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Fixtures for the Season

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1960			
Aug. 6	ROCHDALE (Charity)away
13	ST. HELENShome
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.
17	BLACKPOOL B.	.....home	.....
24	LEIGH	.....away	.....
26	SWINTON	.....home	.....
31	BARROW	.....away	.....
1961			
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	WHITEHAVENhome
3	ROCHDALE H.home
8
15	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL
22
29	KEIGHLEYhome

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THE PAVILION :: WATERSHEDDINGS



SEASON - 1960-61

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Secretary: H. SUMMERSCALES

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No. 15—Saturday, March 18th, 1961 Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WORKINGTON TOWN

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

After a lapse of three Saturdays it must be a real pleasure to see our first team at Watersheddings once again.

Saturday, 25th February was a vacant Saturday and it gave some of our players a breathing space to recover from the hard knocks that appear to go round in our game.

Saturdays March 4th and 11th we were away to Salford and Widnes and recorded very good victories. At Salford by 26 points to 7 points and at Widnes by 38 points to 6 points. In both these games one could sense that we were on a winning path by the way they opened out the game. In both matches there is no doubt that we were the best side and the longer the games lasted the more points we would have scored.

One must offer a little sympathy with the Widnes team inasmuch as they had a weakened team, having no fewer than five first teamers injured, but even this does not discount the win by our players, we doubt whether Widnes with a full strength team could have held our players with the splendid backing up that was evident, and we appeared much faster.

However they were two very good victories and our scoring average had been considerably improved for in the two matches we scored 63 pts. to 13 pts.

This keeps us still in the running for a place in the 'play-offs' of the league. The league position will be clarified after the holiday matches at Easter and unless something extraordinary happens it appears that Leeds and St. Helens will finish in 1st and 2nd positions. Anything can happen with the other two positions so open is the field that, Wakefield with 6 losses, Warrington and Oldham with 7, and Leigh and Swinton with 8, are all in the running for the 3rd and 4th positions. It is a very interesting position, as several of the leaders have to meet each other before the close of the season.

COMING EVENTS AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Although the date is not definitely fixed it will be either 7th or 21st April (Friday evening) a ladies soccer match has been arranged between Oldham Ladies and Preston Ladies, on our ground, further particulars will be issued in our next issue of the programme.

On May 1st an unusual match will take place on our ground against Oldham Athletic. One half will be played R.L. and one half soccer. A full turn out of both first teams is assured, so make a note of this match and come and enjoy yourself to see what our players can do at soccer and what Athletic can do at Rugby League. Full particulars later.

On May 2nd, Tuesday, is the final match on our ground for the season and this will be seven-a-side games for leading junior clubs who have been invited from Lancashire and Yorkshire. This will be a full evenings sport and will be well worth your patronage.

The Rugby Football League have given permission for a special match to be organised by this club and arrangements are going ahead for this to take place.

Please note that the receipts for all the above events are for the David Goddard Testimonial Fund so it is up to you to attend and bring a little sunshine to a boy who, through playing our game is a cripple for life.

DANCE

A dance is being held at the Town Hall on Saturday, 25th March from 7-0 p.m. to 11-45 p.m., for the Benefit Testimonial Fund of our four players, Messrs. Ganley, Davies, Stirrup and Lomas who now have completed 10 years with the Club.

Tickets are 5/- each and can be secured from the players, Pavilion and Artizans Rest, Yorkshire Street.

All our players will be attending this dance after the match at Wigan on the above date. Please come along and make this dance a success.

OUR VISITORS

Today we welcome Workington to Watersheddings and a special welcome to Ike Southward (if he plays). On our visit to Workington on January 2nd we gained a somewhat unexpected victory (in our opinion) by 17 points to 5 points after our two days previous visit to Barrow when we surprisingly lost by 11 points to 2 points.

The Workington team have improved considerably since we visited them and we may expect a hard game today and only the usual form, the form which has been shown in the last two weeks will carry us to victory.

This is our last home match before our financial year ends and we are hoping for a good 'gate' to improve our average attendance, which this season is down on last years attendances.

DAVID GODDARD

We are hoping, subject to the hospital authorities permission, to have David Goddard from Southport to watch the match. Arrangements are all made for transport accompanied by a male nurse to attend the match and his return to the Southport Hospital in the evening. All will be delighted to see him and have him amongst us for a little while.

The Testimonial Fund for David is steadily mounting and last Wednesday evening stood at £1320, donations are still coming in. Thanks go to all who so far have contributed, but a special mention should be made to Davids old school, Clarksfield Secondary Modern School, to show that he has not been forgotten. The little lads and lasses have contributed a magnificent sum of £100-3-2, and we say renewed thanks to all at Clarksfield Secondary Modern School. David is proud of you and expressed his thanks with emotion. Some day he will be coming along to visit the school and express his personal thanks.

Rugby League Clubs are now sending donations and are organising collections before the season ends, and the Rugby League are donating £100.

The sky is the limit for the amount of this fund and we ask you to give liberally for any event that is organised for David.

OLDHAM SCHOOLBOYS

The Oldham Boys Rugby team has had a most successful 12 months. This must in part be due to sound and regular, coaching and training and full facilities which are offered to them any Monday evening at Watersheddings.

Their record since they were last defeated on February 20th, 1960, (3-0 at Wakefield) is:

Oldham v. Salford	H	12	3	60	Won	22—0
Oldham v. Swinton	H	2	4	60	Won	14—3
Oldham v. Wigan	H	5	5	60	Won	13—2
Oldham v. St. Helens	H	18	5	60	Won	12—3
Wakefield v. Oldham	A	15	10	60	Won	20—4
Oldham v. Warrington	H	5	11	60	Won	21—0
Oldham v. Wakefield	H	18	2	61	Won	12—3
Total						114—15

Their captain, Taylor, has represented the County as Hooker in both fixtures with Yorkshire this season.

W. Hargreaves, Press Secretary

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- 3—DAVIES, A.
- 4—NOON, J. Holden
- 5—PATTERSON, W. 2T
- 6—KELLETT, A. B.
- 7—PYCROFT, J.
- 8—PAYNE, W.
- 9—GODDARD P. T
- 10—DUFTY, R.
- 11—WINSLADE, C. T
- 12—RAE, J./ROBINSON, G.
- 13—PARKER, D.

Referee:

Mr. C. WHITELEY
Ossett

WORKINGTON

(Blue and White)

- 1—LOWDEN G
- 2—SOUTHWARD Ford
- 3—O'NEILL T
- 4—BRENNAN G
- 5—FOORD McDonald/T
- 6—ARCHER
- 7—ROPER
- 8—HERBERT
- 9—MOSS
- 10—MARTIN
- 11—EDGAR
- 12—GARDNER
- 13—McCALL

Touch Judges:

Mr. L. Hunt, Warrington (Yellow)
Mr. C. A. Moseley, Stretford (Crim.)

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SOUTH AFRICAN ARRIVALS MAKE HEADLINES

writes Cyril Briggs

Whether the South African signings by the Leigh club are going to pay off remains to be seen.

Even if these players fail to come up to expectations, it is agreed all round that the Leigh club as well as the R.L. game in general, has benefited as far as publicity is concerned by the arrival of this overseas contingent.

Rugby League clubs however, are usually publicity shy and in most cases this is entirely their own fault. Scores of sports writers have lost their admission tickets to the press boxes simply because they happened to be a little critical of this or that matter.

At the moment certain clubs are hopping mad about information which has leaked to the newspapers. One item which seems to have caused a rumpus in Lancashire, is that Ernie Ashcroft was indicated as the favourite for the Warrington manager's job.

CLAMPING DOWN

But if clubs continue to clamp down on information to the Press then journalists seek other avenues for news.

No matter what happens and to what length Rugby League clubs go, the newspapers will get the news that is really worth printing.

It seems a ridiculous situation when the ordinary supporter bemoans the fact that newspapers appear to have a soccer bias. This arises because there is a flow of good stories from the many F.A. clubs whereas their Rugby League counterparts are often backward in their announcements.

Oldham club have often given out more Press material than the majority of clubs.

Recent signings have given the news starved R.L. fans something to think about. The past few days have seen the Rugby League game head-lines more than it is has received for a long time.

News of this description is all the more palatable than occasional descriptions of flying fists and dismissals from the field.

Yes, in the past season R.L. has had many unfavourable stories in the newspapers, but when most clubs are reluctant to discuss even the smallest item, then the ball can be thrown back at them in no uncertain manner.

I predict more good stories on the way. The Wigan delegation to South Africa should be releasing some vital news in the next few days.

THE FRONT PAGES

That again should make the front pages or the top of the column spots in the sports sections for Wigan directors were told to buy 'big' which means that their target were some of the Springboks who came over here with the touring side.

The R.L. has been backward in its publicity ideas for years. So now it can cash in to a tremendous degree, because announcements regarding new players are always welcomed by the supporters who often grumble about lack of enterprise by the clubs in the Northern League.

It has been argued for years that the Rugby League should have its own Press Relations Officer and a man who could feed the newspapers with all kinds of data which would help to spread the gospel of the professional handling code.

Efforts to appoint such a man have proved unsuccessful but sooner or later if the Rugby League hopes to broaden its sphere a full time publicity man is absolutely necessary.

There are certain clubs in the Rugby League who are hardly out of the news. This is because their officials realise that by keeping the club's name before the public they are creating interest and possibly attracting converts.

Quite recently the Swinton club decided on a big newspaper publicity programme. Their advertisements are now larger than those of the two big Manchester soccer clubs and while it is agreed that Swinton as a team are playing much more attractive Rugby, which is helping the gates, it is a significant fact that attendances at Station Road are more than 12 per cent up on last season.

The Leigh directors now know after their big Press Conference when the three South Africans were introduced to a battery of camera men and a big band of writers, that they had the biggest boost in many years.

Yes, Rugby League clubs should throw their doors open to the pressmen rather than sometimes show them the gate, even when a small domestic problem may have been discussed in the columns of the newspapers.

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	27	15	1
Noon	28	17	13	Mumberson	5	1	
Davies	26	4		Winslade	27		
Quinlan	6	3		Goddard D.	4		
Nestor	3	1		Parker T.	6	1	
Pitchford	20	5		Sims	2		1
Payne	29	2		Goddard P.	12	2	
McIntyre	20	5		Patterson	19	11	
Duffy	28	5		Hatherall	3		
Warburton	5	1		Lerd	9	6	
Robinson	26	6		Parker D.	15	4	
Ganley	24		89	Holden K.	10	4	
Gray	2			Jones	1		
Pyecroft	6	1		Rae	1		
Parker P.	1			Jackson	1		

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Halifax	L Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	3-3	14-12			11-2	15-3	15-0	15-29		2-5	2-13	17-9		5-26
Blackpool	11-2	...	8-8	10-7	14-5	10-11			13-24		2-8		10-13	12-24	5-20
Halifax			...		18-0		15-5			4-9	8-4	17-7	15-5	17-10	22-12
L Leigh		16-5	15-9	...		28-5	13-4							7-25	18-3
Liverpool	9-14	12-19	9-31	2-10	...		10-28	4-11	22-26	2-52				7-16	
OLDHAM	10-3		17-15	9-12	49-12	...		37-0	16-4	4-6			25-5	5-15	
Rochdale			13-20			14-29	...		5-38	4-45	0-27	15-0	9-2		4-17
Salford	9-0	5-12	11-17	4-17		7-26	20-9	...	5-17	5-24			18-9		20-8
St. Helens				10-4	17-9	26-12	51-4	...			7-8	18-8	44-7	11-6	47-2
Swinton	33-9		15-5	6-10	47-3	43-0						36-13	21-5	10-12	30-0
Warrington	33-3	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	19-4	13-0	11-15	8-8	2-31			14-2	16-3
Widnes	26-13		10-5			6-38	28-14			7-12	10-14	17-6		5-3	2-5
Wigan	44-0	16-11		15-17	20-7		14-5	47-6		4-16	5-10		24-5		
Workington	11-8	8-17	22-7	11-2	36-5	2-17		21-0		18-3			11-8	10-11	

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

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