

**WHITEHAVEN RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB
FIXTURES 1978-79**

AUGUST

18—Blackpool B. (FLC) H 15 12
28—Salford (FLC) H 6 19

SEPTEMBER

3—Halifax A 5 18
10—Bramley H 15 8
17—York A 18 32
24—Featherstone H 3 9
John Player Comp 1

OCTOBER

3—Widnes (BBC2) A 13 17
8—Halifax H 18 7
15—York H 9 9
22—Batley A 7 8
29—Huyton H 22 0

NOVEMBER

12—Swinton A
19—Oldham H
26—New Hunslet A

DECEMBER

3—John Player Comp. 2
10—Bramley A
17—Dewsbury H

JANUARY

7—Oldham A
14—Doncaster H
21—Swinton H
28—Blackpool B. A

FEBRUARY

4—Batley H
11—Challenge Cup 1
18—Huyton A
25—Challenge Cup 2

MARCH

4—New Hunslet H
11—Dewsbury A
18—Keighley A
25—Hull H

APRIL

1—Doncaster A
8—Blackpool B. H
15—Keighley H
22—Hull A

WHITEHAVEN RUGBY LEAGUE F.C.

SEASON 1978-79

RUGBY

AT THE

Recreation
Ground

Sunday

19th November

VERSUS

OLDHAM

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.

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CLUB NOTES

When I wrote the notes for the Huyton match I was unable to make any reference to the appointment of Ray Dutton Whitehaven's new player-coach. This was due only to the need to meet the printer's deadlines.

No newly appointed coach can have had a better start to his new career (two games — two wins).

The match against Huyton was an excellent one, play moved from end to end. All the players involved in the game were determined to impress the new boss and most succeeded. Once again, Alan Ashton played well, Keith Hodgson ran hard, Joe Stewart and Kenny Evans were elusive. In the forwards, all worked hard, particularly after Ray Dutton's half-time chat. It would be very difficult to single out any of the forwards for special praise, but if my arm was twisted then Ian Litt's powerful second half sorties (which did so much to change the run of play) must get him the vote. Whitehaven scorers were as follows: Tries, Kenny Evans (2), Keith Hodgson, Joe Stewart (1 each); Goals Ray Dutton (5).

Whilst most of the scoring action against Huyton took place in the second half, Sunday's encounter at Swinton saw all the points being run in during the first session. Ray Dutton was said to be the happiest man at Station Road on Sunday. After all, his team had made it two in a row, winning their first away game of the season in the process. Ray, himself played a very important part when he made several try-stopping tackles - particularly when it mattered most. Excellent displays were given by Joe Stewart, David Martin, Tom Gainford, Kenny Evans, Keith Hodgson, and the very lively Dennis O'Neil. Torrential rain knocked the edge off attacking play in the second period and put an end to further scoring. Whitehaven scorers were as follows: Tries, O'Neil Stewart and Hodgson; Goals Dutton (2).

After such real progress in the past few weeks, it is no wonder that team spirit is now beginning to soar. Well done lads keep it up.

HERE AND THERE

By the time you are reading these notes, you will no doubt have read in the National press, that, Tom Gainford has made a request for a transfer and this has been granted. Tom feels that, after no less than 276 appearances with the

club, in which he has notched up a total of 23 tries, his future lies elsewhere. Whatever the outcome I'm sure I speak for all of us, when I wish him well. It's just two weeks since Tom received £2,175 as his share of the joint benefit with John Shimmings.

On Tuesday gone, the Gordon Cottier Testimonial Fund Committee ran a successful concert evening at the Kells Royal British Legion. Gordon wishes to express his thanks to all whom supported this event. For those of you who missed the chance of giving your support, there will be many more opportunities to do so before the fund closes. Tuesday's function raised around £250 bringing the total so far close to £1,000.

TODAY'S MATCH

Today we welcome the men from the Watersheddings who, last week, beat York at Oldham. Today's match is a hard one to assess. The only line of form that we can consider this season is the York result. Whitehaven drew 9-9, but in doing so lost two key players, Hooker Mike Barwise and stand-off Dennis O'Neil early in the first half, a blow which they did well to survive. On the other hand, Oldham won well through tries by Ogden and Lund and Goals (3 and 1 drop) by North. The league table shows that Oldham have played one more game than Whitehaven and are in the sixth place. They have won five and drawn one for a total of eleven points. Whitehaven have won four and drawn one for a total of nine points. In their league games, Oldham have scored 104 points, that's an average of 11 per match and had 161 scored against, i.e. 18 in each game.

Whitehaven however, have scored 107 points in their eight league matches to date, averaging 13 per game. From the defensive point of view the points against tally is only 93 (the fifth best in the league) i.e. only 11 per game.

The match will have a considerable bearing on the top four placings tonight, with five teams each starting the day with eleven points. A good win for Oldham must do them a power of good. A win for Whitehaven will lift their tally of league points to eleven also and because of their potentially better points average maybe into the top four (with a game in hand on all but the unbeaten leaders — Hull).

Even with key forwards Ralph Calvin and possible Barry Sheridan missing, I would expect a win for the home team but only just.

ALAN W. ROUTLEDGE

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WHITEHAVEN

	Tries	Goals
1—DUTTON		
2—HODGSON		
3—EVANS		
4—STEWART		
5—McMULLEN		
6—O'NEILL		
7—ASHTON		
8—McLEAN		
9—BARWISE		
10—JACKSON		
11—MARTIN		
12—LITT		
13—GAINFORD		
14—		
15—		

Referee : Mr. J. E. SMITH Halifax

OLDHAM

	Tries	Goals
MURPHY—1		
MUNRO—2		
NORTH—3		
FITSIMONS—4		
LUND—5		
ARNOLD—6		
OGDEN—7		
CHARLES—8		
O'MAHONY—9		
FRODSHAM—10		
HALL—11		
FORSTER—12		
FLANAGAN—13		
—14		
—15		

Touch Judges : Mr. J. H. ROSS, Mr. C. CUBISS

NEXT HOME MATCH
SUNDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1978

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APPEARANCES 1978-79

	Apps.	Tries	Goals	Points
Ray Dutton	12	—	27	54
Barry Sheridan	7	4	—	12
Tom Gainford	12	2	0	6
Alan Todd	7	2	—	6
Ron Jackson	7	2	—	6
Keith Hodgson	10	4	—	12
Alan Ashton	10	1	—	3
Dennis O'Neil	3	3	—	9
John McQuire	7	1	—	3
Colin Hall	2	1	—	3
David Martin	10	—	—	—
Joe Stewart	9	3	—	9
Mike Barwise	6	—	—	—
Kenny Evans	6	2	—	6
Don Hetherington	5	—	—	—
Brian Rose	7	—	—	—
John Elliot	5	—	—	—
David Barnes	3	—	—	—
Ian Litt	6	—	—	—
Lee McLean	7	—	—	—
Alan Thompson	3	—	—	—
Ralph Calvin	2	—	—	—

SECOND DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HULL	8	8	0	0	240	56	16
KEIGHLEY	9	5	1	3	148	77	11
HALIFAX	9	5	1	3	113	67	11
NEW HUNSLET	9	5	1	3	124	101	11
YORK	9	5	1	3	139	127	11
OLDHAM	9	5	1	3	104	161	11
DEWSBURY	9	5	0	4	105	82	10
WHITEHAVEN	8	4	1	3	107	93	9
BLACKPOOL	8	4	1	3	88	103	9
BRAMLEY	9	4	0	5	101	108	8
SWINTON	8	2	1	5	118	169	5
DONCASTER	9	2	0	7	95	184	4
HUYTON	9	0	3	6	77	164	3
BATLEY	9	1	1	7	51	170	3

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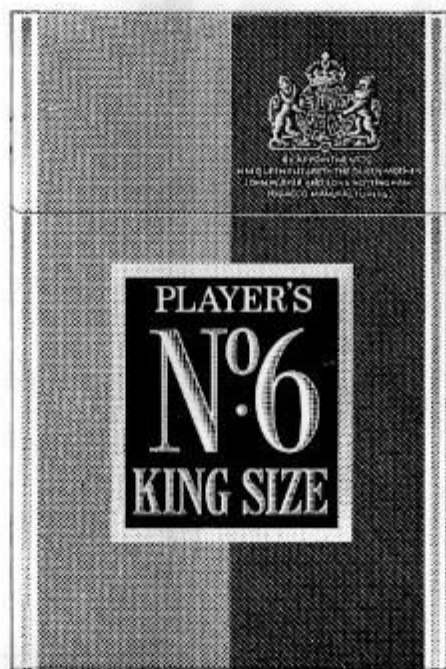
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