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### Official Programme

### SEASON 1952-53

## PRICE THREEPENCE



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(NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE)

SATURDAY, 10th JANUARY, 1953

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

## OFFICIAL NOTES...

We offer a hearty welcome to Oldham officials, players and supporters, who are always popular visitors to Central Park. After narrowly missing the First Four last season, they are again having a good season, and are right in the fight for the play-off positions. A fortnight ago we were defeated 14-5 at the Watersheddings, although we were obviously a rather tired team after the gruelling battle at St. Helens. Last Saturday Oldham lost their first home match for over twelve months, when Willie Horne's craft proved too great in the closing minutes of a hard game.

The Oldham Committee have bought many players during the last two or three years, and have now got a nicely balanced side together, which is ably directed by player-coach Bryn Goldswain. Two fairly recent Rugby Union signings, Emmitt and Little, are already proving their ability, and the half-back partnership of Daley and Stirrup has had a great deal to do with much of Oldham's success. They have a powerful pack of forwards, and if our pack can keep up last Saturday's form we shall see a grand struggle for forward supremacy.

Oldham have to date the finest defensive record in the League, only 125 points having been scored against them in 20 matches, so plenty of striking power is obviously needed to pierce this excellent defence.

The Oldham League record is as follows:—

Home: Won 10, Drawn 0, Lost 1.  
Away: Won 4, Drawn 0, Lost 5.  
Points For 351; Against 125.  
Position in Table: 6th.

## THE HULL MATCH

After the poor showing against Warrington many of our supporters must have been apprehensive of the match at the Boulevard. However, our lads rose to the occasion and on a very heavy ground were worthy winners. Our pack gave a much improved display to hold the young Hull forwards, and our centres were also much better and more forceful than against Warrington.

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There is no doubt we were definitely the better side, and last Sunday's press gave people who were not present at the match an entirely wrong idea of the game's progress. The impression to be gained was that Wigan were lucky to win, and only did so through a doubtful try by Nordgren, but that impression is completely wide of the mark. Wigan were leading 11-8 with three minutes to play when a passing movement left Nordgren with lots of room to score somewhere near the corner. A whistle was evidently blown by one of the spectators, and the Hull players allowed Nordgren to touch down under the posts. It seems obvious that as Wigan were certain to score in any case, some unsportsmanlike person in the crowd decided to do his best to stop the movement and blew a whistle. The main points are that we were already leading with three minutes to play and Nordgren was certain to score in any case, so how various newspapers reported us as lucky is beyond comprehension.

#### THE "A" TEAM

Our "A" team gave an exhibition of attractive football last Saturday to defeat Liverpool City "A" 37-0 in a friendly match. The opportunity was taken to play our recent signings from local football, Hooper, Abram and Cherrington, and all three played their part in a good win. Try-scorers were Ralph (2), Brindle (2), Holgate (3), Birchall and McTigue. Cheetham (4) and Platt kicked the goals. To-day the "A" team play Oldham at the Watersheddings in a Combination match, and Gordon Ratcliffe and Jack Hilton return after injury.

#### NEXT SATURDAY

As neither first nor "A" team have a match next Saturday, the ground has been loaned to the Junior League for an Inter-Town match, Wigan v. Dewsbury. The kick-off will be at 2-30 p.m.

#### AFTER THE MATCH—

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#### KING GEORGE VI NATIONAL MEMORIAL FUND

His late Majesty King George VI was the Patron of the Rugby Football League, and it is the intention of the Rugby League Council to give the fullest support to the Lord Mayor of London's Appeal for the King George VI National Memorial Fund.

It is intended by the Executive Committee governing the fund to erect a statue in London and to devote the balance of the fund to a Philanthropic Scheme which would benefit the country as a whole. This scheme will be devoted to promoting the physical, mental and spiritual needs of young and old people.

The Chairman of the R.L. Council asks the fullest co-operation of all Leagues, Clubs, Officials, Referees, Players and Supporters in raising money for the fund, in order that the contribution made by the game will be an appropriate tribute to the memorial of our late beloved King.

All moneys collected should be forwarded to Mr. W. Fallowfield, 180 Chapel-town Road, Leeds 7, together with full details of sources of income, in order that when the final payment is made we can submit to the Lord Mayor a full list of contributors.

The Rugby League effort officially commenced on Saturday, December 13th, 1952, and will continue up to the end of the current season, during which period a special match will be arranged by the League in aid of the fund.

#### PROGRAMME PRIZE

At each First Team match, a prize of 10/- is given for the winning programme number (see page 2). The referee will be asked to select a number each week, and this will be announced at half-time. The person with the winning number should come around to the office at the front of the Pavilion after the match to collect the prize.

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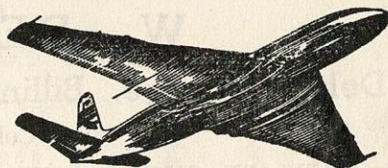
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5—NORDGREN

Half Backs:

6—FLEMING  
7—ALTY

Forwards:

8—GEE (Capt.) 22  
9—MATHER  
10—BARTON  
11—SILCOCK 3  
12—COLLIER, F.  
13—STREET

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3—MITCHELL 3  
4—DAVIES  
5—PLATT 3

Half Backs:

6—DALEY  
7—STIRRUP

Forwards:

8—OGDEN  
9—KEITH  
10—DAY 33  
11—WINSLADE  
12—LITTLE  
13—GOLDSWAIN

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Mr. F. T. HILL (Warrington) Blue Line Flag

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# NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE TABLE

(to Monday, January 4th)

	P.	Home			Away			Points		Pts.
		W.	D.	L.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	
St. Helens	22	8	1	2	11	0	0	425	152	39
Halifax	22	10	0	1	8	1	2	387	191	37
Bradford Northern	19	10	0	0	6	0	3	428	148	32
Leigh	22	9	0	2	6	2	3	370	212	32
Huddersfield	20	7	1	1	8	0	3	433	224	31
Oldham	20	10	0	1	4	0	5	351	125	28
Wigan	24	7	0	5	6	2	4	480	277	28
Barrow	21	9	0	2	5	0	5	281	198	28
Leeds	22	8	0	3	5	0	6	406	293	26
Workington	21	7	1	3	4	0	6	276	235	23
Warrington	20	5	0	4	6	1	4	322	291	23
Castleford	20	8	0	3	3	0	6	269	226	22
Whitehaven	18	7	1	1	3	0	6	255	226	21
Hunslet	21	7	0	3	3	0	8	259	225	20
Salford	21	7	0	3	3	0	8	279	284	20
Hull	21	7	0	3	3	0	8	225	256	20
Batley	18	7	0	4	2	2	3	199	280	20
Wakefield Trinity	20	6	0	3	3	0	8	231	299	18
Featherstone Rovers	20	6	1	2	2	0	9	226	297	17
Swinton	21	5	0	4	3	0	9	211	275	16
Belle Vue Rangers	22	7	0	4	1	0	10	196	420	16
Rochdale Hornets	21	5	1	5	2	0	8	259	341	15
Keighley	21	6	1	3	1	0	10	241	342	15
Doncaster	20	4	0	6	3	0	7	231	345	14
Widnes	20	5	1	5	0	1	8	177	263	12
Hull Kingston Rovers	21	4	1	5	1	0	10	202	384	11
York	20	5	0	5	0	0	10	192	286	10
Dewsbury	21	3	0	7	2	0	9	180	298	10
Bramley	18	3	0	6	0	0	9	131	447	6
Liverpool City	17	1	0	9	1	0	6	103	385	4

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# WIGAN PLAYERS' RECORDS

Season 1952-53

## FIRST TEAM

### APPEARANCES AND TRIES SCORED

(to Friday, 9th January)

	Appearances	Tries		Appearances	Tries
Alty, J. J. ....	6	1	Hurst, R. ....	3	2
Ashcroft, E. J. ....	23	7	Kelly, C. ....	18	6
Barton, F. ....	14	1	Ludbrook, B. ....	1	1
Bevan, D. R. ....	27	29	Mather, R. ....	14	33
Blan, W. ....	14	2	Nordgren, B. C. ....	24	3
Broome, J. ....	9	3	Parr, J. ....	1	—
Carroll, P. ....	1	—	Parr, T. ....	5	3
Cheetham, E. ....	15	—	Ralph, A. ....	1	—
Collier, F. ....	14	—	Ratcliffe, G. ....	6	4
Collier, W. ....	4	2	Richards, B. ....	7	1
Constance, L. ....	1	—	Roughley, G. ....	24	3
Cunliffe, J. ....	26	7	Ryan, M. ....	7	—
Fleming, J. ....	18	3	Silcock, N. D. ....	24	7
Gee, K. ....	28	4	Street, H. ....	28	9
Griffin, F. ....	4	—	Woosey, G. ....	9	—
Hilton, J. ....	1	—			

Total number of Tries: 128.

### GOALS SCORED

Cheetham, E. ....	39
Cunliffe, J. ....	3
Gee, K. ....	47
Ryan, M. ....	7

Total number of Goals: 96.

## SUNDAY, 11th JANUARY

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Hull .....	12/9	Doncaster .....	9/6

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### FIRST TEAM

### "A" TEAM

1952					
Aug. 16 .....	Warrington .....	A 13-9	Warrington .....	H 30-10	(Charity Match)
23 .....	Huddersfield .....	H 23-17	Leigh .....	A 9-15	
28 (Th.) .....	Barrow .....	A 16-24	Oldham .....	H 28-12	(Comb. Shield)
30 .....	Widnes (Lancs. Cup) .....	A 24-15	Rochdale Hornets .....	A 25-13	
Sept. 3 (W.) .....	Widnes (Lancs. Cup) .....	H 38-5	Oldham .....	A 19-5	(Comb. Shield)
6 .....	Rochdale Hornets .....	H 40-15	Workington Town .....	H 13-11	
8 (M.) .....					
10 (W.) .....	Swinton .....	A 7-4			
13 .....	Bradford Northern .....	H 13-18			
20 .....	Workington Town .....	A 2-15			
22 (M.) .....	Leigh (L.C. 2nd Rd.) .....	A 8-19			
24 (W.) .....	AUSTRALIA .....	H 13-23			
27 .....	Bramley .....	H 52-7			
Oct. 4 .....	Liverpool City .....	A 35-5	Warrington .....	A 9-13	
11 .....	Hull .....	H 36-8	Warrington (F.) .....	H 11-13	
18 .....	Widnes .....	A 7-7	St. Helens .....	A 10-25	
25 .....	Leigh .....	H 10-15	Widnes .....	H 24-12	
Nov. 1 .....	Warrington .....	A 17-10			
8 .....	Whitehaven .....	H 39-13	Warrington .....	H 25-8	
15 .....	Belle Vue Rangers .....	A 25-15	Whitehaven .....	A 12-16	
22 .....	Belle Vue Rangers .....	H 46-5	Belle Vue Rangers .....	H 25-16	
29 .....	Rochdale Hornets .....	A 25-4	Belle Vue Rangers .....	A 28-8	
Dec. 6 .....	Swinton .....	H 10-21	Rochdale Hornets .....	H Pstpd.	
13 .....	Whitehaven .....	A 8-8	Swinton .....	A 16-12	
20 .....	Batley .....	H 9-12	Whitehaven .....	H 30-9	
25 (Th.) .....	Salford .....	H 34-8	Leigh (F.) .....	A 7-13	
26 (F.) .....	St. Helens .....	A 0-5	Salford .....	A 6-16	
27 .....	Oldham .....	A 5-14	Oldham .....	H 44-0	
1953					
Jan. 1 (Th.) .....	Warrington .....	H 5-14			
3 .....	Hull .....	A 16-13	Liverpool City (F.) .....	H 37-0	
10 .....	Oldham .....	H	Oldham .....	A	
17 .....					
24 .....	Barrow .....	H	Barrow .....	A	
31 .....	Leigh .....	A	Leigh .....	H	
Feb. 7 .....	Rugby League Cup		St. Helens .....	H	
14 .....	1st Round, 1st Leg				
21 .....	Rugby League Cup				
28 .....	1st Round, 2nd Leg				
Mar. 7 .....	Bradford Northern .....	A			
14 .....	R.L. Cup, 2nd Round				
21 .....	Liverpool City .....	H			
28 .....	Bramley .....	A	Liverpool City (F.) .....	A	
Apr. 3 (G.F.) .....	Batley .....	A	Swinton .....	H	
4 .....	Workington Town .....	H	Halifax (F.) .....	H	
6 (E.M.) .....	St. Helens .....	H	Workington Town .....	A	
11 .....	Salford .....	A			
15 (W.) .....	Widnes .....	H	Widnes .....	A	
18 .....	Huddersfield .....	A	Salford .....	H	
25 .....	R.L. Cup Final		Warrington (F.) .....	A	
			Barrow .....	H	