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WIGAN



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Wigan Summer 7s
1982
SUNDAY, 8th AUGUST
Kick-Off 2-30 p.m.

WIGAN FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED

Ground: Central Park, Wigan Tel.: Wigan 31321/2

Colours: Jersey—Cherry & White Hoops

Shorts—White

Stockings—White with Red Turnovers

Directors:

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P. D. Higginbottom, A. Stone, J. Robinson, T. A. Rathbone.

R.L. Council Member: M. Ryan

Lancs. County Representative: A. Close

General Manager: J. P. Worthington

Club Doctor: Dr. R. Bullough

Manager/Coach: A. J. Murphy

Assistant: W. Ashurst

"A" Team Coach: G. Lyon

Trainer: A. McInnes

Chief Scout: W. Cunliffe

Physio: K. Mills

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Mr. T. Worswick
Miss S. Webb



Murphy

"What a difference a day makes" just about sums up my decision to join Wigan after taking Leigh to the 1st Division Championship last season. As many of you will appreciate the choice was a terrible dilemma for me but one which offered a tremendous challenge—probably the biggest in the game. I have no hard feelings towards the Leigh Club and wish everyone connected there every success in the campaign ahead. However, it's here at Central Park—where at least for the next four years—I will be doing my best to put the Club back amongst the honours. I do not have a magic wand and I make no promises other than to say I will be giving 110% effort!

Already I have been genuinely impressed by the amount of hard work and enthusiasm that you can "feel" is around the Club. I sense an atmosphere of improvement and a will to succeed which has been very much in evidence at meetings I have attended with the Clubs Vice-Presidents and Supporters.

So far so good but what of the players? Again in the ten training sessions to date I have been pleasantly surprised. Down to a man there has been an excellent response and everyone is enjoying a vigorous training schedule. We seem comparatively injury free—touch wood—and once the last of the holidays are over we can really get down in earnest to the task in hand.

This afternoon we welcome seven visiting Clubs for our annual Sevens and I extend a cordial welcome to officials and players alike. It has always been a relaxed and festive occasion but as a "one-off" really enjoyed by the fans. Unfortunately I will be away on a pre-arranged holiday with my family but I'm sure the team will be in capable hands of my assistant Bill Ashurst. When all is said and done Bill was coach of last seasons winners Wakefield Trinity!

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Central Park Chatter

How time flies and indeed how times change! Already the new season is upon us and our annual Sevens pipe-opener is here again. We express our thanks to all the Clubs who have accepted our invitation to compete in what should be another exciting tournament. Everyone appears anxious to get cracking and this has been reflected in the sides chosen by all the respective team coaches. Sevens has always been about skill and pace and we are confident that all today's competitors will be all out to lift the trophy from the present holders Wakefield Trinity.

On other matters at Central Park there has been a lot of frenzied activity during the close season concerning the management of the Team. As this is the first "home" event of the new term we must take this opportunity of wishing Alex and his staff every possible success. He will have full control of all football matters and the Directors having pledged their fullest support hope the fans will rally round and we can really go forward together.

The annual "Open" day held last Sunday was again very well patronised and approximately 2,000 fans turned up to go behind what are usually "closed-doors." A considerable number purchased season tickets and at the prices on offer are a must for the regular fan. Full details can be found on page 22 and if you haven't purchased one up to now please give it your earnest consideration. We would particularly draw the attention of all our fans to the purchase of junior and senior citizen ground tickets. At a price of £9 for 15 first team matches it is a give away at 60p per game plus all "A" Team football free for the whole season!

Another regular feature of each match during the season is the part played by sponsors and this afternoon we extend our thanks to Sport Stadia Advertising for their support. As the Clubs' Agents for all its ground advertising they would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in televised or non-televised sites. Tel.: 061-834-2607.

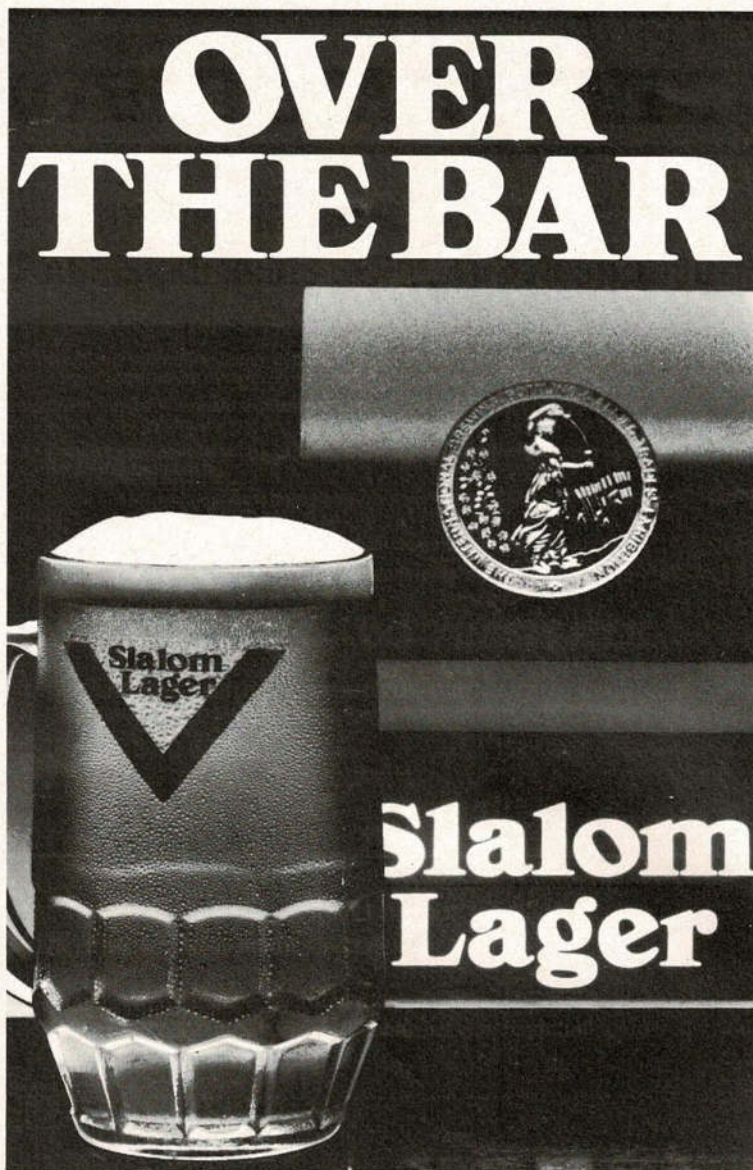
Finally we would like to remind all our supporters that we are at HOME again next Sunday when we entertain WARRINGTON in the Locker Cup, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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Matthew Brown

Previous "Summer Sevens" Winners

Year	Winners	Runners-up
1923	Wigan	Barrow
1949	Salford	Warrington
1959	Wigan	Swinton
1960	Wigan	Oldham
1961	Wigan	Oldham
1962	Wigan	Oldham
1963	Wigan	Oldham
1964	Wigan	Halifax
1965	Warrington	Widnes
1966	Oldham	Halifax
1967	Halifax	Widnes
1968	Salford	Leeds
1969	Salford	Warrington
1970	Wigan	Salford
1971	Wigan	Leeds
1972	Not played—Sponsorship/BBC problems	
1972	Wigan	Leigh
1974	Leeds	Wigan
1975	Leeds	Wigan
1976	Wigan	Wakefield
1977	Wigan	Leigh
1978	Workington	St. Helens
1979	Wigan	Widnes
1980	Wigan	Widnes
1981	Wakefield Trinity	Leeds

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Cliff Webb

**Rugby League
Correspondent
of the Wigan Observer**

The Wigan Summer Sevens traditionally signals the opening of the new season at Central Park and today Wigan fans will be hoping that their team can recapture the trophy they won for three successive years before losing to eventual winners Wakefield in last year's semi-final.

A Wigan victory in this exciting competition today would really please new Wigan coach Alex Murphy, as this will be the first time Wigan go into action under his leadership.

Yet when all is said and done the Wigan Sevens are meant to be an enjoyable afternoon of fast, open rugby on a relaxed occasion as the lads from eight different clubs taste their first serious workout of the season. Everyone wants to win the trophy, but results are secondary to enjoyment to spectators today.

As our neighbours from Leigh are not with us, Wigan fans will give a big welcome to newcomers Oldham, who gained promotion to the First Division last season after becoming Second Division champions deservedly. Widnes, too have rejoined the competition in place of Workington and, of course, everyone knows the pace and power of the Widnes speed merchants.

Naturally Wakefield will be all out to retain the trophy in front of their former coach Bill Ashurst, who has now joined Alex Murphy as assistant coach at Central Park. But all these clubs face fierce competition from the others. Leeds, last year's runners-up, Salford, Swinton and St. Helens all have runners who can take them to the final and the trophy, so let us hope that the entertainment today reaches its usual standard in this event.

Meanwhile Murphy's arrival has certainly brought an unprecedented surge of enthusiasm among Central Park supporters and season tickets were selling like hot cakes at last Sunday's open day here.

The feeling is that this season could turn out to be Wigan's best for many years and while Alex himself has not promised any miracles, that new-found enthusiasm, coupled with Alex's know-how and the talent of the team, can be a combination for real success.



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2. M. Massa
3. I. Wilkinson
4. M. Conway
5. Keith Rayne
6. Kevin Rayne
7. D. Heron
8. T. Burke

OLDHAM

1. B. Caffery
2. S. Dobbs
3. A. McEwan
4. R. Ashton
5. T. Flanigan
6. J. Warburton
7. M. Parrish
8. P. Kirwan

ST. HELENS

1. B. Ledger
2. R. Haggerty
3. N. Holding
4. J. Smith
5. C. Arkwright
6. G. Liptrot
7. H. Pinner
8. A. Platt

SALFORD

1. S. Dickens
2. R. Smith
3. T. Stockley
4. P. O'Neill
5. G. Byrne
6. S. Williams
7. S. Nash
8. D. Major

ACKERS TROPHY FINAL (U-16's Schoolboys)

The Schoolboy Seven-a-Side game today is for the Ackers Trophy and will be presented by Mr. Jack Hilton, Chairman of Wigan R.L.F.C., between the semi-finals and final. The competing teams are St. John Fisher and Whitley and will commence at 4.20 p.m.

ST. JOHN FISHER

(Red/Black)

2. Paul Winstanley
3. Mark Dobson
4. Sean Edwards (Capt.)
5. Paul Doherty
6. Peter Sedgwick
7. Stephen Hunter
8. Tommy Breheny

Subs

Andrew Collier
Michael Taylor

WHITLEY

(Green/Gold)

1. Sean Bibby
2. Barry Jolley
3. Gary Shaw
4. Stephen Rigby
5. Martin Fairhurst
6. Jason Whittle (Capt.)
7. Paul Williams

Subs

Shaun Brogan/Iain Duckworth
Anthony Halliwell

SWINTON

1. P. Mellor
2. A. Drummond
3. D. Wilson
4. J. Mellor
5. A. Darbyshire
6. B. Higgins
7. L. Holliday
8. M. Lee

WAKEFIELD T.

1. L. Rotherford
2. S. Tinker
3. N. Stephenson
4. J. Lyons
5. H. Box
6. C. Maskell
7. B. Juliff
8. B. Adams

WIDNES

1. S. Wright
2. C. Camileri
3. D. Hulme
4. A. Gregory
5. M. Adams
6. I. Gormally
7. T. Myler
8. S. O'Neill/
E. Hughes

WIGAN

1. C. Whitfield
2. H. Gill
3. S. Nicholson
4. J. Pendlebury
5. M. Scott
6. N. Kiss
7. D. Campbell
8. D. Ramsdale

RULES FOR SEVENS COMPETITIONS

Games will be played under the laws of the Rugby Football League, except:—

- (1) At a kick-off, following a score—the ball shall **NOT** be required to travel 10 yards forward.
- (2) Each side will consist of seven players selected from a team of eight players and any of the selected seven players may be substituted by the eighth player **at any time** during the match—providing the substitution is signalled by the referee.
- (3) The duration of each game shall be seven and a half minutes each way with one minute interval at half time. If, at the end of the game the scores are equal, the teams shall change over and continue to play until one side scores, such side being the winner, ends being changed every seven and a half minutes if necessary.
In extra time there will be no interval.

- (4) The final tie will be played for ten minutes each way with an interval of one minute at half time.
- (5) An independent time keeper will check all times and allow for injury or any other stoppage when so signalled by the Referee. A klaxon indicates the end of each session of play except that if a try has been scored, the scoring side shall be allowed to attempt the conversion.
- (6) The three tackle rule shall apply.

Today's Officials:
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W. H. THOMPSON
J. McDONALD
S. WALL

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Supporters' Club Notes

We start the new season looking for a record 15th win in our annual Summer 7's competition. Next Sunday the traditional Locker Cup clash against Warrington takes place at Central Park. This year's game should have been at Wilderspool, but has been switched to Wigan because of the burning down of Warrington's stand a few months ago.

In recent seasons the Lancashire Cup ties have been the first competitive matches, but this year the League campaign commences before any Cup games. Once again we are scheduled to make history—for the third year running—by being Carlisle's first opponents in Division One, following inaugural matches at Fulham and Carlisle in 1980 and 1981 respectively. Coaches to Carlisle on Sunday, 22nd August will leave Central Park at 12 o'clock, and bookings can be made today or next Sunday at the Supporters' Shop. Adults £3.30p, Juniors £2.20p. Supporters' Association memberships can also be renewed at the same time, and any new members will be welcome to travel with us all season. Membership is being kept at 20p.

The new diaries for 1982-83 arrived last week and are excellent value at only 20p. During the close season we obtained some T-shirts, in white with red lettering, the same design as the sweatshirts. However, these sold so quickly at the very successful "Open Night" on 22nd July that we have had to re-order, and it can only be hoped that we have received some more in time for today.

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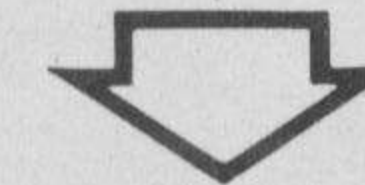
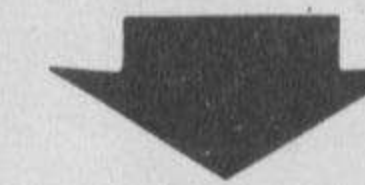
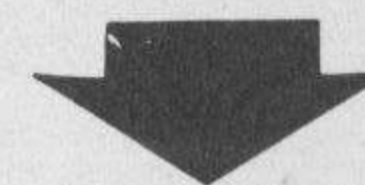
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Glorious summer weather greeted the Wigan Sevens last year, as this flashback picture shows. Wigan's Trevor Stockley, now with Salford, had to use all his pace and power to deal with this tackle from Wakefield's threequarter Day in the semi-final, which Wakefield won 20-16.
(Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer)



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Season Ticket(s) for.....Stand/Ground

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First
Team

FIXTURES

'A'
Team

1982		Kick-off p.m.
Aug 22	Su - Carlisle.....	A 3.00
25	We - Leigh.....	H 7.30
29	Su - Hull.....	H 3.00
Sept 5	Su - County Cup - 1st Round	
8	We - County Cup - 2nd Round	
12	Su - Warrington.....	A 3.00
15	We - Featherstone R.	H 7.30
19	Su - Hull K. R.	A 3.00
26	Su - French National XIII.....	H 3.00
Oct 3	Su - Oldham.....	A 3.00
10	Su - Bradford N.	H 3.00
13	We - Australia.....	H 7.30
17	Su -	
20	We - Halifax.....	A 7.30
24	Su - Barrow.....	H 3.00
30	Sa - (1st Test at Hull)	
31	Su - Hull.....	A 3.00
Nov 7	Su - Workington T.	H 3.00
14	Su - Leigh.....	A 3.30
20	Sa - 2nd Test v Australia.....	H 2.15
21	Su - Leeds.....	A 3.00
28	Su - (3rd Test at Leeds)	
Dec 5	Su - John Player Trophy - 1st Round	
12	Su - John Player Trophy - 2nd Round	
19	Su - Carlisle.....	H 3.00
26	Su - St. Helens.....	A 3.00
1983		
Jan 2	Su - Warrington.....	H 3.00
9	Su - Castleford.....	H 3.00
16	Su - Workington.....	A 2.30
23	Su - Widnes.....	H 3.00
30	Su - Featherstone R.	A 3.00
Feb 6	Su - Bradford N.	A 3.30
13	Su - State Express Challenge Cup - 1st Round	
20	Su - Hull K. R.	H 3.00
27	Su - State Express Challenge Cup - 2nd Round	
Mar 6	Su - Castleford.....	A 3.30
13	Su - Halifax.....	H 3.00
20	Su - Leeds.....	H 3.00
27	Su - Barrow.....	A 2.30
Apr 1	Fri - St. Helens.....	H 3.00
4	Mo -	
10	Su - Oldham.....	H 3.00
17	Su - Widnes.....	A 3.00

1982		Kick-off p.m.
Aug 17	Tu - St. Helens (F).....	H 7.30
21	Sa - Whitehaven.....	H 3.00
26	Th - Rochdale H.....	A 7.30
Sept 10	Fri - Warrington.....	H 7.30
17	Fri - Widnes.....	H 7.30
Oct 1	Fri - Oldham.....	H 7.30
8	Fri - Salford.....	A 7.30
16	Sa - Warrington.....	A 2.30
23	Sa - Barrow.....	A 2.30
Nov 6	Sa - Workington.....	A 2.30
12	Fri - Leigh.....	H 7.30
26	Fri - Salford.....	H 7.30
Dec 1	We - St. Helens.....	H 7.30
9	Th - Leigh.....	A 7.30
1983		
Jan 8	Sa - Whitehaven.....	A 2.30
15	Sa - Workington.....	H 3.00
21	Fri - Widnes.....	A 7.30
29	Sa - Barrow.....	H 3.00
Feb 4	Fri - Swinton.....	H 7.30
17	Th - Swinton.....	A 7.30
Mar 4	Fri - Rochdale H.....	H 7.30
11	Fri - St. Helens.....	A 7.30
25	Fri - Oldham.....	A 7.30