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WEDNESDAY, 5th OCTOBER

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Second Division Champions: 1963-64.

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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.

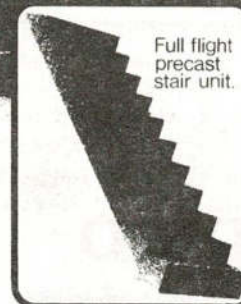
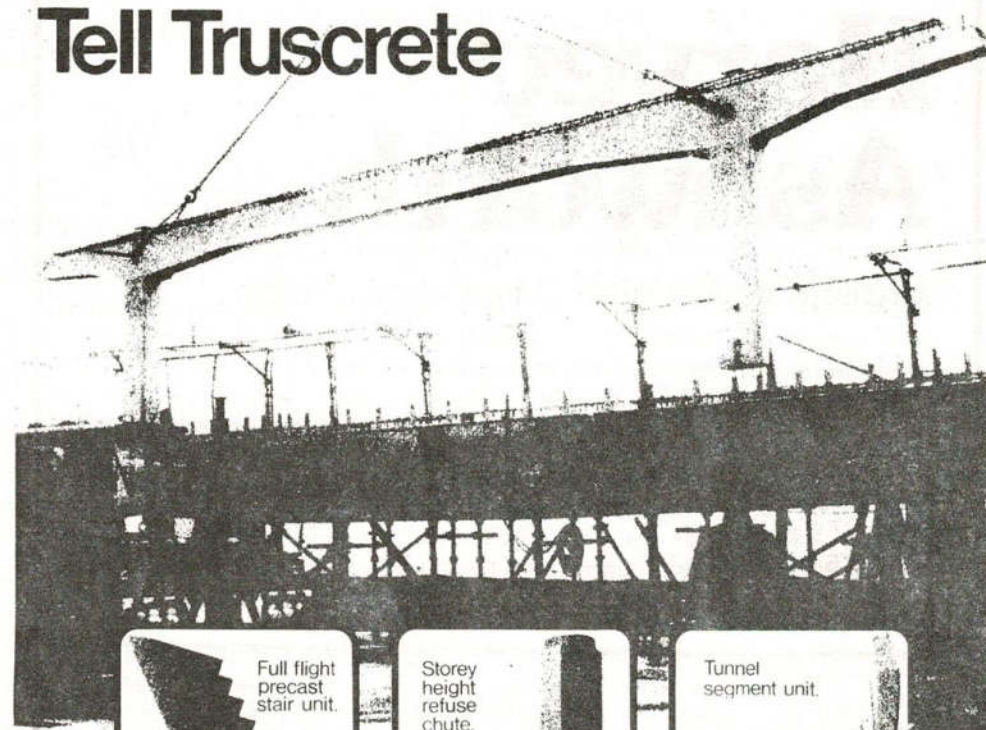
Lancashire Shield winners: 1975-76.



Charge of the light brigade! And out in front is Oldham scrum-half John Paterson in pursuit of a loose-ball during the match against Huyton. Other Oldham players in the picture are Roger O'Mahoney, Peter Frodsham and Brian Hughes.

Picture by courtesy of the OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE.

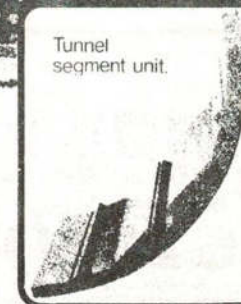
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OLDHAM OUTLOOK

This evening sees the first night match of the season at Watersheddings and also the start of a crucial month which sees us with four home games during October, two of them important cup-ties.

Tonight, of course, Alex Murphy's Warrington are here in the first round of the Floodlit Trophy and on Sunday we are at home again to Swinton in a Second Division match.

The following Sunday, October 16th, we go to Huyton and it will be a very hard match judging by the evidence of the game here and on the final two Sundays of the month, the 23rd and the 30th, we are back at Watersheddings.

On the 23rd we entertain Barrow in the first round of the Player's No. 6 Competition and on the 30th we take on Whitehaven, also at home.

The week-end after that is kept blank for the second round of the Player's tournament so if we beat Barrow in round one there is a 50-50 chance of having yet another home game which would be the third on the trot and the fifth in the last six matches!

Clearly, the next few weeks are going to be very vital indeed for the future fortunes this season of the Oldham club.

It would be encouraging to all if we could have a run in one of the knock-out tournaments and as we are already out of the Lancashire Cup we must be thinking in terms of progress in either the Floodlit Trophy or the Player's contest.

Warrington will give us a thorough test tonight in the Floodlit Trophy and it will be interesting to see how we shape against First Division opposition.

Let us all hope we come out of the match with flying colours and with some reward for the hard work that is being put in by the players and for the keen and conscientious efforts being made by the coaches, Dave Cox and Bob Welding.

This is the first home match since we signed Alan Bates from Dewsbury and we extend to Alan a real Oldham welcome.

He has played here many times for Dewsbury and shown us what he can do, much to our cost. We have every confidence in his ability to do the same again, but for our benefit this time!

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OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

The battle for promotion into Division One is temporarily halted this evening as Oldham switch to the BBC TV Floodlit Trophy and entertain attractive opponents from Warrington, last season's Premiership runners-up and a team who seem determined to go one better this term and lift one of the game's major honours. Although Warrington have suffered several disappointing results in league matches this season, especially at home where they have lost to Featherstone Rovers, Salford and Bradford Northern they showed their class last Saturday with a convincing 22-10 win over St. Helens and so are sure to provide formidable opposition to Oldham this evening.

Tonight's game is the first match between Warrington and Oldham in this particular competition although, of course, these two clubs have met on several other occasions in Cup-tie football. During recent seasons Warrington have had by far the better of the exchanges between these two clubs and in fact have won their last nine matches against Oldham, their last defeat against Oldham being here at Watersheddings in April 1972 when they lost 22-9. Since then they have inflicted several heavy defeats upon Oldham especially last season when they won 43-4 here and by 45-11 over at Wilderspool. The last time these two clubs clashed in cup football was at Warrington in a first round Players Trophy tie at the beginning of season 1973-74 when Warrington's forwards, well prompted by stand-off Alec Murphy, crushed Oldham in a blistering first half display which gave them a 23-4 lead. After the interval Oldham recovered a little but still lost 31-14 to a Warrington side who went on to lift the trophy with victories over Castleford, Dewsbury, St. Helens and then Rochdale Hornets in the final.

The star of the Warrington side on their last visit to Watersheddings was international second-row forward Tommy Martyn, a strong runner and excellent ball distributor who is sure to provide Oldham with further problems this evening. Although 28 years old Martyn is a native of Leigh who played for Leigh Moners' Welfare as a junior, it was with Batley that he began his professional career. However, in October 1971 he was transferred back to Leigh for £3,000 and then in January 1975 he moved to Warrington in a player exchange deal involving Clive Jones. In recent seasons Martyn has suffered from a succession of niggling injuries which have hampered his representative career but despite these problems he has still managed to make 8 appearances for Lancashire and three for England including a trip to Australasia in 1975 as a member of the English World Cup squad. Martyn was a member of Leigh's Floodlit Cup winning side in 1972.

The two tries scored by Martyn in last Saturday's impressive victory over St. Helens together with their total annihilation of Oldham in last season's league matches will make Warrington favourites to win this evening and so qualify for a televised quarter-final tie in this lucrative competition. However, Warrington will be well advised not to underestimate the coaching skills of Dave Cox who has guided his charges to four victories in the last four matches.

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Brian Batty

The legend of the great Jim Sullivan will live on as richly as ever, even though he has finally lost his long fight against ill health.

This man, who cast such an awesome spell over Rugby League with his scoring feats, will never be forgotten.

He will, of course, be remembered more by the many men he influenced than others who came to recognise his deeds and influence on the game.

'Sully was a fantastic character who had a great influence on my career and I had the greatest respect for him as a man, a player and a coach,' says Alex Murphy.

'Big Jim set Rugby League a wonderful example and I owe a lot to him as well as many others', says Vince Karalius. 'It was Sully who finally convinced me to take the job on at Wigan.

'Alex and myself gained a lot from his expert guidance in our playing days at St. Helens as did so the rest of the team'.

Both of these coaches learnt the trade under Sullivan when St. Helens were sweeping clean the honours list.

Sullivan had earlier in his career established himself as a successful coach with Wigan where they still talk with great reverence about his feats as a player.

He is credited with amassing 6,192 points from the time he turned professional at 17 in 1921 to his final game in 1946.

He had emerged as a full back of remarkable potential in Welsh Rugby Union, playing in the first team grade at 14 and inevitably luring the League scouts as he made the strong Cardiff side.

Australian fans still recall his great displays as fondly as those in this country for he made three tours with Great Britain and declined a fourth trip.

He was expected to return as coach to Wigan after a brief spell with Rochdale Hornets until he suffered a stroke.

But it was typical of his courage and character that, for the last 15 of his 73 years, he battled on and remained on the League scene watching his Wigan at his beloved Central Park.

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 - 4 O'BRIEN, C.
 - 5 STONDIN, U.
 - 6 KNIGHT, G.
 - 7 PATERSON, J.
 - 8 HUGHES, B.
 - 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
 - 10 FRODSHAM, P.
 - 11 JEWITT, P.
 - 12 HALL, F.
 - 13 PETERS, A.
 - 14
 - 15
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 - 3 WHITEHEAD, D.
 - 4 BEVAN, J.
 - 5 KELLY, M.
 - 6 KELLY, K.
 - 7 GWILLIAM, A.
 - 8 CASE, B.
 - 9 WALLER, T.
 - 10 ECCLES, R.
 - 11 MARTIN, T.
 - 12 LESTER, R.
 - 13 PEERS, M.
 - 14
 - 15
- B. Baker (Wigan) Orange
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Oldham Schools PHIL LARDER

UNDER 16 OLDHAM 49 HUDDERSFIELD 0

Oldham Schoolboys under 16 team proved far too strong in every department for Huddersfield in the opening game of the English Schools League. From the kick off Oldham gained possession and scored immediately through prop forward Mills, (3-0). This trend was continued throughout the game, and Huddersfield had conceded 17 points before they gained possession.

Although the opposition was very limited the Oldham performance promises much for the season. Hooker Chris Deakin proved to be a very lively and steady ball player at first man and all the pack ran off him with strength and vigour. Second row forward Martin Gratten was almost unstoppable and made yards every time he received the ball. Mark Mills, Peter Kilgannon and Billy Rainer gave him tremendous support and all showed the ability to slip the ball in the tackle.

Chris Willis and Damien Chadwick again combined to give a very fluid and inventive performance at half back and provided a superb link between pack, and the strong running centres Paul Stott and Des Foy. Stewart Morrish scored two tries in his debut and Peter Rankin was always dangerous on the other flank. Although Martin Royles defence was not tested at full back, he linked up superbly and scored a fine try from the set move Cumberland.

All the team gave an outstanding performance, but the man of the match award was won by Joe Warburton. Normally a winger, Joe reverted to loose forward because of injuries and gave a very fine all round performance. Not only did he score a hat trick of tries, but always ran strongly, released the ball intelligently and recorded more tackles than any other player.

Scorers: J. Warburton 3, P. Stott 2, S. Morrish 2, M. Royle 2, M. Mills 2, D. Foy 1, C. Deakin 1, C. Deakin 5 Goals.

UNDER 13 OLDHAM 11 HUDDERSFIELD 0

A very disappointing game. Huddersfield produced a very poor team and managed to bring Oldham down to the same level. However the individual brilliance and superior skill of the Oldham Schoolboys produced the correct result. Hooker Karren was in brilliant form, not only dominating the scrums, but also running very strongly in the loose. Crawford also had his usual dominating game and created many gaps that Marner his Saddleworth team mate used to the full. Yates on the wing was also in fine form, but received only a limited number of chances. Unfortunately the dangerous centre Needham dislocated an elbow in the first few minutes.

Tries: Marner 2, Mullane 1. Goals Henderson.

Man of the Match: Marner.

Dave Fricher (Under 13 Manager), myself and all the town team squad would like to thank Oldham R.L.F.C. for the use of their facilities and pitches for these games. The players in particular fully appreciate this gesture.

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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

This Saturday the last 16 teams in the BARLA Lancashire/Cumbria Cup will be contesting the 3rd Round of the competition, with the ultimate winners of the trophy gaining a place in the Rugby League Challenge Cup later in the season. Of these 16 teams, there are 5 from Cumbria, 8 from the North-West Counties League and 3 from Oldham.

In the previous programme I mentioned how Pilkington's of St. Helens almost defeated Wigan in last season's Challenge Cup, having won the BARLA County Cup earlier in the year. In their defence of the trophy, Pilkington's are coming to Oldham for their 3rd Round match, having been drawn to play Saddleworth Rangers at Shaw Hall Bank Road in Greenfield. This is without doubt the top match of the round with both teams still unbeaten at the time of writing. Saddleworth are top of the Pennine League's First Division whilst Pilkington's head the North-West Counties Premier Division, and both teams have several players who will be contesting for places on the BARLA Open-age Tour to Australasia at the end of this season.

The main match in the Second Round also involved Pilkington's, who travelled to Rochdale and defeated Mayfield in front of an estimated 1,000 crowd. Saddleworth will of course be hoping for a similar attendance this weekend, and with reasonable weather conditions there is no reason why this should not be achieved.

Another Third Round County Cup match will be taking place at Stoneleigh Park, Derker, where Standard Cup holders Saint Anne's will be playing hosts to Salford Juniors. The Saints were the last Oldham team to compete in the Challenge Cup, when in 1962 they travelled to Hunslet and were beaten by 53 points to 10. This season they made an impressive start to their cup campaign, travelling to Wigan and holding the powerful St. Patrick's side to a draw, before winning the replay in front of another large crowd.

Having had a comfortable Second Round victory against Third Division side Fitton Hill, the Saints must not become complacent and expect an easy game this Saturday, especially after Salford Juniors travelled to Widnes in the last round and surprisingly defeated the strong St. Marie's side.

After two home draws in the previous rounds, Oldham's third surviving club, Waterhead, have now to make the long trip to Barrow to play Askham. Waterhead have had two very impressive victories in the competition so far, against Folly Borough and Crossfields, and will again have to produce some of their best rugby if they are to gain a place in the quarter-finals.

All these matches will kick-off at 2.30 p.m. and the draw for the quarter finals will be on Radio Manchester's "Rugby League Special" programme on Sunday. Also on Sunday, Saddleworth's Under-18s team are at home to Hensingham of Cumbria in the BARLA County Youth Cup, and this match also starts at 2.30 p.m.

Talking of cup draws, the First Round of the Oldham Standard Cup was being drawn tonight on Radio Manchester, and it is hoped that this will be

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given out over the public-address system at half-time tonight. There are 4 matches in this First Round with the remaining teams all receiving byes into Round 2.

Oldham's immediate agreement to broadcast the cup draw is another step in bonding together the professional club with the local amateur league, in the united cause of fostering Rugby League in the town. In fact, tomorrow night there is a meeting between the two organisations to discuss ways in which they can help one another, with the aim of improving both the amateur and professional codes in Oldham.

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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 today's match.

MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of the Supporters Club now. Complete an application form at any of the canteens at today's 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 today's match for a Sponsorship Form.

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Fixtures 1977-8

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 7—(Sun.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	5-14
	(Charity)	
21—(Sun.)	Wigan (L.C. 3-00) A	5-49
28—(Sun.)	L.C. 2	
Sept. 4—(Sun.)	Keighley (3-15) A	5-15
11—(Sun.)	Barrow (3-30) H	23- 7
18—(Sun.)	Blackpool (3-00) A	28- 2
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)	
30—(Sun.)	Whitehaven (3-30) H	
Nov. 6—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (2)	
13—(Sun.)	Leigh (3-30) A	
20—(Sun.)	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	15- 7
26—(Fri.)	Widnes (L.S. 7-30) A	8-22
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

Forsawes 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.