	A					
9	(Sun.) St. Helens (3-00)	A					
16	(Sun.) Leigh (3-30)	H					
23	(Sun.) Workington T. (2-30)	A					
30	(Sun.) Wakefield T. (3-30)	H					
Feb. 6	(Sun.) Hull K.R. (2-45)	A					
12/13	(Sat./Sun.) Challenge Cup 1st Round						
20	(Sun.) Warrington (3-30)	H					
26/27	(Sat./Sun.) Challenge Cup 2nd Round						

"A" TEAM

Date	Opponents	Ground	F. A.
17-9 Aug. 21	(Sat.) Huyton L.S. (3-00)	A	36-4
28	(Sat.) Huyton L.S. (3-00)	H	25-9
Sept. 4	(Sat.) Widnes (3-00)	H	—
18	(Sat.) Leigh (3-00)	H	22-17
25	(Sat.) Wigan (3-00)	A	15-35
Oct. 2	(Sat.) Swinton (3-00)	H	26-8
9	(Sat.) Barrow (2-30)	A	22-17
15	(Fri.) Widnes (7-30)	A	—
Nov. 13	(Sat.) Barrow (3-00)	H	—
20	(Sat.) St. Helens (3-00)	A	—
27	(Sat.) Workington (2-30)	A	—
Dec. 18	(Sat.) Wigan (3-00)	H	—
1977			
Jan. 8	(Sat.) St. Helens (3-00)	H	—
15	(Sat.) Leigh (3-00)	A	—
22	(Sat.) Workington (3-00)	H	—
Feb. 5	(Sat.) Huyton (3-00)	H	—
18	(Fri.) Warrington (7-30)	A	—
25	(Fri.) Rochdale (7-30)	A	—
Mar. 12	(Sat.) Warrington (3-00)	H	—
19	(Sat.) Swinton (3-00)	A	—
26	(Sat.) Huyton (3-00)	A	—
Apr. 9	(Sat.) Rochdale (3-00)	H	—

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