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NOVEMBER 19 to JANUARY 5 · JANUARY 7 to MARCH 9 · MARCH 11 to MAY 11**

# **OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB**

THE PAVILION — WATERSHEDDINGS

# **OLDHAM**

versus

# **CASTLEFORD**

**Saturday, 15th December**

**Kick-off 2-30 p.m.**

SEASON — 1962-63

**OFFICIAL PROGRAMME . . . 3d.**



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No. 11—Saturday, 15th December, 1962

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

## OLDHAM v. CASTLEFORD

### WATERSHEDDINS NEWS AND VIEWS

Once again the Wigan team have visited Watersheddings and this time returned home in no uncertain manner. We are not squealling for on the day we were beaten by a better alround team. We caught Wigan in one of their rampant moods they are without doubt the best team that has appeared at Watersheddings this season. We have no excuses to make for this heavy defeat at home for with a full team we doubt if we could have held this Wigan team. To lose the services of Lord our wing man for practically the whole of the second half was bad enough, but we also had Fisher, one of our centres suffering from concussion for three parts of the game. In fact after the match Fisher did not know he had been playing. The Wigan forwards were a complete part of what a Rugby League team should be and in open play were definitely on top and made openings for their backs to come into operation. Besides the disappointment in the defeat a further one was in the attendance, even allowing for the inclement weather during the morning, the match was played in fine weather. The attendance including members of 8,439 compares very unfavourably with the previous season's attendance of 16,105 including members. With this deficiency in numbers and even allowing for the in and out form of our team, it makes one wonder where the people go on a Saturday afternoon. There was no other attraction in the town to compete with this star game. Is the Rugby League losing its attraction and glamour. Of the fifteen matches played last Saturday the top attendance was at St. Helens with 9,500. The average attendance of the eight first division games was 5,075 and of the seven second division 1,648. By far the great majority of clubs MUST be losing money each week and are being subsidised by various efforts such as Pools and 'Jack Pot' efforts. Any business, and Rugby League is a business, cannot live for ever on being subsidised, it can only live for a time. Clubs are talking and thinking in thousands of pounds instead of hundreds. All are living in a false world and the sooner some clubs realise it the better it will be for their own existence



## 'A' TEAM FOOTBALL

May we once again dwell upon 'A' team football and the lamentable state of affairs that exists with Lancashire Clubs. Take the case of our 'A' team, for the last ten Saturdays, including today, they have played only five matches, and it is only by the courtesy of the St. Helens Club that we have a friendly match at Watersheddings on Saturday next, December 22nd. The Oldham Club have been pursuing a policy for the improvement of 'A' team fixtures for the last 15 years but without success. The apathy that exists by the powers that be is amazing. Improvement can be easily overcome but it appears that tradition is hard to change, but it has to be murdered sometimes to get level with the present day trend of events.

Take the Northern Rugby Football League last season, this has now been split up into two divisions, the Yorkshire League and the Lancashire League have been scrapped and re-named the Western League and the Eastern League, but the Lancashire Rugby League Combination ('A' team football) and the Yorkshire Senior Competition ('A' team football) is still in operation and dragging along week in week out.

We say scrap these two organisations. In first team football there are 30 League Matches and 8 Western or Eastern League Matches. All clubs in the Rugby League have 'A' teams, the position is simple, whoever the first team are playing there could vice-versa for 'A' teams. Some people may argue of the expense involved but why trouble about this, 'A' team football is the live blood of our game, it is the stepping stone to first team status, and if a club secure one first teamer from 'A' team football they will be amply repaid. Let it be remembered that all the stars of today have been juniors at one time. Let the legislators get busy and lift 'A' team football from the depths of despondency.

## BRIEFS

After lengthy lay offs through injury, we expect to have both Alan Kellett and Dave Parker in action once again in the 'A' team on Saturday next.

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Saturday Next at Watersheddings—

OLDHAM 'A' v. ST. HELENS 'A'

—Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

## RUGBY AMONG SCHOOLBOYS

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One of the most interesting schemes for developing Rugby League football among schoolboys, has been inaugurated at a South West Lancashire school. Finding that the boys at a secondary modern school had not sufficient fixtures in the locality because of the age group, it was decided to approach other schools in a reasonably sized area, to see if they would be prepared to play matches on a home and away basis.

—(writes CYRIL BRIGGS)

I fully realise that because of geographical aspects the same sort of thing could not be carried out with any amount of regularity in certain parts of the North. But periodical visits could be arranged.

Now there is more to the scheme than just an occasional visit. There is no league, but the players are taught to take due note of what they see en route to the other town. The team is taken by motor coach and after the game, boys are told to seek out their direct counterpart and talk to him about the events of the game.

## THE SOCIAL SIDE

Let one of the teachers who brought about the scheme take up the story. He declares "our main idea at the outset was to teach the lads something about the social side of sport. We felt that it was time they knew something about other towns and what players on other teams were thinking about.

"When the visiting players have finished their showers, the home team makes sure that everyone is invited for a meal. It is not a substantial affair, but each lad sits with his direct opponent, and they are encouraged to talk about all kinds of subjects, some of which they may be specially interested.

"Though we have won all our first four fixtures, we are not quite as proud of that record as we are about the outlook of our players. From what the teachers have learnt, the scheme must surely be of interest to other schools. I am not a Rugby Union type, but we have encouraged the lads to realise that there is often more at stake, after the game than there is during the events of the game.

"From an educational point of view things are working out very well. Results in school work show that the lads are becoming more observant since the visits were made to other towns. There has been an all round improvement in such lessons as composition. We are also encouraging younger lads to join in the scheme."



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### OLDHAM (Red and White)

- 1—PATTERSON, W.
- 2—ELLIOTT, M.
- 3—HOLDEN, K.
- 4—FISHER, R.
- 5—NOON, J. (Capt.)
- 6—NESTOR, V.
- 7—PYCROFT, J.
- 8—MUMBERSON, A.
- 9—WOOD, G.
- 10—HILL, E.
- 11—ROBINSON, G.
- 12—OGDEN, T.
- 13—PLATT, D.

Referee :  
Mr. A. E. DURKIN  
of Dewsbury

### CASTLEFORD (Amber and Black)

- 1—LUNN, A.
- 2—GAMBLE, J.
- 3—WARD, G.
- 4—SMALL, P.
- 5—MARSDEN, B.
- 6—HARDISTY, A.
- 7—HEPWORTH, K.
- 8—HIRST, J.
- 9—WARD, J.
- 10—TONKINSON, A.
- 11—BRYANT, W.
- 12—WALKER, J.
- 13—BRYANT, E.

Touch Judges :  
Mr. L. Hunt, Widnes (Yellow)  
Mr. J. C. Clapham, Pemberton (Crim.)

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Birthday



## PRE-SEASON GAMES

This is how many of the clubs in Lancashire and Yorkshire help the amateurs and schoolboys. All the cash from the pre-season cup games is devoted to the youngsters. In addition, collections are taken at the grounds at certain times of the season. Such proceeds help to swell the travelling fund.

If the Rugby League does not provide sufficient money to keep the schools scheme I have mentioned alive, then there could be an appeal for funds to the 30 senior clubs in membership with the League. Amateur Leagues are always willing to give a helping hand, as are supporters clubs. The boys themselves could arrange, or help, in the running of events to raise cash. It is amazing how these schools efforts gain momentum once they are started!

But above all, we must compliment the teachers, who by devoting quite a lot of their spare time to the inter school visits are not only pushing the gospel of the professional handling game, but broadening the outlook of their scholars. I'm sure that after a season or two the teaching staffs will see a marked difference in the ability and perception of the lads in their charge.

## OUR VISITORS

Today we entertain the Castleford Club whose position is third in the First Division table having played ten matches, won six, drawn one and lost three, scoring 125 points against 114.

Although they are infrequent visitors to Watersheddings our games in the past have been worthy to watch and many are the stirring battles we have had both here and at Castleford. Many great players have worn the Castleford colours and one brings the mind back to Atkinson, Brindle, Sadler and Croston, great players and stars in their day. One recalls also a great try scored by Croston at Watersheddings when he fielded a ball from a drop out and ran through the whole team, swerving and side stepping and finished behind the posts.

Our team will have to show some improvement from last Saturday's display to achieve victory, as by their position, the Castleford team are worthy opponents. Let us hope that today we shall see something to give us satisfaction all round.

## OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

### Members' Christmas Draw, 1962

FIRST PRIZE £50—18205

SECOND PRIZE £25—17257

THIRD PRIZE £15—2105

FOURTH PRIZE £10—22794

Turkeys—

22765 8854 13465 22767 8202  
26607 13698 24468 28448 25869  
18307 18821

Bottles of Wine—

19487 9316 26363 4359 14178  
22224 13607

Bottles of Whisky—

17539 21439 6738 20538 10218  
26463 15425 3426 6325

Half Bottles of Rum—

21201 21748 28470 9317 19625  
23345 21346 3046 12177

Ducks—

15448 19246 26859 22749 12038  
28269

Half Bottles of Whisky—

17548 8845 12032 16796 23762  
16228 25907 21745 22648

Chickens—

14156 17556 8337 22738 27557  
7381

Distribution of prizes will take place in the Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham as follows:

Non-perishable goods, Tuesday, 18th December, 1962

Perishable prizes—Winners will be issued with a voucher for collection at a named poultry dealer in town centre. Collection of winning vouchers at the Pavilion, Watersheddings, Tuesday, 18th December, 1962.

List of un-retained tickets can be seen on the Pavilion notice board.

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## FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS — SEASON 1962

(Including all Matches to date)

Player	App.	T.	G.	Player	App.	T.	G.
Sims, G.	16	3	31	Kellett	2		
Lord	21	6		Pycroft	6		
Holden	12	5		Patterson	12	3	6
Price	5	1		Jones	5		1
Simms, T.	21	9		Lloyd	1		
Noon	13	6		Rae	2		
Pitchford	5			Gaskell	5	1	
Robinson, G.	19	1		Platt	3		
McIntyre	20	2		Crowther	1		
Goddard, P.	16			Wood	1		
Bott	21	1		Johnson	1		
Parker, D.	10	2		Fisher	5		
Smethurst	14	1		Elliott	4		
Mumberson	16	3		Ogden	4		
Nestor	11	1		Hill E.	1		

## FIXTURES AND RESULTS — SEASON 1962/63

OLDHAM'S SCORE GIVEN FIRST

Date	Opponents	Grd.	Rslt.	Date	Opponents	Grd.	Rslt.
Aug. 18	WHITEHAVEN	Away	8-18	26	SWINTON	Home	
21	BARROW	Home	17-0	29	WARRINGTON	Home	
25	LEIGH	Home	16-10	Jan. 5	ST. HELENS	Away	
28	ROCHDALE	Away	2-10	12	HALIFAX	Home	
Sept. 1	WHITEHAVEN	Home	40-9	19	FEATHERSTONE R.	Away	
8	Lancs. County Cup Competition			26	HULL K. R.	Home	
15	BARROW	Away	15-13	Feb. 2	WIDNES	Away	
22	ROCHDALE H.	Home	22-7	9	R.L. Challenge Cup 1st Round		
29	LEIGH	Away	17-24	16	HULL	Away	
Oct. 6	WORKINGTON T.	Away	15-44	23	ST. HELENS	Home	
13	HUDDERSFIELD	Home	9-8	Mar. 2	R.L. Challenge Cup 2nd Round		
20	LEEDS	Away	5-23	9	FEATHERSTONE R.	Home	
27	WAKEFIELD T.	Home	3-15	16	WARRINGTON	Away	
Nov. 3	WIGAN	Away	14-14	23	HULL K. R.	Away	
10	WORKINGTON T.	Home	Post.	30	WIDNES	Home	
17	HUDDERSFIELD	Away	5-6	Apr. 6	BRAMLEY	Home	
24	LEEDS	Home	8-10	12	SWINTON	Away	
Dec. 1	WAKEFIELD T.	Away	19-12	15	HULL	Home	
8	WIGAN	Home	0-19	20	BRAMLEY	Away	
15	CASTLEFORD	Home		27	CASTLEFORD	Away	
22	HALIFAX	Away					

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