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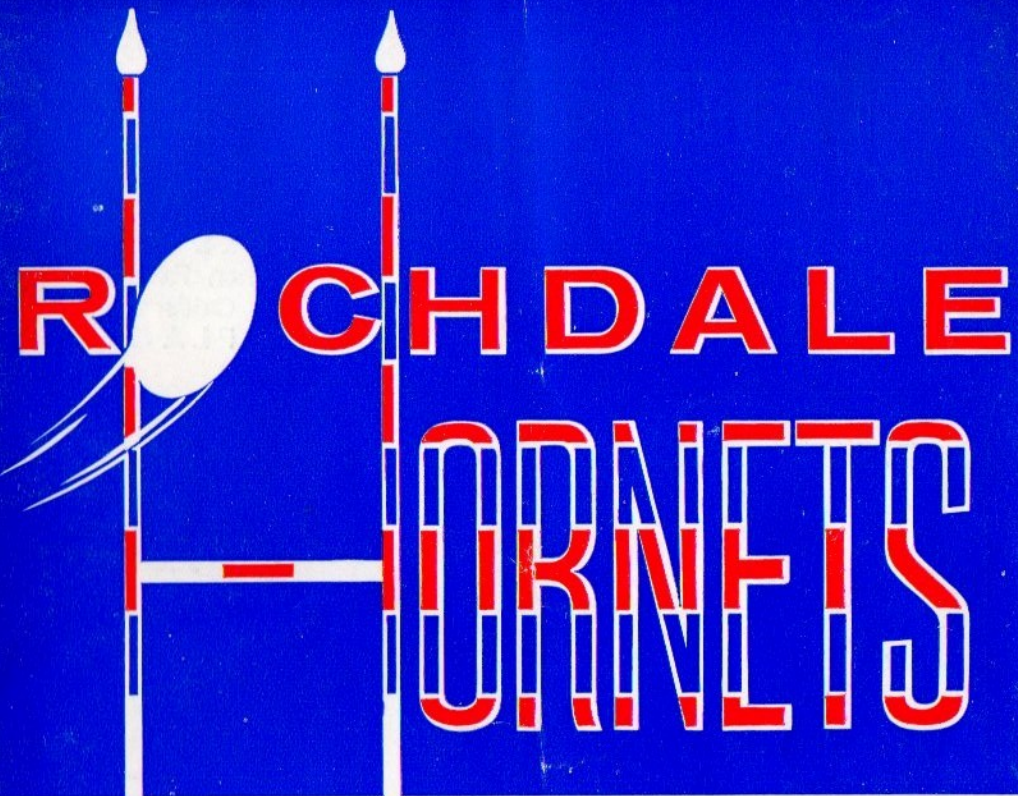
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L. ASHWORTH J. BOWDLER J. HEYWORTH H. W. LORD J. POSTLETHWAITE

Secretary : F. KERSHAW

Club Doctor :

Team Coach : J. NOON

Physiotherapist : F. NAVESEY

'A' Team Coach : D. SCHOFIELD

CLUB NOTES

This afternoon's "Derby" against Oldham all but brings to an end a season in which Hornets have been about as unpredictable as the weather.

The season opened without any great promise or hope. Yet within three months the Hornets were involved in a triumphant run to the Lancashire Cup Final. Then followed the disastrous New Year slump in which thirteen games off the reel were lost. Such are the vagaries of football.

There is little doubt that an abnormal crop of serious injuries contributed to Hornets' surprising and disappointing decline. In a grim fortnight in mid-January the team was decimated by the loss for the remainder of the season of forwards Jim Measures, Voate Drui and Apesai Toga, and utility back Joe Chamberlain. Heaped on top of that load of trouble and worry was wingman Mike Ratu's broken leg in the Cup-tie at Featherstone.

Few teams can afford the complete loss of five experienced first teamers in such a short space of time—least of all Hornets.

But even in the midst of disappointment and despondency there could be a glimmer of hope for next season.

The heavy casualty list has, of necessity, forced the directors to pitch some of the "A" team youngsters into first team football rather sooner than they possibly intended. Far from letting the side down, these young players such as Mike Crocker, David Taylor, Harry Mitton and Mike McGuigan, have not only shown courage but also quite a degree of promise.

With any luck at all Hornets have the makings of a good class pair of centres in Crocker and Taylor, neither of whom is yet nineteen. And assuming Peter Birchall and Kevin Ashcroft have not left, and assuming also that Toga will be available, the pack should be at full strength next season.

So the overall picture may not be as gloomy as it presently appears, though the directors ought to have in mind one absolute priority for next season.

Somehow and from somewhere they must find a half-back. A good attacking out-half could make an enormous difference to Hornets style of play and to the results achieved.

Today's game v. Oldham should, weather permitting, bring down the curtain on yet another season at the Athletic Grounds, an eventful term which we started off with a bang, and to the team's credit, managed to win our way to the Lancashire Cup Final. Since then, unfortunately, the pendulum swung and with mount-

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ing injuries which crippled the team's performances, we had a run of 11 games without success—which ended when we beat Leigh handsomely last Wednesday.

In bringing the season to an end we wish to thank each and everyone who has assisted in any way throughout the year—the Supporters Club, Pools workers, Programme sellers, tea room, tea bar and bar staff, advertisers and ground staff, and finally you—the general public.

(The "A" team still have a few games to fit in which appear in the fixtures at the end of the programme).

ARE YOU A GOLFER

The Annual Golf Competition for the Rugby League Golfing Trophy presented by the late Major C. W. Robinson of York will be played at Grange Park Golf Club, St. Helens on Wednesday, 4th May, 1966.

Any person who has played Rugby League Football at school or with a club, who has been an official connected with the game in any capacity, or any journalist who has written about the game, and any person who is a shareholder or a full member of a Rugby League Club, is eligible to compete. Attractive prizes are offered. This is a social occasion as well as a pleasant day's golf.

Competitors should write for application forms to the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7, before 20th April, 1966.

W. FALLOWFIELD, Secretary.

CUP FINAL TICKETS

Standing enclosure tickets (under cover) at 5/- each are being sold at the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. Stamped and addressed envelopes should be sent with applications. Tickets are going faster this year than for several seasons and supporters wishing to see the match are strongly advised to book their tickets NOW.

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(Not including Good Friday's game)

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Birchall	34	2	—	Pritchard	21	—	11
Baxter	30	3	—	Gaskell	9	2	—
Chamberlain	24	1	—	Measures	6	1	—
Ashcroft	30	1	—	Hope	10	2	—
Unsworth	32	4	—	Ravouvou	14	—	—
Fishwick	29	1	—	Fairclough	6	1	—
Noon	29	4	23	Williams	5	—	—
Toga	21	2	—	Butler	2	—	—
Drui	20	—	—	Crocker	9	2	—
Gregory	21	—	—	Jones	2	—	—
Garforth	24	2	—	Kettleton	4	—	—
Starkey	25	9	45	Walsh	2	—	—
Parr	22	1	—	Lewis	4	—	—
Pratt	22	2	—	Mitton	5	—	—
Owen	23	1	—	Hindley	2	—	—
Miller	18	2	—	Taylor	3	—	—
Ratu	15	5	—	McGuigan	2	—	—

This list includes selection as substitute—League and Lancashire Cup games only

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Chairman	• •	H. LAYCOCK (1965-1966)
Hon. Secretary	• •	K. ALLEN, 5 Heather Bank, Blackstone Edge Rd., Littleborough (Tel. 79368)
Hon. Treasurer	• •	R. D. FLETCHER, 12 Margaret Avenue, Rochdale. (Tel. 48405)
Hon. Bar Secretary	• •	C. IBBERSON, 8 Charlotte Street, Rochdale (Tel. 48203).

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

AS THE SEASON ENDS . . .

Once again the season draws to a close, and the writer, for the twentieth time since the last war, has the task of summing-up.

The Supporters' Club — despite the loss of dance revenue, this means of money-raising having almost disappeared — has had a constructive and successful season. The total sum of £1,050 has been given to the Hornets from our general account, and we have backed up those charged with administering the club's affairs whenever we have been able to.

We have enjoyed excellent and pleasant co-operation from Mr. Fred Kershaw, the Hornets' secretary, and we had tremendous help from Mr. Hugh Muldowney, our groundsman.

The present office and Athletic Grounds staff set-up is perhaps as happy from our point of view as it ever has been, and we are most grateful for what they have done for the Supporters' Club.

We had a season which commenced with great promise, and then because of serious injuries to many players a most disappointing spell set in.

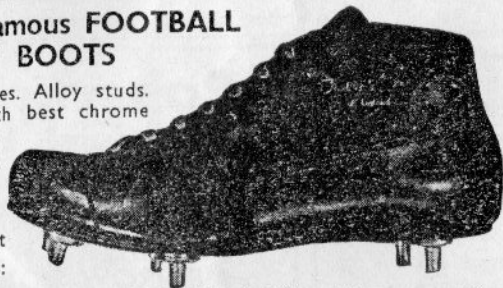
The worst feature of our late-season failures — or at least of the team as a whole — was the poor performance on the field of play. The subsequent criticisms of the administration were a natural outcome from disgruntled supporters — all, of course, entitled to their opinions but few, unfortunately, having anything personally constructive to offer.

Whatever disappointment followers of the club have suffered it has been felt doubly by those of us who work each week to keep the Hornets alive, and it is no fun to take a drubbing on and off the field week by week.

To the loyal ones — and without them the Hornets could not survive — we once again say a big thank you.

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Our Monday evening lottery draws have been very pleasant social occasions, enjoyed by all who attend week by week, and this effort remains the life-blood of the Hornets. We hope that through the summer the same interest will be shown.

Our own committee has been strengthened during the season, although unfortunately because of ill-health Mr. Harrison Laycock has not been able to enjoy to the full his term as chairman. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Ken Allen has settled down as an excellent hon. secretary, and he has several ideas for increasing our revenue — an item which will be discussed at the next Supporters' Club' committee meeting.

R.D.F.

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FIXTURES FOR 1965-66

First Team

Date 1965	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1966	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 21 (S)	York	Away	W 12-6	Jan. 1 (S)	Huddersfield	Home	W 10-7
" 24 (Tu)	St. Helens	Home	L 9-17	" 8 (S)	Workington Town	Home	L 4-8
" 28 (S)	Keighley	Home	W 17-3	" 15 (S)	Wigan	Home	P'poned
Sept. 4 (S)	Swinton	Home	L 2-6	" 22 (S)	Warrington	Away	P'poned
" 6 (M)	Oldham	Away	L 5-12	" 29 (S)	Warrington	Home	L 8-16
" 11 (S)	Blackpool (Lancs. Cup 1st Round)	Away	W 14-9	Feb. 5 (S)	Huddersfield	Away	L 3-6
" 15 (W)	Swinton (Lancs. Cup 2nd Round)	Home	W 4-0	" 14 (M)	Widnes	Away	L 8-25
" 18 (S)	Blackpool Borough	Home	W 9-3	" 19 (S)	Salford	Home	L 4-13
" 23 (Th)	Leigh (Lancs. Cup Semi-Final)	Home	W 19-0	" 26 (S)	Featherstone Rovers (1st Rd. R.L. Cup)	Away	L 6-22
" 25 (S)	Liverpool City	Away	L 7-14	Mar. 1 (Tu)	Wigan	Home	L 5-35
Oct. 2 (S)	Barrow	Home	W 21-7	" 5 (S)	Swinton	Away	L 9-19
" 9 (S)	Workington Town	Away	L 4-5	" 8 (Tu)	Widnes	Home	L 12-19
" 16 (S)	New Zealand	Home	L 4-10	" 12 (S)	Doncaster	Home	L 8-23
" 23 (S)	Whitehaven	Away	L 7-8	" 19 (S)	2nd Round R.L. Cup	Away	L 2-12
" 29 (F)	Warrington (at St Helens) (Lancs. Cup Final)	L	5-16	" 26 (S)	Barrow	Home	W 15-2
Nov. 8 (M)	Leigh	Away	L 8-10	" 30 (W)	Leigh (6.10)	Away	P'poned
" 13 (S)	Whitehaven	Home	W 15-4	Apr. 2 (S)	Wigan	Home	
" 19 (F)	St. Helens	Away	L 7-19	" 8 (F)	York	Home	
" 27 (S)	Leigh	Home	P'poned	" 9 (S)	Doncaster	Away	
Dec. 4 (S)	Salford	Away	L 9-10	" 11 (M)	Oldham	Home	
" 11 (S)	Liverpool City	Home	W 20-9				
" 18 (S)	Keighley	Away	L 0-2				
" 27 (M)	Blackpool Borough	Away	W 12-3				

Second Team

Date 1965	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1966	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 21 (S)	Oldham	Home	L 7-26	Jan. 1 (S)	Oldham	Away	L 2-18
" 28 (S)	Leigh	Away	L 5-22	" 8 (S)	Workington Town	Away	W 12-9
Sept. 3 (F)	Swinton (7.30 p.m.)	Away	L 5-22	" 15 (S)	Wigan	Away	P'poned
" 11 (S)	Blackpool Borough (1st Round L.C.C.S.)	Home	W 18-7	" 22 (S)	Warrington	Home	P'poned
" 18 (S)	Blackpool Borough	Away	W 9-8	" 29 (S)	Warrington	Away	L 5-50
" 20 (M)	Warrington (2nd Round L.C.C.S.)	Away	L 2-35	Feb. 12 (S)	Widnes	Home	P'poned
" 25 (S)	Liverpool City	Home	L 3-6	" 19 (S)	Salford	Away	P'poned
Oct. 2 (S)	Barrow	Away	L 2-6	Mar. 5 (S)	Swinton	Home	W 13-7
" 9 (S)	Workington Town	Home	W 14-8	" 12 (S)	St. Helens	Away	L 7-22
" 16 (S)	Liverpool City	Away	P'poned	" 18 (F)	Salford	Away	L 2-13
" 23 (S)	Whitehaven	Home	W 12-8	" 26 (S)	Barrow	Home	L 0-20
" 25 (M)	Widnes	Away	L 7-20	Apr. 2 (S)	Wigan	Home	P'poned
Nov. 6 (S)	Leigh	Home	L 5-29	" 9 (S)	Warrington	Home	
" 13 (S)	Whitehaven	Away	L 9-28	" 16 (S)	Widnes	Home	
" 20 (S)	St. Helens	Home	W 15-10	" 23 (S)	Blackpool	Home	
" 27 (S)	Liverpool	Away	W 10-6	" 27 (W)	Wigan (6.30)	Away	
Dec. 4 (S)	Salford	Home	P'poned				
" 18 (S)	Swinton	Home	W 9-				
" 27 (M)	Blackpool Borough	Home	P'poned				

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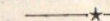
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