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# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Rugby League

**OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME**

Price

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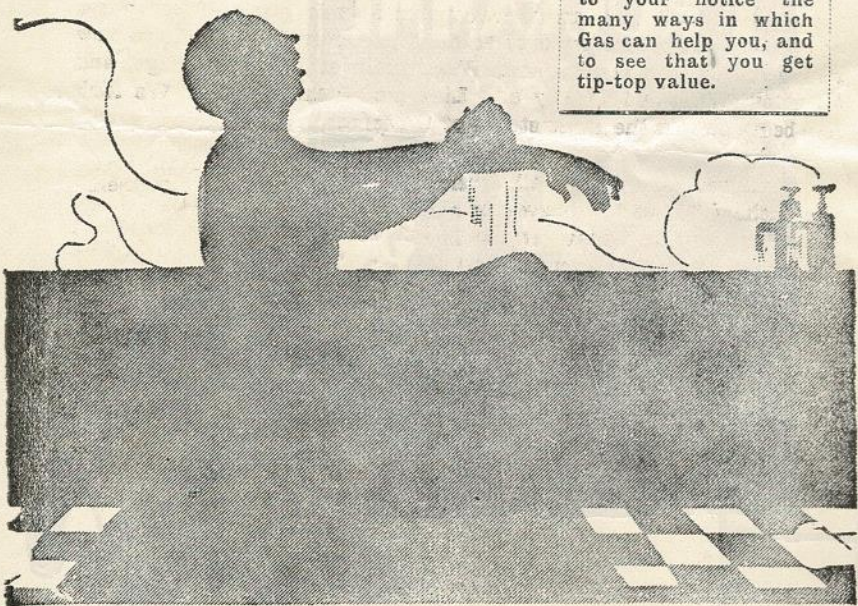
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## Oldham Football Club, WATERSHEDDINGS GROUND.

RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP—2nd Round.

### Oldham v. Wigan

Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 1936.

Kick-off 3-30 p.m. prompt.

#### CLUB CHAT.

**Another Blank Day.** We had another blank day last Saturday when our visit to Keighley was cancelled on account of frost. The ground at Keighley which had not been protected, was very, very hard, the frost having penetrated several inches into the ground. It was a bit of bad luck for the Tykes, because we have attracted big crowds there in recent years. A mid-week fixture will certainly mean a loss, but we hope not to the extent we suffered in 1903, for when we played Keighley here on a certain mid-week game—Tuesday we believe—the gate receipts only totalled just over £11. We have now four fixtures to make up, viz., Warrington at Watersheddings, and Keighley, Wakefield Trinity and Liverpool Stanley away. We look like being busy in the latter stages of the season.

**Those Higginshaw "Lads."** Well, everybody appeared to enjoy themselves in our cup-tie with the "lads" from the village, as Higginshaw termed themselves. Thanks to the excellent publicity given to the event by our local press, and the leg pulling by the Higginshaw Secretary, Mr. Lees, enthusiasm was aroused to an unusual extent. Luckily the glorious sunshine which we had on the Friday just about made the ground playable. The game passed off as most people outside Higginshaw expected it would, but all the same

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	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.	
Hull ... ..	26	...	20	1 5	...	41
Widnes ... ..	25	...	18	4 3	...	40
Salford ... ..	24	...	18	0 6	...	36
Leeds ... ..	25	...	18	0 7	...	36
Liverpool S. ... ..	25	...	17	1 7	...	35
Wigan ... ..	26	...	16	0 10	...	32
Warrington ... ..	25	...	15	2 8	...	32
Halifax ... ..	25	...	15	2 8	...	32
York ... ..	27	...	13	4 10	...	30
Castleford ... ..	24	...	14	0 10	...	28

Unfortunately Saturday's games were marked with a few rather serious accidents, some of which may have vital bearings on both this week-end cup-ties, and also upon the Australian tour. Take the case of Holding, the Warrington full-back. In the game with Leeds he was injured in the first quarter of an hour, and had to be removed to the Infirmary where his leg was found to be broken just above the ankle. There was no doubt about it being a pure accident, but a very serious one, seeing that it will practically put Holding out of the running for tour honours, and will also very seriously jeopardise his team's chances of winning their cup-tie at Halifax to-day. Another serious accident occurred in the St. Helens Rees. v. Castleford game, where the cup-holders were unexpectedly beaten. They perhaps would not have worried so much about defeat had it not been accompanied by a serious

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The Secretary, Mr. R. E. WYLIE,  
The Pavilion, Watersheddings,  
OLDHAM. Tel. Main 4865.

the losers put up a far better fight than the score would appear to suggest. Robinson, their full-back, was the hero of the game; he did splendid work. The most pleasing feature of the game, though, was the financial return. When the total gate was announced to the Higginshaw officials in our Committee Room, there were cheers after cheer, and it is quite probable that the smiles of satisfaction which wreathed the faces of the visiting officials have not yet vanished. It was very nice of the officials of the defeated club to send us such a nice letter of appreciation, and still nicer to invite us to dinner. We shall be there, not wearing dress suits, but most probably every one of our officials will sport a nosegay from the "Flower Pot." We should be somewhat lacking in courtesy if we did not offer a word of praise to "Cherry White" of the "Oldham Chronicle" for the humorous description of the game which appeared in the issue of the "Chronicle" on the Monday following the match. It was a very fine effort indeed.

**Last Saturday's Games.** The games played last Saturday did not make any material alteration in the top ten places as will be seen from the following list up to and including Saturday's games:

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### OLDHAM

1. Rees, T. E.
2. Taylor, A.
3. Bardsley, S.
4. Macrae, G.
5. Davies, C. } Selected  
Fairbairn, W. } from
6. Jupp, J.
7. Spencer, S.
8. Read, J. (capt.).
9. Howard, W. F.
10. Rees, L.
11. Pugh, N.
12. Givvons, A.
13. Ashworth, F. W.
14. Garnett, A.

### WIGAN

1. Sullivan, J. (capt.)
2. Morley, J. C.
3. Innes, G. W.
4. Davies, E. G.
5. Ellaby, A.
6. Bennett, G. H.
7. Gee, H. A.
8. Edwards, H.
9. Golby, J.
10. Davis, A. E.  
Hall, W.
11. Hathway, R.
12. Thomas, W. T.
13. Seeling, C.

Referee:—Mr. A. BROWN, of Wakefield.

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accident which occurred to Thomas, their centre threequarter recently secured from Halifax. Twenty minutes from the end of the game he had the misfortune to break his arm, and as Banks was sent off, the cupholders may be said to have had a rather bad day. Lucky for Castleford they have Atkinson to put in Thomas's place for to-day's cup-tie. The big bustling glassblowers' centre was away with the English team in France last Saturday.

**To-day's Cup-ties.** Naturally, to-day's great game in to-day's cup-ties is our own clash at Watersheddings with Wigan. There are other games which will attract commendable attention; but even from the mere fact alone that our fixture with Wigan is the only tie in Lancashire is sufficient in itself to fill Watersheddings. Salford have again to meet Hunslet at Parkside. Lance Todd's team cannot complain at having to travel, for they have been drawn at home oftener than any club in the League during the past ten years, and, unfortunately for them, they have made very poor use of their luck. A lot of folk fancy Salford's chance at Hunslet to-day, in fact a lot of folks fancy them for the cup. We might say that we ourselves are not inclined to that fancy. Warrington will do well if they succeed at Halifax in the absence of Holding; but we have a sneaking regard for Wakefield's chances at Bradford. We may add that the half-time scores in the leading cup-ties will be shown on our scoreboard when they are received.

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Our Visitors. When we were listening-in to the recent broadcast of to-day's cup draw we were naturally feeling a trifle disturbed when so many names had come out and we had not heard the word "Owdham." Then, when the draw was nearing its completion the news flashed through, pronounced more prettily and correctly. There was only a few seconds elapsed before our name was followed by "Wigan." It is understood that every one in Oldham who was listening-in jumped up and treated himself to an extra cup of tea, before leaving his house to celebrate the luck of the draw elsewhere with his friends. Given fine weather we expect all records to be broken. In the season 1911-12 (?) we had a tremendous crowd when Wigan visited us. In that season we knocked out both Wigan and Huddersfield. We beat the latter club twice in a fortnight (League and cup) and then Wigan, and Wigan returned the compliment by coming and beating us in the League. We well remember the scenes which there were at Watersheddings. Several of the disappointed spectators mounted the mound known as "Th' Spinners' Stand," whilst other venturesome individuals climbed on the roofs of the houses at the end of Watersheddings Street, adjoining the ground. One individual secured a long ladder and charged threepence a time for going up, but after the match he put something else up besides the ladder: he put the price up to sixpence, so they had to pay threepence for going up and sixpence for coming down. He would not drop the ladder against the roof until the mountaineers had dropped their tanners! One spectator got perched upon the top of a chimney pot. The tenant of the house asked him to get off; he refused. The tenant then placed a bundle of papers on his fire, but as the smoke belched from the chimney the man on the top promptly took off his coat and stuffed in into the chimney! The sequel was that the house, which had been newly painted and decorated, was rendered an awful mess. However, we don't anticipate anything like that occurring to-day, though we anticipate an even bigger crowd than on that occasion. We shall have two of our old players engaged against us in to-day's game. Our team had not been selected at the time these notes were penned. Let's hope we may see a game worthy of the two clubs and worthy of the occasion, and one which will leave no regrets.

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## HALF-TIME SCORES.

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received.

**A** HUNSLET  
SALFORD

**B** HALIFAX  
WARRINGTON

**C** BRADFORD  
WAKEFIELD TRINITY

**D** HUDDERSFIELD  
YORK

**E** HULL  
LIVERPOOL STANLEY

**F** CASTLEFORD  
LEIGH

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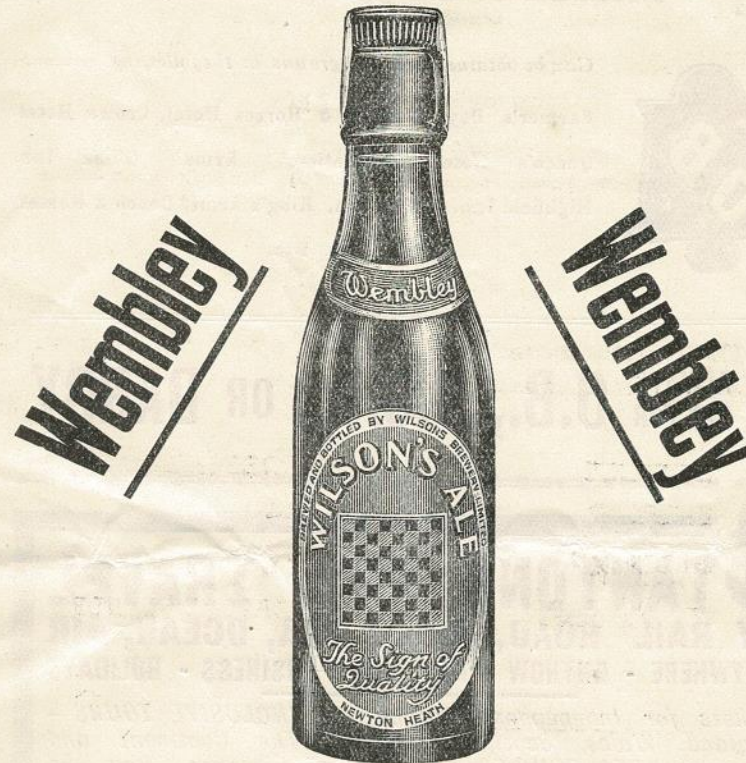
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