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October	4	to	November	27
November	29	to	January	22
January	24	to	March	19
March	21	to	May	21



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PROGRAMME

OLDHAM

Rugby League Football Club



RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Northern League Championship Match

OLDHAM

v.

SWINTON

Monday, 27th December, 1965

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

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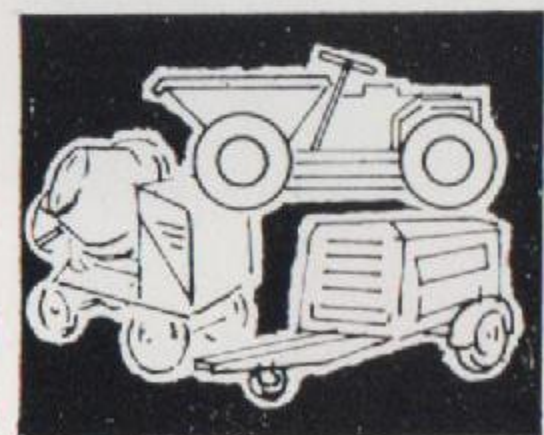
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Aerial photograph of Ground on Front Cover by courtesy of Airviews (Manchester) Ltd.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS

Firstly, on behalf of the President, Committee, Players and Staff of Oldham Football Club, I would like to wish everyone the Compliments of the Season, and hope that 1966 will bring good health and prosperity to one and all.

I am sure that everyone will be hoping that 1966 will be a successful year in the Rugby League game as well, and to see the missing thousands once more returning to those terraces.

This will only be achieved if the players play attractive football and not the 'head down' rugby we have witnessed and read about far too often in 1965.

Bradford Northern have come up with the idea of playing summer rugby, and a good number of people are in favour of giving this a trial. The Oldham Committee have not yet considered this proposal but no doubt there will be mixed feelings around the Committee table when it is discussed.

WIDNES'S VISIT

Only a mere 2,700 people turned up last Saturday week to watch what appeared to be an attractive fixture when we entertained Widnes at Watersheddings. The 'Chemics' had already gained a mammoth victory against us at Naughton Park and our own team were all out for revenge. The rush to buy Christmas presents no doubt hit the gate, although the inclement weather and the doubt in a number of people's minds as to whether the match would be played certainly created havoc with the gate.

It was a very good game to watch and Oldham, particularly, handled the ball well and on a dry day, I am sure, would have scored a lot more points than the 15 they did score during the 76 minutes of play.

The referee had no option but to abandon the game, in fact, he did exceptionally well to keep a check on the game for as long as he did. As soon as the floodlights were switched on they reflected onto the waterlogged pitch, and with 26 mud-splashed players all looking the same, one could agree that the referee had no alternative. The score of 15-3 however will stand.

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WELCOME TO THE 'LIONS'

Today we take great pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to players, officials and supporters of the Swinton Club and we all hope that a fast, entertaining game will be witnessed in this Boxing Day encounter.

Swinton come with a reputation of being crowd entertainers and we hope today will be no exception.

At full-back the 'Lions' have Ken Gowers, who has won County and International honours galore and a lot of people rate him as the only 'cert' for the forthcoming Australian Tour.

Johnny Speed and John Stopford will be occupying the wing positions and both men are dangerous when in possession. Playing inside Speed will be Bob Fleet, who missed last week's match because of injury, and Alan Buckley will be partner to Stopford as he was in the second Test Match against New Zealand at Bradford.

Austin Rhodes has now recovered from an ankle injury which he sustained against Oldham in the T.V. Floodlight Competition at Station Road in October, and will probably get the stand-off spot despite a challenge from Billy 'Daz' Davies, who has deputised well in the absence of Rhodes. Transfer-listed Graham Williams will be at No. 7.

Swinton have a very formidable pack and our 'six' will have to play as they did against Leeds and Widnes recently if they are to get on top.

We can only hope that today's game will be a pleasure to watch for what we hope will be a large holiday crowd; both teams are certainly capable of fast and enterprising football.

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TODAY'S REFEREE

Today's referee is Mr. R. Nealons from Barrow-in-Furness. I refer to him particularly today because it is his first senior game at Watersheddings. For some years he has been a competent Lancashire Combination official and received numerous favourable reports which put him on the grade two list at the beginning of the season. Our congratulations to Mr. Nealons and we hope he has a long and successful career in Senior Rugby League.

CHRISTMAS DRAW, 1965

Most of the prizes for this draw have been claimed but one or two are still at the Pavilion awaiting collection. Would anybody holding a winning ticket please collect their prize as soon as possible. A winning list can be seen on the notice board in the Pavilion.

LEIGH v OLDHAM

This match will be played tomorrow evening at 'Hilton Park' with a 7.15 p.m. kick-off. We hope a lot of supporters will be making the journey to Leigh to cheer the lads on to what we hope will be another victory. It will be a hard game but if we reproduce the form we have shown in the last two games there is no reason why we should not return to Oldham with two very valuable League points.

Incidentally, the return clash with Leigh will be played on January 21st at 7.15 p.m. instead of January 22nd. This change has been made to avoid a clash with Oldham Athletic's match against First Division West Ham in the 3rd Round of the F.A. Cup at Boundary Park.

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- 10—BURNS, A.
- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—WHITEHEAD, S.
- 13—PARKER, D.

Substitutes

- 14—A. N. OTHER
- 15—IRVING, R. A.

Referee :

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- 7—WILLIAMS, G.
- 8—HALLIWELL, K.
- 9—ISAAC, J.
- 10—BATE, H.
- 11—REES, G.
- 12—CUMMINGS, M.
- 13—ROBINSON, D.

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- 14—WHITEHEAD, D.
- 15—SIMPSON, B.

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Doncaster	v Hull	Salford	v Barrow
Featherstone R.	v Castleford	Warrington.	v Leigh
Hull K.R.	v York	Wigan	v St. Helens
Keighley	v Bramley	Workington	v Whitehaven

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Next Matches at Watersheddings

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1966

OLDHAM "A" v. ROCHDALE HORNETS "A"

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8th

OLDHAM v. ST. HELENS

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

Please Note "A" Team match at Widnes postponed

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FIXTURES FOR 1965-66

First Team

Date 1965	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1966	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 21	(S) Warrington	Home	W 26-14	Jan. 1	(S) Hunslet	Away	
" 25	(W) Whitehaven	Away	W 12-0	" 8	(S) St. Helens	Home	
" 28	(S) Wigan	Away	W 23-8	" 15	(S) Barrow	Away	
" 31	(Tu) New Zealand	Home	L 2-5	" 21	(F) Leigh	Home	
Sept. 4	(S) Blackpool Borough	Home	D 4-4	" 29	(S) Widnes	Away	
" 6	(M) Rochdale Hornets	Home	W 12-5	Feb. 5	(S) Halifax	Home	
" 11	(S) Barrow (L.C. 1st Rd.)	Home	W 21-14	" 12	(S) Workington Town	Home	
" 13	(M) Blackpool Borough	Away	W 13-2	" 19	(S) Halifax	Away	
" 16	(Th) Wigan (L.C. 2nd Rd.)	Home	W 28-13	" 26	(S) 1st Round R.L. Cup		
" 18	(S) Workington Town	Away	L 7-28	Mar. 5	(S)		
" 25	(S) Salford	Home	W 12-8	" 12	(S) Liverpool City	Away	
Oct. 1	(F) St. Helens	Away	L 17-23	" 19	(S) 2nd Round R.L. Cup		
" 6	(W) Warrington (L.C. Semi-final)	Away	L 10-21	" 26	(S) Whitehaven	Home	
" 9	(S) Huddersfield	Home	W 11-4	Apl. 8	(F) Swinton	Away	
" 16	(S)			" 9	(S) Barrow	Home	
" 19	(Tu) Swinton (Floodlit C.)	Away	L 5-21	" 11	(M) Rochdale Hornets	Away	
" 22	(F) Wigan	Home	L 6-16				
" 28	(Th) Widnes	Away	L 5-49				
" 30	(S)						
Nov. 6	(S) Liverpool City	Home	D 7-7				
" 13	(S) Salford	Away	L 11-12				
" 20	(S) Leeds	Home	L 2-10				
" 25	(Th) Castleford	Home	L 4-6				
" 27	(S) Huddersfield	Away	L 6-27				
Dec. 4	(S)						
" 11	(S) Leeds	Away	W 13-10				
" 18	(S) Widnes	Home	W 15-3				
" 27	(M) Swinton	Home					
" 28	(Tu) Leigh	Away					

Second Team

LANCS. COUNTY COMBINATION LEAGUE

Date 1965	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1966	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 21	(S) Rochdale Hornets	Away	W 26-7	Jan. 1	(S) Rochdale Hornets	Home	
" 28	(S) Blackpool Borough	Home	W 38-11	" 8	(S) St. Helens	Away	
Sept. 4	(S) Blackpool Borough	Away	W 51-13	" 15	(S) Whitehaven	Home	
" 11	(S) Barrow	Away	L 8-24	" 22	(S) Leigh	Away	
" 18	(S) Workington Town (1st Round L.C.C.S.)	Home	L 5-14	" 29	(S) Widnes	Home	
" 25	(S) Salford	Away	W 12-6	Feb. 12	(S) Workington Town	Away	
Oct. 2	(S) St. Helens	Home	L 10-13	" 19	(S) Barrow	Home	
" 9	(S) Warrington	Away	L 2-35	" 26	(S) Liverpool City	Home	
" 16	(S) Swinton	Away		" 19	(S) Wigan	Home	
" 28	(Th) Warrington	Home	L 9-10	" 26	(S) Whitehaven	Away	
Nov. 6	(S)			Apl. 2	(S) Leigh	Home	
" 13	(S) Salford	Home	W 17-7	" 9	(S) Barrow	Away	
Dec. 4	(S) Wigan	Away					
" 18	(S) Widnes	Away					
" 25	(S) Swinton	Home	P'oned				

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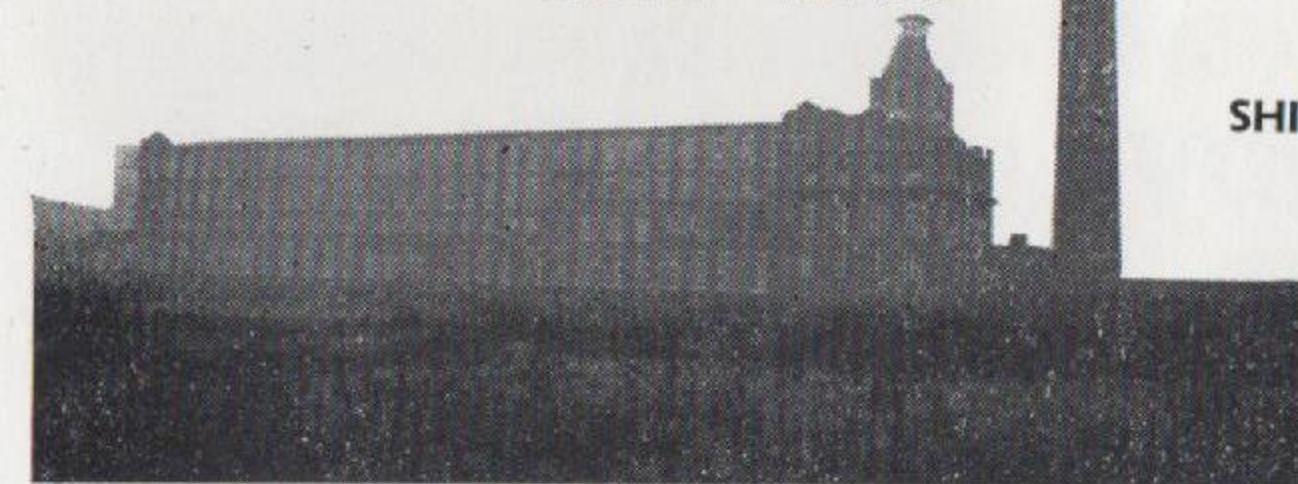
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