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SUNDAY, 30th OCTOBER

Kick Off 3-30 p.m.



10p

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB
THE PAVILION, WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM

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Committee:

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Assistant Coach R. WELDING

Physiotherapist: F. NAVESEY

Assistant Physiotherapist: J. WATKINS

Secretary: K. WILKINSON, Tel. 061-624 4865

Promotions Manager: A. TAYLOR, Tel. 061-652 5244

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

Groundsman: D. TRUELOVE

Assistant Groundsman: P. HARTER

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.

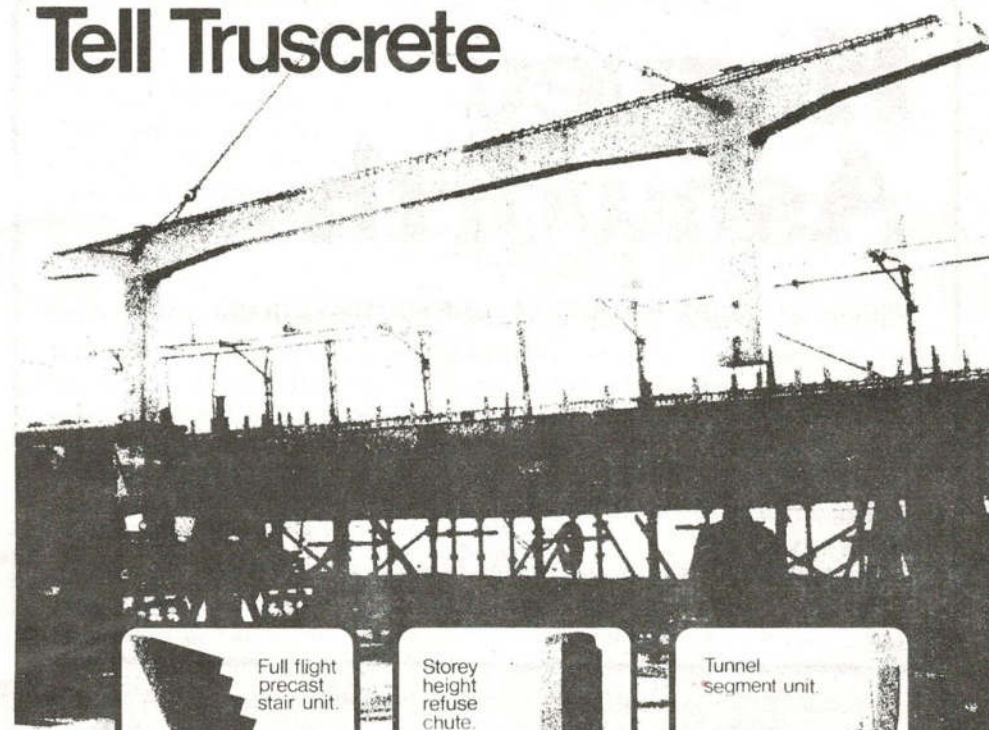
Lancashire Shield winners: 1975-76.



Ball loose ! Up goes the cry as Barrow centre Peter Davies loses possession at Watersheddings last Sunday. Alan Bates and Alan Forster are the Oldham players ready to pounce.

Picture by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle.

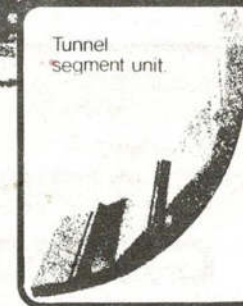
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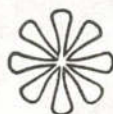
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OLDHAM OUTLOOK

The draw for the second round of the Player's Competition paired us with Huddersfield at Fartown and this exciting and evenly-balanced tie will take place next Sunday at 3 pm.

We have never reached the quarter-finals of the Player's tournament, having been knocked out in the second round in each of the previous three seasons.

We would like to congratulate our players on their success over Barrow in round one last Sunday, a win which not only preserved our unbeaten home record this season but enabled us to keep our record in never having lost a first round Player's tie on our own pitch.

We now face a programme of three games in eight days which would test any club, Whitehaven at home this afternoon in the Second Division, Salford at the Willows on Tuesday in the second round of the Floodlit Trophy (7.25) and Huddersfield at Fartown next Sunday in the second round of the Player's.

It means that next week will not only be one of the most hectic in the club's season to date but one of the busiest, too.

Needless to say we will need as much vocal support as possible in our two cup ties on opponents' grounds and we would like to take this opportunity of urging our fans to make a special effort to give Oldham a cheer at Salford on Tuesday and at Fartown next Sunday.

Both games will be exceptionally tough not only because they are cup ties but because Salford are going well in the First Division with only one defeat in seven games and Huddersfield, like ourselves, are in the middle of a big revival of fortunes.

Neil Fox, the new Fartown coach, has recruited several players in his bid to restore former Fartown glories, one of them Glen Knight, our former stand-off half.

It is somewhat ironical, so soon after Knight's transfer back to Huddersfield and Alan Forster's arrival here in part exchange, that the clubs should be paired together in a cup competition.

The result, like that at Salford on Tuesday, will be eagerly awaited.

It will be a nostalgic return to the Willows for Peter Frodsham, who joined us at the start of the season after many years with Salford.

Our hard-working prop would give anything for Oldham to topple his old mates on Tuesday and you can rest assured of one thing, the Oldham players will be going out there to give of their all.

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OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

After last weeks hard fought cup victory over Barrow, Oldham this afternoon switch their attentions to the promotion stakes for what is sure to be another tough match against Whitehaven. Victory this afternoon would stretch Oldham's unbeaten run to nine matches, the best run of success enjoyed by the club since spring 1972 when Oldham won their final nine league matches but then lost 18-8 at Wigan in the opening round of the Championship play-off.

While today's visitors Whitehaven are not the force which they once were, they still can field a talented combination and include three members of the Cumbrian County team which took on Yorkshire at the beginning of the month in York. They are hooker Alan McCurrie, second-rower Tom Gainford and substitute forward Gordon Cottier who came on during the game and scored one of his side's tries in a 28-10 defeat. It was McCurrie's first taste of representative football but both Gainford and Cottier have appeared for Cumbria previously. Twenty-seven-years old Cottier has, in fact, now played six times for his County at senior level and he also represented Cumberland at under-17 level before turning professional when he was a member of the Hensingham amateur club. Tom Gainford played with Kells as an amateur and he, too, has now played six times for his County.

But despite this experience in the Whitehaven pack, these Cumbrians have lost their last five matches against Oldham and have to go back to January 1973 for their last victory over Oldham. On that occasion they beat Oldham 9-0 in a league game at the Recreation Grounds with a try and two goals from George Mather and a goal from Spanky McFarlane. The following season (1973-74) both clubs were in the First Division and Oldham managed to pull off a league double, winning 12-9 at home and 19-12 away but these victories did not stop both clubs from being relegated. In 1974-75 Oldham again completed a league double over Whitehaven, this time by 10-2 away and 17-1 at home while last season they proved to be much too fast for Whitehaven when they travelled to Cumbria in the Floodlit Cup. They won that match comfortably enough 21-3 and so will feel confident of extending their unbeaten run this afternoon.

Whitehaven, however, will have different ideas and television viewers who saw their recent match against Salford will agree that they are stubborn opponents for they only lost that Floodlit Cup-tie against leading First Division opposition with a dropped goal in the dying minutes. With no cup commitments, Whitehaven will be concentrating fully on their bid for promotion and so far this season they have won three and drawn one of their six league matches, having been beaten by only Rochdale Hornets who lead the Second Division with a 100% record. They have conceded a league double to Hornets but, on the other hand, have themselves beaten Batley both home and away and have also won at Halifax so will be determined to record their third away league success this afternoon in a match which is vitally important to both club's chances of promotion

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Peter Davies, the Barrow centre, is halted by a hard and low tackle by his opposite number, Oldham's Keith Jackson. In the background is full back Brian Anglin.

Picture by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle.

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Oldham

- 1 ANGLIN, A.
- 2 LARDER, P
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 JACKSON, K.
- 5 STONDIN, U
- 6 PATERSON, J.
- 7 BATES, A.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 FRODSHAM, P.
- 11 HALL, F.
- 12 JEWITT, P.
- 13 PETERS A.
- 14
- 15

Referee:
J. E. JACKSON (Pudsey)

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IN MONDAY'S

OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE

Whitehaven

- 1 FLETCHER, R.
- 2 HODGSON, K
- 3 ROSE, B.
- 4 SHIMMINGS, J.
- 5 TODD, A.
- 6 STEWART, J.
- 7 HALL, C.
- 8 HETHERINGTON, D.
- 9 McCURRIE, A.
- 10 JACKSON, R.
- 11 COTTIER, G.
- 12 LITT, I.
- 13 GAINFORD, T.
- 14
- 15

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Brian Batty

Tom Vollenhoven's brief return to this country must have had fans throughout the game recalling his memorable try scoring feats.

The South African winger made the trip, to see a sick friend, almost 20 years to the day he joined St. Helens.

Within hours of his arrival he had watched a couple of games, one televised and one live and was quickly making comparisons from when he left home nine years ago.

He has been wondering where all the crowds have gone, why wingers don't seem to get passes and what has happened to some of the tiger tackling he had to withstand.

Tom plays a little golf now but more hockey as a centre forward and confesses he had a couple of friendly games of Rugby Union on his return to South Africa.

I could not resist flicking through some of many cuttings which chronicle his career and I came across a couple which touched on two of the points he had raised.

The first concerned an article by winger Alf Ellaby, dated February 17th, 1957, in which he stressed that Tom received only two passes in a game against Oldham.

'I think Tom has the lot' said Alf, adding: I feel sure we would attract many more players if we changed the play-the-ball rule.

Under the rule at present we have seen the development of the big, bombarding forward line coming into the game on a scale formerly undreamed of.

'It will need courage by the legislators but the facts must be faced. Under present rules a team can hold the ball as long as it likes and the opposition has no chance of playing more than a negative part.

'It is bad for the game, the players and the crowds.'

The second article by Tom was dated February 18th, 1958, in which he said: 'You just can't play before these big, enthusiastic crowds in England without being affected in one way or another.

'Since coming to St. Helens I have heard a lot about Alf Ellaby, who played for the club many years ago. Gee, that man must have been some player. If I am only half the player he was then I'll be satisfied.'

Tom paid a great tribute also to Jim Sullivan for the part he played in developing his game and helping him settle here and it seems sad his return should come so shortly after the death of the great Welshman.

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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

The first duty of today's amateur page must be to congratulate Cawoods on their historic victory in the Player's Trophy last Sunday, thus becoming the first amateur side since 1909 to beat a professional club in serious competition. Cawood's victory followed their winning of last season's BARLA National Cup, which is generally accepted as the competition to find the best amateur team in the country, and it is the finalists from this tournament who enter the Player's Trophy competition.

Oldham's next home game is against the team which Cawoods defeated-Halifax, but before then there will be plenty of activity on the local amateur scene, both on and off the field.

If Waterhead were successful yesterday in defeating Leigh Miners, then they will be at home again next Saturday to Warrington side Latchford Albion, in the semi-final of the Lancashire-Cumbria Cup, with the match taking place at Waterhead Park. It is the winners of the BARLA Lancashire-Cumbria and Yorkshire Cups who will join the professional sides in this season's Rugby League Challenge Cup.

Also yesterday, the 1st Round matches were played in this season's Oldham Standard Cup, and the draw for the next round will be made on Wednesday, November 9th, on Radio Manchester's "BARLA Midweek" programme which is broadcast at 7.15 pm. The Waterhead-Mayfield 1st Round match has yet to be played due to Waterhead's County Cup successes, but the tie has been provisionally arranged for November 19th, again at Waterhead Park.

Next Sunday, Saddleworth's Under-18's side are at home to Pilkingtons from St. Helens in the semi-final of the BARLA Lancashire-Cumbria Youth Cup, with the match taking place at Shaw Hall Bank Road, Greenfield, with a 2.30 pm. kick-off. Both sides had very impressive quarter final victories, with Saddleworth being 10-0 down at Wigan St. Patricks, before storming back to win 17-14, and Pilkingtons producing some sparkling football to overpower Egremont 47-0.

On Sunday November 13th, the Oldham League's town-team will be at home in the 2nd Round of the Inter-Town competition against Warrington. Oldham RLFC have again kindly offered the use of the Watersheddings pitch and facilities for the match, which starts at 2.30 pm. Warrington should provide much harder opposition than Widnes who Oldham beat in the 1st Round, especially as they have clubs such as Latchford, Woolston and Crosfields, from which to choose their team. However, the Oldham League are still confident of victory, as they have no fewer than 4 teams representing them in the 1st Division of the Pennine League.

Although it is usually these top clubs who attract most attention, one of Oldham's lower side have recently been hitting the headlines due to some outstanding performances. Just a month ago Salem Hornets were at the foot

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of the 3rd Division without a point, but then they acquired a new coach in John Chadderton and immediately their fortunes changed, with three consecutive victories against Saddleworth (A), Ovenden (A) and Todmorden, which have boosted Salem into the top half of the table.

For several seasons Salem were looked upon as 'also-rans' in the Pennine League, but during the last campaign produced some excellent displays of open rugby, which surprised many people and brought them many unexpected victories. Last season, Salem reached the semi-finals of the Oldham League Championship Play-off, and went down narrowly to both Waterhead and Saddleworth in the Standard Cup and Pennine Cup respectively. With their newly found confidence and impressive displays on the field, Salem will be hoping to maintain this present form and possibly be challenging for promotion at the end of the season, or even for their first ever place in a cup final.

TODAY'S REFEREE

Refereeing this afternoon's match is Joe Jackson, a 41 years old works manager from Lowtown, Pudsey. Mr. Jackson has been refereeing since 1962 and reached Grade One status in 1974. He refereed last seasons Floodlit Cup Final and has also been in charge of two County matches including the Lancashire versus Yorkshire match at Widnes earlier this month. A married man with one daughter, he has spent the past 20 years breeding tropical fish.

Supporters Club

SALFORD AWAY Tuesday, 1st November.

A coach will be leaving the Club at 6.30 p.m. for Salford for the 2nd. Round of the Floodlit Competition, seats can be booked at the canteens or Social Club.

RADIO MANCHESTER QUIZ 1.

Monday October 31st. Social Club everybody welcome, Admission Free. Oldham Rugby v Oldham Athletic and Swinton v Leigh.

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.

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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

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 7—(Sun.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	5-14
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	19-13
Oct. 2—(Sun.)	Doncaster (3-00) A	18-7
9—(Sun.)	Swinton (3-30) H	19-10
16—(Sun.)	Huyton (2-30) A	20-7
23—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (1) Barrow	16-8
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

Forshaw's Lances 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 ANGLIN, A.
- 2 LARDER, P.
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 JACKSON, K.
- 5 STONDIN, U.
- 6 PATERSON, J.
- 7 BATES, A.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 PRODSHAM, P.
- 11 HALL, F.
- 12 JEWITT, P.
- 13 PETERS A.

Referee:

J. E. JACKSON (Pudsey)

Sunday 30th October 1977

Whitehaven

- 1 FLETCHER, R.
- 2 HODGSON, K.
- 3 ROSE, B.
- 4 SHIMMINGS, J.
- 5 TODD, A.
- 6 STEWART, I.
- 7 HALL, C.
- 8 HERINGTON, D.
- 9 McURRIE, A.
- 10 JACKSON, R.
- 11 COTTIER, G.
- 12 LITT, I.
- 13 GAINFORD, T.

F. J. Tomlinson (Widnes) Orange

J. A. Southworth (Wigan) Red

Admission by Programme only