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Fixtures for the Season

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1960			
Aug. 6	ROCHDALE (Charity)	away	
13	ST. HELENS	home	
17	WARRINGTON	away	.....
20	LEEDS	away	.....
27	WIGAN, Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.	away	.....
30	LEIGH	home	.....
Sept. 3	FEATHERSTONE R.	away	.....
10	HALIFAX	home	.....
17	ST. HELENS	away	.....
20	FEATHERSTONE R.	home	.....
24	WORLD CUP		.....
27	BLACKPOOL B.	away	.....
Oct. 1	WORLD CUP		.....
8	WORLD CUP		.....
15	HULL K. R.	away	.....
22	WIDNES	home	.....
29	ROCHDALE H.	away	.....
Nov. 5	LIVERPOOL C.	home	.....
12	KEIGHLEY	away	.....
19	SALFORD	home	.....
26	WHITEHAVEN	away	.....
Dec. 3	LEEDS	home	.....
10	WIGAN	away	.....

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1961			
17	BLACKPOOL B.	home	.....
24	LEIGH	away	.....
26	SWINTON	home	.....
31	BARROW	away	.....
Jan. 2	WORKINGTON	away	.....
7	HALIFAX	away	.....
14	WARRINGTON	home	.....
21	LIVERPOOL CITY	away	.....
28	WIGAN	home	.....
Feb. 4	BARROW	home	.....
11	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 1st RD.		.....
18	HULL K. R.	home	.....
25	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 2nd RD.		.....
Mar. 4	SALFORD	away	.....
11	WIDNES	away	.....
18	WORKINGTON TOWN	home	.....
25			.....
31	SWINTON	away	.....
Apr. 1	WHITEHAVEN	home	
3	ROCHDALE H.	home	
8			
15	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL		
22			
29	KEIGHLEY	home	

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No. 11, Saturday, January 14th, 1961

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WARRINGTON

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS and VIEWS

The holiday fixtures have not been such a merry one for us the result being two Christmas matches lost, one away and one at home. Our New Year matches gave us the shock of the season first in losing to Barrow at Barrow which was the shock of the day in League circles and then our victory at Workington on 2nd January. One victory out of four matches does not read good as far as finishing in the first four of the League Table, the one redeeming feature is that our competitors of first four places were also losing matches.

Our display at Barrow was our worst of the season and it requires some explaining as to why this loss of form, why the difference during the weekend and the play of our team at Workington is one of the mysteries of football.

However we consider that we have just an outside chance of finishing in the first four of the League Table. The end of the year is always considered a half way period of the football season and it may be just as well to compare December 1959 with December 1960.

The end of December, 1959 we had played 21 matches, won 16, drawn 1, and lost 4, scoring 540 points against 253 points. Also dismissed from the first round of the Lancashire Cup by Whitehaven, away, 23 to 8. Our position in the league table was 3rd.

End of December, 1960, we had played 21 matches, won 14, drawn 1 and lost 6, scoring 351 against 208, position in league table 8th. Also dismissed from the Lancashire Cup in the first round by Wigan, away, by 19 to 5. Therefore we are 4 points worse off than in the previous season. One redeeming feature is that we have still 9 home matches against 6 away matches, so we cannot afford to lose many matches with a chance of honours.

Our home matches are as follows: Warrington, Wigan, Barrow, Hull Kingston Rovers, Workington, Whitehaven, Rochdale, Keighley, and Blackpool.

Away matches are as follows: Halifax, Wigan, Liverpool, Salford, W. d. nes and Swinton.

"A" TEAM

The survey of our "A" team during the first half of the season shows a considerable improvement insomuch that they are 3rd in the Lancashire Combination against next to the bottom of the league in December, 1959. Widnes "A" are leading the table and are strong contenders for finishing there having lost only one match in 11 matches.

However our "A" team are sure of a good position and it will enable them to have fixtures next season in the R.L. Combination. This will result in having 12 more matches to play which shall be very pleasing to our players. The present season we have had our "A" team with several vacant Saturdays which is not good for the team or the individual.

OUR VISITORS

Today we give a welcome to the Warrington Club who are one of the leading teams in the competition, having played 21 matches won 15 and lost 6, scoring 447 points against 150. Like ourselves they have lost two home matches in the competition.

Our visit to Warrington on August 17th last we received a rather heavy defeat by 25 points to 9 points and we shall have to be in the best form possible to reverse this. Only the best against a team of the calibre of our visitors can record victory. Individually their team requires no introduction by the names that are very well known throughout the Rugby League.

Let us hope we see Rugby League at its best, good clean football, no barging, bumping and bering and above all we hope all the players will keep onside and give spectators value for money by not holding up the game with petty infringements. Give the referee a break, his job is difficult enough without having eyes all round the place and wearing his whistle out, not to say his breath.

BRIEFS

Our match against Halifax on Saturday last was cancelled upon our arrival. After an inspection of the ground we had no hesitation in voicing our opinion as to the hardness and uneven surface and under no consideration would we risk our players limbs under such conditions. We express our regret at a large number of our supporters having a fruitless journey.

Our Christmas Draw for members again proved another success, gross receipts amounting to £714-6-0, expenses including prizes, £259-16-4 leaving a profit of £454-9-8.

Two turkeys and 2 ducks along with half a bottle of whisky were unclaimed prizes. The fowl were given to Greenacres Lodge of the Welfare Service of this town.

HIGHLIGHTS ABOUT THE "OLD FOES"

writes Cyril Briggs

Without a doubt, Oldham have many old scores to wipe out this afternoon against Warrington. One remembers that Lancashire Challenge Cup final of 1927 when Warrington beat the Oldhamers by 7 points to five at the Cliff, Broughton.

Warrington were not expected to win that match, in fact had Reg Farrar kicked a goal from a position in front of the posts, the Wires may not have survived because they had played in the whole of the 2nd half with a man short. Collins, one of their three quarters was injured.

Two other cup match victories for Warrington stand out in the memory. It was in 1954 when Oldham seemed to have the match sealed, when a pass from Roland Barrow went into Brian Bevan's hands and the Australian made a spectacular run to the post leaving the goal kick a mere formality. It was hard luck for Oldham on that occasion as they were attacking hard and seemed to have the match in the bag.

FATEFUL DECISION

It seems as if fate was against Roland Barrow for in the Rugby League Championship match at Main Road, Manchester in 1955 the Oldham centre-three quarter who was then appearing on the wing, had a try disallowed which would have made all the difference to the result.

Yes, Warrington have always been keen rivals of the Oldham team and although quite a number of matches have gone Oldham's way in the past few seasons, it cannot be denied that Warrington are among the greatest cup fighters in the league.

Since the war Warrington have won everything—the Rugby League Challenge Cup on two occasions, the Northern League Championship 3 times the Lancashire Challenge cup once, besides holding the Lancashire League title on numerous occasions.

But there has been a slip in the past few seasons and the team has not been up to the standard of the Bath, Derbyshire, Palin and Pimblett era.

However, there has been a marked improvement this season and Warrington have already beaten Oldham, Hunslet, Wakefield, Wigan etc. For a short time they headed the league and it is on the cards that they will be among the leaders at the end of the present term.

G.B. LEADER—E. FRASER

In their ranks today are such famous players as Eric Fraser, Nat Silcock, Jim Challinor and Bobby Greenough. Fraser captained the Gt. Britain team in the recent game at Bordeaux when the team won with something to spare.

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OLDHAM

Red & White

- 1—NOON J.
- 2—LORD B.
- 3—DAVIES A. (Capt.)
- 4—HOLDEN K.
- 5—PATTERSON W.
- 6—KELLETT A. B.
- 7—PITCHFORD F.
- 8—PAYNE W.
- 9—GODDARD P.
- 10—DUFTY R.
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—ROBINSON G.
- 13—PARKER T.

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- 3—NAUGHTON
- 4—PICKAVANCE
- 5—O'GRADY
- 6—GREENOUGH
- 7—EDWARDS
- 8—SILCOCK
- 9—HARPER
- 10—BRINDLE
- 11—ARKWRIGHT
- 12—GILFEDDER
- 13—MAJOR

Touch Judges:

Mr. C. A. Moseley, Stretford (Yel.)
Mr. W. Unsworth Ashton-in-M. Crim.

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WILSON'S FAMOUS ALES

He is also a World Cup player and a Tourist, Fraser is Warrington's captain and at one time it looked as if he would take up the soccer code. He had trials at Old Trafford but apparently did not impress Matt Busby.

But Fraser seems to have made his great mark in the R.L. game judging from his personal feats.

Nat Silcock is the son of a former Tourist. Nat senior played for Widnes, Nat junior also made the trip to Australia and New Zealand. Nat junior, has played for Wigan and St. Helens. He has proved to be a good investment for the Wires.

Jim Challinor is one of the local lads in the team together with Harry Major, Laurie Gilfedder and Alisiter Brindle. Challinor is another Tourist and was amongst the World Cup Series personnel.

UNPREDICTABLE BEVAN

Jim is a speedy centre and he plays along side the unpredictable Bevan who hopes to get his 750th try before the season finishes. Bevan, of course, is an Australian and he has scored numerous tries against Oldham.

The other centre in the team is Joe Pickevance who hails from St. Helens, a town which has provided the Warrington club with so many players in the past.

He is an ex Rugby Union star. On the left wing is Terry O'Grady, who is well known to you all at Watersheddings. Terry, another Tourist, has also been a fine investment for Warrington for whom he has scored many tries.

Terry has been unfortunate of late because he missed the game against Wigan and also the one with St. Helens last Saturday, through an ankle injury. He has been an automatic choice for the left wing role since he went to Wilderspool from Wigan.

World Cup player Bobbie Greenough has already scored 23 tries this season. He holds two records at Warrington having scored more tries than any other stand off half or scrum half who has played in Warrington's colours.

His partners Jackie Edwards who will be remembered by many of the Oldham section for that delightful try he registered here a couple of seasons ago.

SIGNED ON GOLDEN MILE

Edwards is a Wiganer who signed for Warrington on his 16th birthday for £1,000. He was signed by manager Mr. C. R. Mountford on Blackpool's Golden Mile.

In the pack besides Silcock are Bill Harper, Alisiter Brindle, Laurie Gilfedder, Jack Arkwright and Harry Major. Harper who also comes

from St. Helens is deputising for Martin Dickens who broke a leg against Leigh quite recently.

Brindle is certainly an up and coming prop while Gilfedder is a good goal kicker, has also played in representative matches. Jack Arkwright was Wigan Athletic's goal keeper before he decided to switch to R.L. His father is the ex Warrington and St. Helens international who also played in the second row of the pack and was captain of the Warrington team before the war.

Harry Major is at present serving in the R.A.F. It is likely that he will appear in representative in Air Force R.U. matches before he finishes his service in March. His brother Bill Major, the Widnes loose forward who is out of action at the moment with a broken thumb.

GOING HOME

The team is managed by Ces Mountford the former star Wigan stand off half back. Mr. Mountford has been at Warrington for 10 years and he is expected to leave in May for New Zealand, his home country. Whether he will return to Warrington or even to this country to resume Rugby League activities, remains to be seen.

There you have the set up of the Warrington team which like Widnes plays almost on the border line of Cheshire. It is realised by Warrington that no more championship points must be passed up—two home games have been lost in succession—if the team is going to stave off competition from other "first four" candidates.

Yes, it should be quite a game this afternoon and we all hope that the best traditions of Rugby League football will be maintained.

SCHOOLBOY TOPICS

Today at Watersheddings as a curtain raiser to the senior game (ground conditions permitting) our new Intermediate town team play Swinton, in their first game. Boys playing on these teams must have been under 13 years of age on the 1st of September last. This game is the first round of an inter town knockout competition played on a home and away basis. The fixtures have been arranged by the Lancashire Schools Rugby League, and the winning team in the final will receive the Lionel Swift Trophy. We welcome our friends from Swinton today and feel sure that the boys will give a good display of rugby football.

Our senior town team have a return match against Wakefield at Oldham on February 14th, our Yorkshire friends will be out to avenge a good win we had over them at Wakefield earlier in the season, and on March 11th we travel to Leigh in a Lancashire Cup match.

The collection we are taking up today is to help defray the expenses involved in playing our town team matches, and we will be most grateful for your contributions. Thank you!

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(League and Cup Matches only—including Law Cup)

Player	A.	T.	G.	Player	A.	T.	G.
Southward	18	14		Kellett	20	10	1
Noon	21	10	5	Mumberson	5	1	
Davies	19	3		Winslade	20		
Quinlan	6	3		Goddard D.	4		
Nestor	8	1		Parker T.	4		
Pitchford	19	5		Sims	2		1
Payne	23	1		Goddard P.	6		
McIntyre	19	5		Patterson	13	8	
Dufty	22	4		Hatherall	3		
Warburton	5	1		Lerd	3	2	
Robinson	19	6		Parker D.	11	3	
Ganley	20		70	Holden K.	6	2	
Gray	1			Jones	1		

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Halifax	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	3-3				11-2	15-3		15-29			2-13	17-9		5-26
Blackpool	11-2	...	8-8	10-7		10-11			13-24		8-20		10-13	12-24	5-20
Halifax			...		18-0		11-5				8-4	17-7	15-5		22-12
Leigh		16-5	15-9	...		13-4			13-28					7-25	18-3
Liverpool	9-14		9-31	2-10	...		4-11	22-26			3-30		7-16		
OLDHAM			17-15	9-12	49-12	...		37-0	16-4	4-6			25-5		
Rochdale			13-20			14-29	...		5-38	4-45	0-27		9-2		4-17
Salford	9-0		11-17	4-17			20-9	...	5-17	5-24			18-9		20-8
St. Helens				10-4	17-9	26-12	51-4		...			18-8		11-6	47 2
Swinton	33-9		15-5		47-3				...			36-13	21-5	10-12	
Warrington		28-2		3-4	38-5	25-9	25-0	48-4	5-8	9-25	...	45-7			42-9
Whitehaven	20-5	12-13			15-0	2-16		13-0			2-31	...		14-2	16-3
Widnes	26-13		10-5				28-14			7-12	10-14	17-6	...	5-3	
Wigan	44-0	16-11		15-17			14-5	47-6		4-16	5-10				
Workington	11-8	8-17		11-2	36-5	2-17			18-3			11-8	10-11		

Home Team on left Away Team on top Home Team's score given first

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