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## HULL KINGSTON ROVERS VERSUS OLDHAM

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE—FIRST DIVISION

SATURDAY, 23rd MARCH, 1963

Craven Park, Hull

Kick-off 3 p.m.

DIRECTORS :—*Chairman* : Mr. W. Spaven. *Vice-Chairman* : Mr. G. R. Chester.

Messrs. F. J. Alford, C. Bubbings, A. Draper, L. Harris, P. Johnson, W. Land, F. Parkinson

SECRETARY :—Mr. T. C. Williams. Tel. 74648 (Ground).

RUGBY LEAGUE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE :—Mr. W. Spaven.

YORKSHIRE COUNTY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE : Mr. G. R. Chester.

YORKSHIRE SENIOR COMPETITION REPRESENTATIVE :—Mr. L. Harris.

HULL & DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE :—Mr. F. J. Alford.

HON. SURGEON :—Mr. J. C. Coates. HON. CLUB DOCTOR :—Dr. S. T. Lunt.

COACH :—Mr. Colin Hutton. TRAINING STAFF :—Mr. J. Williams, Mr. W. McWatt.

**EASTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS**  
**1962-1963**

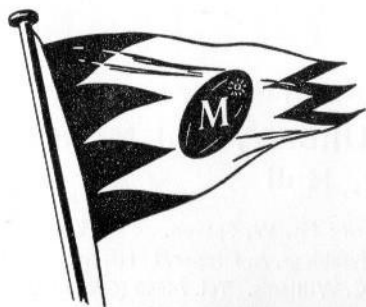


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The five periods are: AUGUST 17 to SEPTEMBER 22 · SEPTEMBER 24 to NOVEMBER 17  
NOVEMBER 19 to JANUARY 5 ·

The last two periods are now from January 7th to March 30th and April 1st to end of season.

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### OUR VISITORS

We extend a welcome this afternoon to the officials and players from Oldham who, unfortunately for them, at present occupy the position at the foot of Division One.

Not that that should mislead anyone into thinking that they won't present stern opposition, even though, before the recent freeze up, they had gained only five league points from 11 games. After all, only 10 points separate the team in second place from Oldham at the bottom, and since the restart of fixtures their results have been impressive.

They slithered to a 3—0 defeat at League leaders Widnes, won the first round R.L. Cup tie 18—10 at Leigh, thrashed Featherstone 26—2 in a league game, and capped it all last Saturday by beating Workington, who were strongly fancied to go to Wembley, 13—0 on the Cumbrians own ground.

Several changes have taken place recently in the playing formation. Player-coach **Frank Pitchford** moved to Wigan to mark the end of an era. Centre **Keith Holden** joined Workington. On the arrivals side **John Donovan** is a new centre from St. Helens, signed in part exchange for prop **Peter Goddard**, and second row man **Harry Major** came from Warrington as part of the Holden deal. **Don Platt**, former Wigan, Batley and Leigh forward, was signed to marshal the pack.

Three "stars" who remain are Yorkshire off half and skipper **Alan Kellett**, Lancashire winger **Trevor Simms** and Cumbrian prop **Geoff Robinson**. Kellett has a fresh scrum half partner in "Ginger" **Pycroft**, whilst **John Noon** seems to have made a big success of his move from centre to full back.

Oldham have found a fresh surge of spirit and optimism which could well lift them from the bottom rung, so another close encounter is in prospect this afternoon.

**Last Week's Match**—Our 2nd Round R.L. tie with Featherstone proved to be another pulsating and dour cup tie with plenty of thrills and heart-weakening suspense, until the last few minutes. The final result was a tribute to our splendid team spirit and superb fitness.

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### RE-ARRANGED MATCHES

A fresh date will have to be found for our visit to the Boulevard, and our fixture list now bears little resemblance to that originally published. It is now as follows:—

#### HOME

Friday, April 12th Hull (11 a.m.)  
Monday, April 15th Wakefield  
Saturday, April 20th Warrington  
Monday, May 6th Castleford (6-30 p.m.)  
Wednesday, May 15th Wigan (6-30 p.m.)  
Friday, May 24th Leeds (6-30 p.m.)

#### To be arranged—

Workington

#### AWAY

Saturday, March 30th Castleford  
Saturday April 6th Widnes  
(R.L. Cup 3rd Round)  
Saturday April 13th Wakefield  
Saturday, April 27th Huddersfield  
Saturday, May 4th Wigan  
Saturday, May 18th Workington  
Tuesday, May 21st Oldham (7 p.m.)  
Wednesday, May 29th St. Helens  
(6-30 p.m.)

#### To be arranged—

Leeds, Featherstone, Hull

Our next **Home Match**, therefore, is the visit of Hull R.F.C. on Good Friday morning.

**Test Match Honours**—We are delighted that our young hooker **Peter Flanagan** retains his place in the Great Britain Test team, versus France at Wigan on 3rd April. **John Taylor** is again named as a "shadow" choice.

**Third Round Tie**—A trip to league leaders Widnes is a tough assignment indeed, but we were unlucky to lose there in a league game recently and, everything considered, we are looking forward to the match with every confidence.

Vocal support from our fans worked wonders last season, **Let's hear it again!** For details of travelling arrangements see "Supporters' Club Notes."

**Injuries**—**Harry Poole** enjoyed his training run-out last week, and now looks forward to his Tuesday training sessions. There is no further news of **Alan Lockwood** who is having treatment daily, and giving himself plenty of exercise.

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### SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

#### BUS AND TRAIN TRIPS—WIDNES

It had to happen, an away draw at last, but after the team's great performance against Featherstone, I feel confident we shall do another Swinton over the Chemics.

**Bus and Train trips**—we have arranged these as follows:— **Bus leaves Craven Park at 9 a.m., Saturday, 6th April**, fare 13/6d. (We suggest you pack a lunch to avoid lengthy stops). **Train leaves Paragon Station at 10-20 a.m.** arrives Widnes North 1-30 p.m. Departs Widnes North 5-30 p.m. arrives back in Hull at 8-45 p.m. **Tickets can be obtained from the Supporters' Club Secretary, Mr. Renshaw**, or from behind the Club Bar. (Times of trains are subject to final arrangements by British Railways).

Looking to the future, you may be interested in the plans we have for this years "Robin," the Supporters' Club Year Book. Over 1,500 copies were sold of the 1962 edition and the new one coming out packs even more interest. There are more photographs, many more pages, with new interesting features. It all adds up to a treat in store for all really enthusiastic Rovers' supporters. The new "Robin" will be on sale early in September.

The Annual General Meeting of the Supporters' Club takes place in the Clubhouse on Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963. It's your Club so why not attend and voice your praise or criticism of the many things which are done.

Today is a good time to drop those remaining Grand National Draw Tickets into the club, in time for the draw this Tuesday evening, 26th March. It looks like being a record effort by our members.

"Player of the Year" Vote today in the Clubhouse—have you voted.

Congratulations to our keen long distance supporters, i.e., Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Barker, an old player of the twenties, who travel every week from Chester-le-Street, Durham, and does the return journey straight after the match. Also Ken Dixon, a Hull man, travels from Skegness, and another 80 year old Roverite, Mr. Hobman from Barton-on-Humber. Well done!

G. MOORE, Assistant Secretary

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1—KELLETT

Threequarters—

2—PAUL  
3—MAJOR  
4—BLACKMORE  
5—HARRIS

Half Backs—

6—ELLIOTT  
7—BUNTING

Forwards—

8—COVERDALE  
9—DRAKE  
10—TYSON  
11—MURPHY  
12—TAYLOR  
13—CHAMBERLAIN

Referee—

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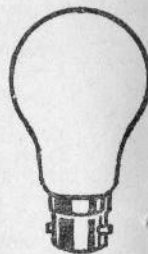
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Threequarters—

2—DONOVAN  
3—FISHER  
4—SMETHURST  
5—SIMMS

Half Backs—

6—NESTOR  
7—GASKELL

Forwards—

8—MUMBERSON  
9—MCINTYRE  
10—ROBINSON  
11—MAJOR  
12—BOTT  
13—PARKER

Touch Judges—

J. S. PHILLIPS  
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It is a mystery to me why pros and cons cannot be "weighed up" by lots of readers. A writer can be thrown to the lions just for one remark in a well balanced report.

Not very long ago, I found that one official was often critical of my work. I spent a lot of time trying to understand his viewpoints. He was an ardent club man, so much so that whatsoever happened elsewhere had not the slightest interest to him. Came the day when the team got a real thrashing—and it was just that. The side was in line for the championship.

My report duly appeared in type and there were no punches pulled. I had, before the report was published, offered to devote as much space as possible for the critical officials' comments. The manuscript, like that of an immortal composer, must have been unfinished.

### **"BOTHER"**

It may be thought that because a team is doing very well and perhaps carrying all before it, that a writer following that side has an easy task. Not a bit of it. Followers of the team, have been brought up to expect a standard, and if the side, or players, fall below that mark, then there is "bother in the camp." A writer cannot have favourites. He has got to be fair, and he earns prestige from the main body of supporters even if there are a few who would be ready to burn him at the stake.

Cut comment and criticism from sports pages, and what do we get—irate readers who take on the mantle of the professionals—and write to this or that publication complaining about lack of guts in present day journalism. From the day we come to get our first assignment in the office, we are drilled and grilled into ethics which puts British prose on a higher plane than any in the world. You are taught to be almost an unbelievable mortal with oversized ears, hawk eyes, tough skin and wits which would shame a wide boy. But above all we do our best for our fellowmen, even though you find it hard to believe.

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