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Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
1959			19	Dewsbury	home 2-30
Aug. 8	Rochdale (Charity)	home 3-0	25	Swinton	home 2-30
15	Leeds	home 3-0	25	Workington	away 2-30
13	Dewsbury	away 7-0	1960		
22	Salford	away 3-0	Jan. 2	Liverpool	away 2-30
25	Warrington	home 6-30	9	Wakefield	home 2-30
29	Whitehaven	away 3-0	16	Leigh	home 2-30
Sept. 5	Halifax	away 3-0	23	St. Helens	away 3-0
8	Halifax	home 6-30	30	Widnes	away 3-0
12	Hunslet	home 3-0	Feb. 6	Salford	home 3-0
19	Widnes	home 3-0	13	R.L. Cup	
26	Blackpool	away 3-0	20	Wakefield	away 3-0
Oct. 3	AUSTRALIA	home 3-0	27	R.L. Cup	
10	Barrow	away 3-0	Mar. 5	Leeds	away 3-0
17	Workington	home 3-0	12	Wigan	home 3-0
24	Warrington	away 3-0	19	Leigh	away 3-0
31	Barrow	home 3-0	26	Hunslet	away 3-0
Nov. 7	Rochdale	away 3-0	Apr. 2	Liverpool	home 3-0
14	Blackpool	home 2-30	9	St. Helens	home 3-0
21	Whitehaven	away 2-30	15	Swinton G. F.	away 3-0
28	Rochdale	home 2-30	16	E. S.	
Dec. 5	Wigan	away 2-30	18	Whitehaven	home 3-0
12	Hull	home 2-30	23	Hull	away 3-0

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No. 5, Saturday, 12th September, 1959

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. HUNSLET

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Matters are looking up a little somewhat at Watersheddings, after our double victory over formidable opponents in Halifax. There is no doubt that our team created a big surprise in winning at Halifax on Saturday last after our supporters spirits had been damped by the previous defeats by Warrington and Whitehaven. But the team rose to some good football and the forwards gave the backs ample protection and functioned better than in any previous match. Not that the forwards were up to our standard of previous seasons, far from it, but they gave a show that promised much, every man was a trier and they had a hand in the seven tries that we scored, in fact it is a long time since we scored seven tries on an opponents ground.

For once in a long time our ace full back, Bernard Ganley was a little off form with his goal kicking, and this was most unusual, but Ganley rose to great heights by some good defensive work. It was a great win at Halifax but there is room for improvement, especially forward, the inside back division is good enough but we were somewhat lacking in great speed on the flanks and we missed our flying wingman, Ike Southward, who had to stand down from the team owing to not passing a fitness test.

The return match at Watersheddings on Tuesday last, did not match up to the game of the previous Saturday by any means but we managed to record victory by the splendid goal kicking of Bernard Ganley who landed nine goals, and some of them were first class shots and great goals, in fact Bernard appears to kick the impossible goals at times, and so much to the benefit of the team. It is amazing how many matches have been won by his goal kicking, on seven occasions last season our opponents scored more tries than we did yet victory came our way by the kicking of some wonderful goals. And so on Tuesday evening Halifax scored three tries to our team's one try yet Bernard did the trick.

A moral to our opponents is not to transgress the rules of the game otherwise it is odds on chances that two points will be recorded and chalked up against you.

INJURED PLAYERS

Another casualty has been added to our list, if we get a player fit for action again, someone else takes his place. This time it is Peter Goddard who has a suspected torn cartilage and we are now awaiting a report from the specialists to confirm this or otherwise.

This accident happened against Halifax on Tuesday evening last when the pack collapsed and one of our own players fell across his knee. It is more than unfortunate when one of our own players accidentally damages one of his team mates, but these accidents do happen.

However we hope for the best and trust that this up and coming young forward will not be out of action for any great length of time.

An order has been given with a nation wide firm of Electric Manufacturers for the installation of a public address system on our ground and we have a guarantee that this system to be installed will meet the requirements of all spectators. In the past we have had great difficulty with the accoustics on our ground but we think that this will be overcome by the system that is being prepared with efficient and a number of loud speakers in different parts of the ground. Time alone will tell.

FIRE???

We wish to inform spectators of the danger of throwing away cigarette ends that are still lit, this method is a danger at any time but more especially at the present time when everything of a wooden nature is bone dry with the exceptional sunny weather we are having. Please see that the cigarette stubb end is out before you throw same away.

A major disaster could have happened to our stands on Tuesday evening last as a section of the wooden terracing was smouldering all night and with the slightest wind could have destroyed one of our stands. Please do see that any cigarette end that you throw away or even matches are completely out.

"A" TEAM

Little is heard of our "A" team but they are improving each match and have recorded two great victories in the last two matches played against Swinton "A" and Wigan "A", the last match being a Lancashire Combination Shield match. We have some good young forwards that are improving each match and much will be heard of one or two of these in a season or two, on the form shown they will be knocking at the door for first team status, such is the promise shown. All are on the right side of 20 years of age, and this is the age to catch them.

WANTED MORE YOUNG PROPS & HOOKERS

by Cyril Briggs

Specialise young man, specialise! That's my advice to up and coming Rugby League Players. Why have I plumped on this theme? Merely because we don't get sufficient numbers of young prop forwards while many hookers seem to strike their best form when some spectators argue that their playing days are over.

I realise there are exceptions. But look at one of the best ever props—Ken Gee who performed so well for Wigan. He was at the height of his career when many of us had started to gain the middle-aged-spread. And he was older than most of us!

Just why is it that there is a scarcity of young props and hookers? I think the answer is in my opening paragraph—that youngsters are not keen to specialise.

IT'S A CHALLENGE

Surely it is a challenge to the young players today when a star like Alan Prescott can start as a threequarter, switch to loose forward when he felt some of the pace leaving his legs and then "prop" most successfully after a period in the second row.

If a chap who was gifted with more than ordinary weight, took on a propping role when he was barely 20 years of age, he must sooner or later gain enough experience from the men who are fading, to keep him either in the number 8 or 10 position for at least a decade. But he would have to stick at the job.

It seems that hookers don't shine until quite a number of their teeth are missing—not by accident either! Look at the hookers who have made top grade or thereabouts in post war seasons. Joe Egan (Wigan), Dave Cotton and Ike Fishwick (Warrington), Jack Keith (Oldham), Vic Darlison (Bradford) and Alvin Ackerley (Halifax and Hull K. R.) You would not call anyone of them a chicken when they were at the height of their careers. But in each case they held sway for a long while simply because they specialised.

Is it because props and hookers in the making get a little despondent when things are not going their way, and decide to pack up too early in their football lives? Of course, there are exceptions and one little chap who comes to mind (and he may be among the best in the league in a year or two) is Trevor Roberts of Swinton.

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- 9—SMITH
- 10—POOLE
- 11—ROBBINS
- 12—GUNNEY
- 14—SHAW

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GOOD and BANDY LEGS

Unfortunately, nature has not blessed Roberts with height and length of leg. You have to have those to beat some of the number 9's these days. Dave Cotton was nearly a six footer and his long legs helped him to put Warrington in the front rank, although he did not get the same recognition himself.

Those Egan legs seemed ready for the hooking business even when he was but a child. I don't poke fun at the Egan limbs, but once you had seen them in action, it was quite convincing for anyone. They were indeed the right shape for the job.

I'm afraid that many spectators and sometimes members of my own profession—journalism—don't always give credit to prop forwards. We seem to single out one or two men who figure prominently in the loose and then dismiss the work of the scrummagers in a word or two, or even sometimes forget them. It is only when you get chatting to the forwards that you learn what an art is the scrummaging business.

THE RIGHT TYPE

Let me give you an illustration. Most of you will remember Longman, the Barrow prop. He was hard as nails and a man who could hold any scrum. He was the right type—solid in the legs and extraordinarily strong in the shoulders. But Barrow selectors at one time were apparently not pleased with his displays in the loose. They dropped him. When the team sheet was published he was on the reserve.

The match day came and when the number 8 who had been chosen for the job decided to cry off because he was not quite fit, Longman was called upon. Then it happened. In casual conversation with a member of the opposing pack, I happened to mention Longman's position.

The comment by the forward was not in parliamentary language, but it was good enough to indicate that the Barrow selectors of that time had made a mistake in dropping Longman. So in one of my reports of this particular match I described in detail my interview with a member of the opposition pack. That was enough—Longman had a regular place after that, and for quite some time.

QUITE A STORY

So long as a fair share of possession is coming from the scrums, selectors and supporters should not yell if a prop or a hooker isn't so prominent in the loose. I remember one hooker who was instructed every time he left the dressing room not to go into any handling movements! Once he did so and believe me, the crowd had to tell him how to fall over the try line.

But, how many of his successful hooks had led to tries.

Props and hookers—yes its a specialised job. Yet we do get exceptions to every rule. George Curran of Salford (and other clubs) was the man who seemed at home in either of these important jobs. But if we could impress on the lads of today that the less glamourous positions of number 8 and 10 and number 9 is as important as scrum half, centre or full back, we could be doing the code any amount of good.

OUR VISITORS

Today we have welcome visitors from Hunslet, a team that always gives us a hard game and this is what our spectators want and enjoy. We have had some great games against the Hunslet team since the war and there is no doubt they are an attraction at Watersheddings, evidence by the good number of spectators that always come along to watch both teams in action.

And so today we hope that the match will be worthy of both teams. They have strength all round, possess a great goalkicker in Langton and are fast on the flanks, half backs and centres are strong and go ahead, but we think that the main strength lies in the forwards with the back three in Gunny, Poole and Shaw being three of the best in the game. What these three players would be worth in the transfer market would be a fabulous amount. Here the danger to us lies and it is up to our forwards to put up a tip top show to counteract these three great players.

A GOAL A GAME

Bill Langton, the Hunslet full-back, made an outstanding record last season by playing and kicking at least one goal in all the Hunslet Club's matches.

It was in March, 1958 that Langton's never-miss sequence started, and he has in fact scored in 56 successive games.

Both the Humberside Clubs almost caused the Langton sequence anxiety. He kicked only one goal against Hull when they visited Hunslet, and his only other one-goal-game was at Craven Park the home of the Hull K.R. Club. His highest match total was against Batley when he put 10 shots over the bar.

Jim Hoey the Widnes player is the only other play to score in every match, but Hoey didn't kick a goal in every match.

Hoey's record was 81 goals, 21 tries, as compared with Langton's 184 goals, 6 tries.

Although he kicked a goal in every game he finished second in the goal kicking table, 8 goals behind Bernard Ganley with 192.

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	8	38		Davies	7		3
Southward	2		3	Robinson	6		1
Ayres	1			Quinlan	1		1
Noon	8		4	Stirrup	2	1	1
Sims	8		1	Smith	3		
Kellett	8	1	3	Nestor	5		4
Hatherall	3			Petley	1		
Jackson	4			Pitchford	3		2
McIntyre	4		1	McKeown	2		
Goddard	8						
Winslade	4		1				
Duffy	7		1				
Pugsley	5		1				
Keith	4						

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Dewsbury	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	Swinton	St. Helens	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow															
Blackpool		14-5													
Dewsbury			26-15		7-35										
Leigh				25-12										22-22	
Liverpool					11-9										
OLDHAM						6-10									
Rochdale	18-13														
Salford					12-12							23-14			
Swinton			61-7							9-32					
St. Helens		59-17													
Warrington				26-8											
Whitehaven															20-4
Widnes										14-27					
Wigan									37-6				16-12		
Workington				5-12											

Home Team on Left...Away Team on Top...Home Team's score given first

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