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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.

OLDHAM OUTLOOK

LOTTERY BONANZA !

A BIG night out is in store for the army of lottery agents whom Oldham are relying on to lay down the roots of a bright, new future at Watersheddings.

Months of preparations and hard work behind the scenes comes to a head at the Oldham night spot of Romeo and Juliet's next Wednesday, November 15, when the club's new lottery will be officially launched by star comedian George Roper.

Details of the lottery, to be organised and run from the club's new offices in Clegg Street and claimed to be the best in the area, will not be announced until next week when all agents and outlets have been informed.

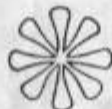
But the lottery team, headed by 28-year-old Peter Mason, have done everything possible to give their brand new scheme a terrific send-off.

All the club's agents and their partners are invited for a free night out when they will be entertained by a top-line cabaret which

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includes singer John Lavelle of "New Faces" fame. Top of the bill will be George Roper of the Comedians, who will officially launch the lottery at 10pm.

There will also be a disco and dancing to the club's resident band, and the organisers are hoping for a massive turn-out.

Says Peter Mason; "I am absolutely delighted at the way things are going so far and I am very confident that not only will we have a successful evening but that the take-off of the lottery will match it's launching.

All agents will receive their tickets for the function within the next few days and Mr. Mason points out that if publicans or shop-keepers would like to become agents they need only contact him at the Clegg Street lottery office (phone 620 4870) to pick up their admission tickets for the big night out.

BARRIE CONNOR, one of our batch of new players whom we have signed from the local game in the past few weeks.

Barrie has already made his first team debut and he is bound to be joined by other "new boys" in the next week or two.

SUPPORTERS CLUB

JUMBLE SALE to be held in Social Club on THURSDAY 23rd November, 1978 commencing 7pm. Anyone with any jumble please contact Supporters Club Officials.

SOCIAL CLUB

The Social Club is now open every night from 8.00 pm. The Concert Room can also be booked for Private functions and anyone interested should contact the Supporters Club Secretary at todays match or telephone: 633 4957 or Social Club.

WHITEHAVEN 19/11/78

Anyone interested in going to the above away match should book seats through any Supporters Club official at todays match. If there is insufficient interest in this match by next Tuesday 14th November, then the coach will be cancelled.

WEMBLEY TRIP 1979

The Supporters Club are organising a trip to Wembley for the 1979 Cup Final. Details can be obtained from any Supporters Club official at todays match. Match tickets are priced £8.00.

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OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

After the rather flattering 24-0 victory over Batley and last week's much needed rest, Oldham today face a vital and testing Second Division match against Yorkshire Cup finalists York, one of the clubs who have been strongly tipped for promotion this season.

It is not difficult to realise why York management are feeling so optimistic for they have made quite an encouraging start to the campaign, losing only two of their opening eight league matches to climb into the promotion zone despite being so heavily committed in Yorkshire Cup action. The two defeats suffered so far have, significantly, been inflicted away from Wiggington Road, at Swinton and Bramley, but the Minstermen have also pulled off a vital 12-6 win at Dewsbury and have drawn up at Whitehaven as well as maintaining a 100% home record with victories over New Hunslet, Whitehaven, Keighley and Doncaster. They progressed through to the Yorkshire Cup Final with home wins over New Hunslet and Keighley before winning a dour semi-final at Halifax and qualifying to meet Bradford Northern at Leeds in the final. Although beaten 18-8 in that final, York certainly were not disgraced and put up a tremendous fight in which they were level at half-time and caused their First Division rivals quite a few problems before eventually slipping to defeat.

York's success this season has been based upon a powerful and experienced pack together with a talented back division which includes, on the right wing, Terry Morgan, who heads the York scoring charts this season with eight tries and 21 goals. Twenty-one-years old Morgan is a former Great Britain colts player who began his professional career with Keighley, joining them in July 1976 from Wakefield juniors. He developed into a prolific scorer for Keighley, scoring 16 tries in his first season and causing York to splash out a club record £10,000 transfer fee when they signed him last February. Earlier this season he made his representative debut by appearing for Yorkshire in the Roses match at Widnes and he looks set for a lengthy and successful run in representative rugby.

Morgan was a try scorer here at Watersheddings last April when York finally ended Oldham's faint hopes of promotion with that crushing 19-5 victory in Oldham's final home match of the 1977-78 campaign. The York forwards were simply too strong for the Oldham six that evening and after trailing by only one point at half-time, Oldham eventually crashed to that disappointing 19-5 defeat. Earlier last season York had defeated Oldham by 14-5 over at Wiggington Road, so ending a run of four successive victories by Oldham over their Yorkshire rivals.

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MAN IN THE MIDDLE

This afternoon's important league match is refereed by 32-years old Trevor Court of Leeds who has been a referee since 1972, reaching Grade One status in July 1975 and taking charge of the Lancashire-Cumbria match in 1977. Mr. Court is a schoolteacher by profession and spends a good deal of time encouraging schools rugby league whilst he is also interested in badminton and table tennis. He is a married man with two children.

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BRIAN BATTY

A few unfamiliar faces have arrived on the Rugby League scene recently as American grid iron stars try their luck at a different handling code.

So far the advance has amounted to three players but Council member Tom Mitchel is confident that quite a long list of grid iron men will seek experience in this country.

His club Workington Town are giving 21-yr-old Joe Ricchio a run on a purely experimental basis.

He was spotted by Tom during his visit to the States for the recent attempt to launch a League which is still waiting for interested businessmen to accept franchises for the formation of new clubs.

Ricchio played for Delan Red Devils, the national champions, and is keen and determined to learn.

Second Division Blackpool Borough are the other club to attract the grid iron men with the arrival of Ural Jackson and Bob Harrison.

Manager Albert Fearnley is responsible for getting them over and he is delighted with the response of local business to back the move.

Cash has been raised and as Albert says: 'We are not a wealthy club and we need this sort of help if we are going to bring a bit more glamour to the code in Blackpool.'

'We just hope things work out okay and that these boys provide some entertainment for the fans.'

Blackpool have had reasonable success in this direction in the past for they signed Chuck Wiseman after his grid iron career had ended in the sixties.

Wiseman played for the club for two seasons and proved a prolific try scorer.

Sydney club Newtown had a less successful time the season before last when they took on coloured grid iron star Manfred Moore.

Manfred was expected to make a big impact and began well enough in the centre but was switched to the forwards eventually and faded out of the picture completely.

GUIDE TO GROUNDS:

Because more and more Rugby League fans are travelling to away matches and using the northern motorway network, the Rugby League and Arrowfast Express have combined to produce a Guide to Grounds. The 36-page pocket size booklet donates a page to each of the 30 professional clubs and provides travelling directions, compiled by the Automobile Association, to each ground from the nearest motorway. The Arrowfast Express/Rugby League Routeway is priced only 20 pence plus 10p. p. & p.

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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

Next Sunday at Watersheddings the Saddleworth Rangers' Under-18 side take on Crosfields of Warrington in the BARLA Lancashire-Cumbria Youth Cup Final, which is being staged on the Oldham senior ground for the second consecutive season. In last year's decider the Saddleworth youth team won the cup with an 11-5 victory over Blackbrook of St. Helens and will therefore be hoping to retain the trophy whilst Crosfields, who have emerged as one of the surprise teams of the season so far, will be set on reproducing the scoreline which occurred when the two teams last met in the County Youth Cup Final. On that occasion, in season 1953-4, the Warrington side defeated Saddleworth 21-0, with the teams then being at Under-21 level.

The Final will kick-off at 3pm. and, as last season, will be sponsored by Clearspan Limited, the aluminium fabric company from Greenfield. As well as the match sponsorship, Saddleworth also have 'timed-try' tickets on sale throughout the town and are hoping that the programmes for the Final will also be available several days before the game. A full preview of the Final can be heard this Wednesday, when on Radio Manchester's "BARLA Midweek" programme (7.15pm), representatives from each club will be discussing their team's chances.

A fortnight from today, several of the Saddleworth Under-18 side will be turning out for the Oldham youth town-team, who in the 1st Round of the BARLA Inter-League Youth competition have drawn Huddersfield at home. This match will be taking place on Saddleworth Rangers' ground (2.30pm), whilst yesterday at Waterhead Park, the Oldham open-age side were due to meet Leeds in the opening tie of their Inter-League Shield campaign. It is of course hoped that Oldham were able to contain the strong Yorkshire outfit and progress into the next round, the draw for which it is hoped will be given out on Radio Manchester's "Rugby League Special" programme to-night (6.15pm).

Local amateur team Fitton Hill are on the look-out for a ground on which their Under-17 side can play their home matches in the Rochdale & Oldham Youth League, after having an application for a pitch rejected by the local authority. So far this season the Fitton Hill boys have had to play all their matches away from home and therefore anyone who might allow the team to use their land on Sunday mornings is asked to contact club secretary Bill Greatorex (624-6358).



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