

FIXTURES 1976/77

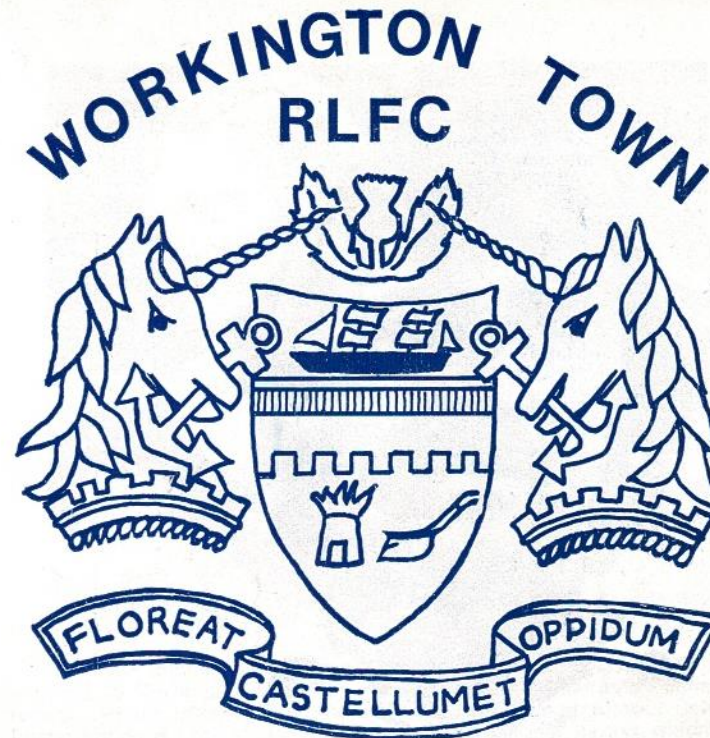
AUGUST		F	A
22—Swinton (Lancashire Cup)	(H)	15	11
29—Blackpool (2nd Round)			
Forshaw's Lancs. Cup	(H)	30	8
SEPTEMBER			
5—Bradford	(H)	12	4
12—Warrington	(A)	9	16
19—Leeds	(H)	18	3
21—Warrington (Semi-Final)			
Forshaw's Lancs. Cup	(A)	9	9
26—Widnes	(H)	17	9
29—Warrington (S.F. Replay)			
Forshaw's Lancs. Cup	(H)	26	15
OCTOBER			
3—Hull K.R.	(A)	8	21
10—Wigan	(H)	13	13
17—Rochdale	(A)	7	0
24—Player's No. 6 Doncaster	(H)	45	15
30—Widnes (Lancs. Cup Final)		11	16
NOVEMBER			
7—Player's No. 6 (2) Bramley	(H)	17	13
14—Bradford	(A)	10	30
21—Blackpool B. Player's No. 6	(H)	5	11
28—Oldham	(A)	2	11
DECEMBER			
4—St. Helens	(H)	12	16
12—Wakefield	(H)	12	10
19—Featherstone	(H)	7	14
27—Barrow	(A)	8	2
JANUARY			
9—Warrington	(H)	16	14
14—Fri.—Salford	(A)	5	17
16—Castleford (Postponed)	(H)		
23—Oldham	(H)		
30—Rochdale	(H)		
FEBRUARY			
6—Wigan	(A)		
13—Challenge Cup (1)			
20—Leigh	(H)		
27—Challenge Cup (2)			
MARCH			
4—Fri.—Castleford	(A)		
13—Salford	(H)		
20—St. Helens	(A)		
26—Sat.—Leeds	(A)		
APRIL			
3—Hull K.R.	(H)		
8—Fri.—Leigh	(A)		
10—Barrow	(H)		
17—Widnes	(A)		
24—Featherstone	(A)		

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RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST DIVISION

SEASON 1976-77

TOWN
VERSUS
OLDHAM

SUNDAY, 23rd JANUARY, 1977

KICK-OFF 3-00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

15p

CLUB NOTES

Town's improved form continued with a great win against the 'Wires' and the two League points gained could well prove vital in our First Division League campaign. It was a game of several parts, with Town well deserving to be in front at half time, but with Warrington continuously attacking for the next twenty-five minutes. During the pressure Town defended brilliantly, and in the end our superior stamina won the day by 16 pts. — 14 pts. For Town Les Gorley, Eddie Bowman and Iain MacCorquodale were outstanding and as stand-in for Alan Banks, Harry Crewdson had a splendid game. To end up on the losing side must have been a great disappointment to Alex Murphy's Wires, and in particular to Mike Nicholas who gave one of the finest performances by any forward to play at Derwent Park for many a long day. Games of this kind are a great credit to Rugby League.

We then made the difficult journey to Salford for a floodlight game on Friday, 14th January, but, after another first class game, we were beaten 17 pts. — 5 pts. Salford were at full strength but Town had to field a re-arranged front row when Jim Mills reported unfit with a re-occurrence of a nagging groin injury. Even so the whole side equipped themselves well and were always in the game. Korky kept up his record of scoring in every game, and although disappointing, the match result proved just how difficult it is to gain away points in this very tight First Division.

On Sunday last our game against Castleford was called off due to the freezing conditions, and it is planned to play this fixture towards the end of the season.

With the First Round already made we must now assess our chances in the Challenge Cup. On paper we should have the edge against Huyton, but it would be most imprudent to regard this game as an automatic passage into the next round. The most sensible course will be to remember our Quarter Final home defeat against Blackpool Borough in this year's Players No. 6 Tournament, and to take heed of that particular fall from grace. Although beaten at home last Sunday by Huddersfield 3 pts. — 16 pts. Huyton are showing great form in the Division Two promotion race. In recent weeks they have made several new signings, including Dennis Brown, the former Widnes winger. Brown will certainly add experience and pace to Huyton's back division. Even so the form book must favour Town for a place in the Second Round Draw. Given this, we can look forward to attractive opposition, since the First Round Draw very definitely favours the major clubs.

TODAY'S VISITORS

Today we offer a warm welcome to Oldham, a club first formed in 1876 and steeped in tradition. Few honours in Rugby League have escaped the 'Roughyeds', and around the turn of the century they were almost unbeatable. Town fans will remember Oldham paying a record transfer fee in March, 1959, when Ike Southward moved to Watersheddings, only to return to Town in 1962 for another record fee of £11,002.

This season Oldham's form has been far from consistent, and in their earlier games lack of weight in the pack proved a considerable problem. Of late however, numerous new signings have been made with a view to adding more strength up front, so Town will need to be on top form if we are to win the day. Earlier in the season Oldham won the points at Watersheddings by 11 pts. — 2 pts.

CLUB MEDICAL OFFICER

Dr. G. M. Thomas no longer finds it possible to act as Hon. Medical Officer to the club and the Chairman and Directors would like to record their thanks for his most valuable service in the past.

Dr. R. D. Walker has kindly agreed to take over and we offer him a warm welcome to Derwent Park.

JOHN F.

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IT'S ALL A MATTER OF OPINION . . .

GET RID OF PETTY BACKBITING

Sir, — I have never written a letter about Rugby League before, but I but I feel I must reply to the so-called "Town Supporters" (Jan. 1).

What a dedicated moaner he must be, to have obtained the views of about 2,700 people (i.e. 90 per cent of regular supporters) before committing himself to print. This groundless claim made the rest of his "hard facts" seem groundless too.

As a non-elected representative of about 1 per cent of the regular supporters to whom I talk during and after a match, I think they would agree that we are happy to be in the 1st division, happy to be halfway up the league table, happy to be seeing good rugby against good teams (even though we are disappointed when we loose), happy that we got to the final of the Lancs Cup for the first time ever and played so well, and we are looking forward to cheering the team on for the rest of the season.

Those who complain about the width of the pitch should be reminded that the pitch width has been increased to well beyond the width of most R.L. clubs and is only a few feet short of the maximum permissible.

As for the directors, they are the ones who take personal financial risks to keep the game going, and it's about time they had a bit more loyal support and a bit less of this petty backbiting. — "A True Town Supporter," Workington (Name and address supplied).

COMMENT

We are grateful to the Editor of the Times and Star for publishing the above letter from "A True Town Fan." It is most encouraging to the Chairmen, Directors and Players to know that the efforts which are being made to maintain First Division rugby at Derwent Park do not go by Entirely unnoticed!

RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE TABLES SEASON 1976—77

(COMPILED AS AT MONDAY, 17th JANUARY, 1977)

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ST. HELENS	18	12	1	5	306	213	25
FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	15	9	2	4	286	170	20
CASTLEFORD	14	9	1	4	265	169	19
BRADFORD NORTHERN	14	8	2	4	249	168	18
WIGAN	14	8	2	4	243	217	18
SALFORD	17	8	1	8	291	265	17
HULL KINGSTON ROVERS	16	8	1	7	234	247	17
WIDNES	12	8	0	4	192	160	16
LEEDS	16	7	2	7	229	219	16
WARRINGTON	17	8	0	9	276	283	16
WORKINGTOWN TOWN	15	7	1	7	156	180	15
WAKEFIELD TRINITY	16	5	2	9	262	301	12
OLDHAM	16	6	0	10	208	256	12
LEIGH	15	5	1	9	174	236	11
BARROW	15	4	0	11	168	330	8
ROCHDALE HORNETS	16	3	0	13	179	300	6

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HULL	14	12	0	2	328	104	24
DEWSBURY	14	11	0	3	205	95	22
YORK	16	11	0	5	260	174	22
HUYTON	17	10	0	7	217	249	20
KEIGHLEY	15	9	1	5	228	146	19
NEW HUNSLET	13	8	1	4	175	142	17
SWINTON	13	6	2	5	164	147	14
HUDDERSFIELD	15	6	0	9	241	184	12
BRAMLEY	11	6	0	5	173	193	12
WHITEHAVEN	14	6	0	8	152	185	12
HALIFAX	13	5	0	8	147	174	10
BATLEY	15	4	1	10	144	249	9
BLACKPOOL	14	2	1	11	125	210	5
DONCASTER	14	0	0	14	124	431	0

Winners Rugby League Championship 1951

Runners-up 1958

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Vice-Pres: Mr. W. A. Walker, Mr. J. J. Hodgson, Mr. W. Whalley.

Hon. Medical Officer: Dr. R. D. Walker.

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Directors: Mr. T. Mitchell B.Sc., N.D.A. (Chairman).

Mr. G. W. Graham. Mr. H. Walker.

Mr. J. Atkinson.

Assistant Coach: Eric Bell. Hon. Physiotherapist: Miss J. Hampson, MCSP, SRP.

Trainer: Andy Key. Strip Manager: Bill Kennedy.

Winners Rugby League Challenge Cup 1952

Runners-up 1955 and 1958

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FIRST DIVISION

WORKINGTON TOWN

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- 2 DAVID COLLISTER/
RAY WILKINS
- 3 JOHN RISMAN
- 4 IAN WRIGHT
- 5 IAIN MacCORQUODALE
- 6 DEREK McMILLAN
- 7 ARNOLD WALKER
- 8 GEOFF FLETCHER
- 9 HARRY CREDSON
- 10 EDDIE BOWMAN
- 11 LES GORLEY
- 12 PETER GORLEY
- 13 HAROLD HENNEY
- 14 BILL PATTINSON
- 15

Referee: Mr. T. J. Goury

Timekeeper: A. Murray

CHAMPIONSHIP

OLDHAM

- MARTIN MURPHY 1
- MIKE ELLIOT 2
- KEITH JACKSON 3
- GEOFF MUNRO 4
- STEVE LUND 5
- DAVID TREASURE 6
- JOHN PATTERSON 7
- TERRY RAMSHAW 8
- ROGER O'MAHONEY 9
- BRIAN HUGHES 10
- BOB WELDING 12
- STEVE HERBERT 12
- DICKIE BROWN 13
- 14
- 15

Touch Judges:

Mr. C. Hodgson

Mr. G. L. Holgate

Half Time

Result

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NEXT THREE FIXTURES

FIRST DIVISION

HOME v ROCHDALE, Derwent Park

Sunday, 30th January. Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

AWAY v WIGAN, Central Park

Sunday, 6th February. Kick-off 3 p.m.

RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP — FIRST ROUND

Sunday, 13th February. Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

AWAY v HUYTON, Alt Park

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