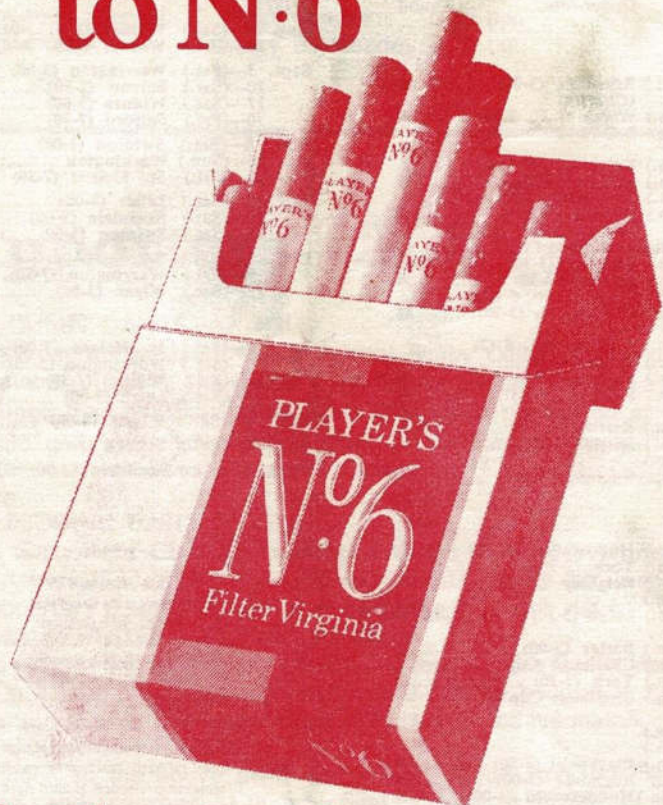


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10p

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Groundsman: D. TRUELOVE

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.



Peter Frodsham, Oldham's new signing, scores on his debut at Wigan.

OLDHAM OUTLOOK

Today, the start of a brand new Watersheddings season, we welcome you all back after the summer lay-off and trust you will be suitably impressed by the attempts we have made to smarten up the ground.

You will all have read in the Press about the scheme we undertook and we feel sure you will find the renovations and improvements to your liking.

At this stage we would like to thank all those many people, local business men, friends of the club and others, who have helped in several ways, not least with their very generous donations of building materials.

We badly needed their help and the response to our appeal was very good indeed.

It is impossible to name everyone here but to all concerned we offer a very grateful and sincere THANK YOU!

Off the field there have been many changes at the club since the end of last season, the most notable being the appointment as coach of Dave Cox.

In Dave Cox we have a man of vast experience and we feel confident he will do a good job here, particularly when we get over the first few traumatic weeks of the season.

As his assistant we have appointed our former forward, Bob Welding, whose career was cut short by a leg injury, and we are equally confident that Bob will play his part successfully in the backroom team.

He was always a players' player a respected, hard-working member of the pack and knowing Bob Welding we are confident he will put every bit as much effort and energy into his new venture as he did on the field of play.



Peter Frodsham, in action, cutting between Malcolm Swann and Bill Francis at Wigan.

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OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

After the disappointing and emphatic Lancashire Cup defeat at Wigan, Oldham last week improved considerably at Keighley but still ended up defeated so this afternoon they will be hoping for further improvement and a change in fortune against Barrow, a club who seem destined to make a strong challenge for Championship honours.

Although Barrow began this season with a disappointing 28-5 defeat against Hornets at Rochdale in the Lancashire Cup, they feel confident of gaining promotion into the premier division and began their Second Division campaign with a convincing 27-0 home win over Swinton. It was the best start possible for Barrow who won the Division Two Championship two seasons ago but then struggled to relegation last year after making an atrocious start to the season. They improved considerably as the season went on and now feel that they have gathered a squad strong enough to withstand the pressure of First Division football.

One of the star players who Barrow hope will carry them into the First Division is 22 years old loose-forward Phil Hogan, a versatile player who last summer was a leading player in Great Britain's World Championship challenge. This former Lancashire schoolboy star joined Barrow in July 1970 and has developed into a forceful runner, a stubborn defender and an accurate goal kicker who last season topped his club's goal kicking and point scoring charts with 8 tries and 46 goals, 116 points including one haul of a try and six goals in the 36-2 defeat of Leigh. Hogan had played three times for Cumbria prior to his selection for the Great Britain squad.

An early season injury ruled Hogan out of the Barrow line-up when they visited Watersheddings last October and the weakened, inexperienced visitors were soundly beaten 33-0 by Oldham who went on to complete a double over their opponents by winning up at Craven Park by 23-16. Both games provided plenty of entertaining rugby as do most matches involving Oldham and the progressive Barrow club. One such match which springs to mind was the meeting under the old one division system here at Watersheddings in December 1970 when both sides were battling to gain a place in the top sixteen and with it qualification in the end of season play-off. It was a vital match for both clubs but unfortunately it only drew a crowd of 1,679 spectators, probably because the match was staged on the Saturday before Christmas, but the fans who did attend were treated to a fine exhibition of rugby.

Oldham made sure of this match with two converted tries in the opening half and, although Barrow steadied up after the interval, they could not overcome their 10-0 half-time deficit and were eventually defeated 13-2. Top rugby union signing Keith Jarrett landed a goal for Barrow on his only appearance at Watersheddings while for Oldham wingers Ray Clark and Phil Larder (2) crossed for tries and Terry Garrett landed a couple of goals.

A similar home win for Oldham this afternoon is vital as they try to re-establish their confidence for the difficult months ahead when promotion will be the main aim for new coach Dave Cox who will have to use all his talents in achieving that objective in the very much under rated Second Division.

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Brian Batty

Sydney's dollar laden clubs look like suffering a second blow in their efforts to recruit new talent from outside New South Wales.

The door has barely been shut in their faces by the International Board on the signing of British and New Zealand players.

Now their Queensland brothers are taking steps to halt the drain of top players mainly from the Brisbane area.

Senator Ron McAuliffe, Queensland's progressive thinking League president, is seeking a two year pause in interstate transfers.

He feels confident that the League could apply a ban and such a move would have the backing of Australian League President Kevin Humphreys.

'Kevin Humphreys is very sympathetic towards Queensland and understands our problem in trying to keep our top players claims.

He has clearly seen the red light flashing for Sydney clubs would have to turn to Brisbane to try and overcome the new four year international ban.

The Queensland League is now reported to be paying out 26,000 dollars to keep nine of its top players at home.

This money is going to the players' clubs and helps boost the players' contracts and counter Sydney club offers.

It was again obvious on the recent Great Britain trip that Queensland officials feel their players continue to get a raw deal from the Australian selectors.

The Sydney attitude is that the Brisbane club players are not subjected to a high enough standard of club football and that this is reflected in their international displays.

Yet the irony is that Artie Beetsen, arguably the best prop ever produced by Australia but now in the second row, hails from north of Brisbane.

So does Ray Higgs, forceful skipper of leading Sydney club side Paramatta, and Beetsen's Australian packmate.

The snag for Queensland could be that if they do get their two-year ban on signings then even less of their players will earn international recognition despite how they fare inter-state games.

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- 2 STONDIN, U *6666.0*
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 O'BRIEN, C. *T*
- 5 LARDER, P. *T*
- 6 KNIGHT, G.
- 7 PATERSON, J. *T*
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 FRODSHAM, P.
- 11 JEWITT, P. *T*
- 12 HERBERT, S.
- 13 PETERS, A.
- 14 ANGLIN, A.
- 15 REYNOLDS, J.

Referee:
H. G. HUNT (Prestbury)

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OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE

Barrow

- 1 THOMPSON, T. *6*
- 2 CLEGG, P.
- 3 HILL, D.
- 4 HOGAN, D. *HILL (T)*
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 McCONNELL, R. *T*
- 7 MASON, M.
- 8 McCOURT, H.
- 9 SZYMALIA, H. *5/10 6.6*
- 10 SECKER, D.
- 11 KAVANAGH, P.
- 12 DAVIES, G. *B/LEG*
- 13 HADLEY, D.
- 14 HILL, K. *Robison*
- 15 KIRBY, S.

J. Clarke (Wigan) Orange
H. Worth (Widnes) Red

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Oldham Schools PHIL LARDER

There is a story told in the pubs of Yorkshire that the busiest place at midday on Sunday is Castleford station, when hundreds of spectators arrive to watch the match and just as many locals leave to don the jerseys of other professional clubs. Indeed over half of last years Oldham team could have been seen there. This surely is an enviable position to be in. When gate receipts rarely pay players wages, and transfer fees are rising steadily, the strength is the club which produces its own stars.

In five years time, with a lot of work and encouragement at all levels, Oldham could be in this happy position. The game of Rugby League is growing from strength to strength in the Town, especially at Under 16 level, where more schools are playing the game than ever before, and almost every local amateur club is coaching and encouraging youth teams.

The Under 16 Town Team, surprisingly relegated to Division 2 after a disappointing season last year, begin their competitive fixtures with the visit of Huddersfield on September 24th

In preparation for the season the squad have kindly been granted the facilities of Oldham R.L.F.C. on which to train, and played their first warm up game last Sunday against Fleetwood ICI in a curtain raiser before Blackpools home game with Doncaster. The Oldham team was somewhat weakened by players on holiday, but was still able to defeat the Blackpool team by 24 points to 3.

In heavy rain Blackpool scored a quick try following a kick down our right wing to take the lead, but gradually the Oldham pack ably led by Chris Deakin (Our Ladys) took command. Peter Kilgannon (St. Albans), Paul Willis (Saddleworth) and Billy Rayner (Counthill) formed a formidable front row. Prior to half time constant pressure by Oldham saw Kilgannon crash over to equalise. The second half saw Oldham completely dominant. Scrum half Damian Chadwick (St. Albans) was an able link man and threequarters Des Foy (St. Albans), Peter Rankin (Our Ladys), Steven Dobb (Fitton Hill) and Joe Warburton (St. Albans) were always dangerous.

Scorers for Oldham;

Tries; Peter Kilgannon Joe Walsh, Damian Chadwick, Des Foy, Paul Willis, Andrew Branwood.

Goals; Chris Deakin 3.

Voted Man of the Match.

Peter Kilgannon.

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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

To begin this regular spot covering events on the local amateur scene, the Oldham Amateur Rugby League would like to thank Oldham Rugby League Football Club for allowing them the space to convey their news to the public. This is yet another step in fostering the excellent professional-amateur relationship which has evolved within the town over the past few seasons, and which must surely pay dividends to both parties in the future.

This first article is aimed at informing the dedicated professional code spectators as to where the amateur game can be enjoyed in the town.

All the Oldham League teams play in the Pennine League, and this season 4 of the 10 teams in the First Division are Oldham representatives. The most recent of this quartet to enter the top flight are last season's Division 2 champions Ferranti, who for this season have formed an 'A' team to compete in the new 5th Division. Ferranti's pitch is the 'Joseph Platt Memorial Ground' which is just at the side of the Ferranti works building on Bower Lane at Hollinwood.

Another First Division team are Saint Anne's the present Oldham Standard Cup holders, who last season formed both an 'A' team and an Under-16 side. The Saints play at Stoneleigh Park, Derker, and this season their 'A' team will be contesting Division 4, whilst their Under-16 outfit will be playing in the Pennine League's division for that age-group. St. Anne's also have an Under-16 'A' team who this season will be playing in a newly-formed Rochdale Youth League.

Saddleworth Rangers, who play at Shaw Hall Bank Road at Greenfield, can also field two Under-16 teams, and like St. Anne's their first team will be in the Pennine League with their reserves in the Rochdale League. The club also run an Under-18 team and the Pennine League also have a division to cater for this age-group. The Rangers are the third local side in the open-age First Division, with their 'A' team in Division 3.

The final Oldham team in the top bracket are Waterhead, whose ground is in Waterhead Park. They too formed an 'A' team last season who are now in Division 4, whilst for the current campaign the club have organised an Under-16 side who will play in the Rochdale League. During the close-season Waterhead have opened a £10,000 social club which is situated just at the side of Waterhead Park on Peach Road.

The only local side in Division 2 are Higginshaw, who play on Oldham Edge. Last season Higginshaw were runners up in both the Standard Cup Final and the Oldham League Championship Final, but gained some consolation at the end of the season when they were awarded the 'William Webb Memorial Trophy' after being voted the most sporting team in the Oldham League.

The remaining Oldham teams are both in Division 3 and both play their home games on school playing fields. Fitton Hill's ground is at Alexandra School, situated at the side of Alexandra Park, and this season the club have formed an Under-16 side to compete in the Rochdale League. Fitton Hill actually started as a youth team before joining the open-age league just a few seasons ago.

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Salem Hornets play at Breeze Hill School, and during the last campaign had one of their best seasons for many years. Under the guidance of coach Ray Hopwood, Salem surprised many people with their consistent and confident displays, and this season the club are hoping that these performances will again continue to give them a chance of promotion from the Third Division.

FOR ALL THE LOCAL AMATEUR LEAGUE NEWS AND REPORTS:

RADIO MANCHESTER: (206 medium wave; 95.1 vhf).
Rugby League Special Every Sunday 6.15 pm.
BARLA Midweek Every Wednesday 7.15 pm.

Supporters Club

RUGBY QUEEN DANCE

This year we are holding our Annual Rugby Queen Dance on Wednesday 12th October, 1977 in the Rugby Club Social Club. Tickets priced 50p. can be obtained from any Supporters Club Official or purchased at the canteens at any 1st. or 'A' Team matches prior to the Dance. Any girls wishing to enter the contest should contact Supporters Club Officials as soon as possible.

GLASS BLOWING PARTY

The Supporters Club are holding a Glass Blowing evening on Tuesday 17th October, 1977 in the Social Club. Tickets priced 20p. can be obtained from Supporters Club Officials or at canteens on match days.

RADIO MANCHESTER - TOP SCORE QUIZ

Once again we are hoping to enter a team in the Radio Manchester Top Score Quiz, and any Supporter who would like to become a member of the team should contact Supporter Club Officials at todays match.

BLACKPOOL AWAY - 18/9/77

A coach to the above away match will depart from the Social Club at 10.30 am. and return at 11.00 pm. Seats priced at £1.50 per adult can be booked at the canteens at todays match.

MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of the Supporters Club now. Complete an application form at any of the canteens at todays match. Membership of the Supporters Club entitles you to cheaper away travel and other events organised by the Supporters Club throughout the year.

MARTIN MURPHY BENEFIT

The Supporters Club are running a "Sponsored Try" competition for Martin's Benefit during the 1977/78 season. If you would like to sponsor Martin in this event please contact any Supporters Club Official at todays match for a Sponsorship Form.

Fixtures 1977-8

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 7—(Sun.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	
21—(Sun.)	Wigan (L.C. 3-00) A	
28—(Sun.)	L.C. 2	
Sept. 4—(Sun.)	Keighley (3-15) A	
11—(Sun.)	Barrow (3-30) H	
18—(Sun.)	Blackpool (3-00) A	
25—(Sun.)	Huyton (3-30) H	
Oct. 2—(Sun.)	Doncaster (3-00) A	
9—(Sun.)	Swinton (3-30) H	
16—(Sun.)	Huyton (2-30) A	
23—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (1) H	
30—(Sun.)	Whitehaven (3-30) H	
Nov. 6—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (2) A	
13—(Sun.)	Leigh (3-30) A	
20—(Fri.)	Halifax (3-30) H	
27—(Sun.)	Swinton (3-00) A	
Dec. 4—(Sun.)	Barrow (2-30) A	
11—(Sun.)	Batley (3-30) H	
18—(Sun.)		
26—(Mon.)	Rochdale (3-00) H	
1978		
Jan. 2—(Sun.)	Huddersfield (3-00) A	
8—(Sun.)	York (2-30) A	
15—(Sun.)	Keighley (3-30) H	
22—(Sun.)		
29—(Sun.)	Leigh (3-30) H	
Feb. 5—(Sun.)	Batley (3-00) A	
12—(Sun.)	Challenge Cup 1	
19—(Sun.)	York (3-30) H	
26—(Sun.)	Challenge Cup 2	
Mar. 5—(Sun.)		
12—(Sun.)		
19—(Sun.)	Blackpool (3-30) H	
24—(Fri.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	
27—(Mon.)	Huddersfield (3-00) H	
Apr. 2—(Sun.)	Doncaster (3-30) H	
9—(Sun.)	Whitehaven (3-00) A	
16—(Sun.)	Halifax (3-30) A	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 20—(Sat.)	Widnes (L.S. 3-00) H	
26—(Fri.)	Widnes (L.S. 7-30) A	
Sept. 3—(Sat.)	Warrington (3-00) H	
10—(Sat.)	Barrow (2-30) A	
17—(Sat.)	Widnes (3-00) H	
30—(Fri.)	Salford (7-30) A	
Oct. 8—(Sat.)	Swinton (3-00) A	
16—(Sun.)	Workington H	
28—(Fri.)	St. Helens (7-30) A	
Nov. 12—(Sat.)	Leigh (3-00) H	
19—(Sat.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	
26—(Sat.)	Swinton (3-00) H	
Dec. 3—(Sat.)	Barrow (3-00) H	
9—(Fri.)	Warrington (7-30) A	
17—(Sat.)	Wigan (3-00) A	
1978		
Jan. 7—(Sat.)	St. Helens (3-00) H	
14—(Sat.)	Workington (2-30) A	
20—(Fri.)	Widnes (7-30) A	
28—(Sat.)	Leigh (3-00) A	
Feb. 4—(Sat.)	Wigan (3-00) H	
Mar. 11—(Sat.)	Salford (3-00) H	
Apr. 15—(Sat.)	Rochdale (3-00) H	

CUP ROUNDS

Forshaw's Lancs Cup Final:
Saturday, 29th October

Player's No. 6—Round 3: 19/20th November

1st Semi-Final: 26th November

2nd Semi-Final: 3rd December

BBC 2 Floodlight Final: 13/20th December

Player's No. 6 Final: 28th January, 1978

RLCC 3rd Round: 11/12th March

1st Semi-Final: 1st April; 2nd Semi-Final: 8th April

Premiership—Round 1: 23rd April

Semi-Final 1st Leg: 29/30th April

Semi-Final 2nd Leg: 7th May. Final 20th May

RLCC FINAL: 13th May.

Oldham

- 1 MURPHY, M.
- 2 STONDIN, U
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 O'BRIEN, C,
- 5 LARDER, P.
- 6 KNIGHT, G.
- 7 PATERSON, J.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 FRODSHAM, P.
- 11 JEWITT, P.
- 12 HERBERT, S.
- 13 PETERS, A.
- 14 ANGLIN, A.
- 15 REYNOLDS, J.

Referee:

H. G. HUNT (Prestbury)

Barrow

- 1 THOMPSON, T.
- 2 CLEGG, P.
- 3 HILL, D.
- 4 HOGAN, P.
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 McCONNELL, R.
- 7 MASON, M.
- 8 McCOURT, H.
- 9 SZYMALIA, H,
- 10 SECKER, D.
- 11 KAVANAGH, P,
- 12 DAVIES, G.
- 13 HADLEY, D.
- 14 HILL, E.
- 15 KIRBY, S.

J. Clarke (Wigan)

H. Worth (Widnes)

Orange

Red

Sunday 11th September 1977

Admission by Programme only