



# MACKESON

## Rugby League Contest

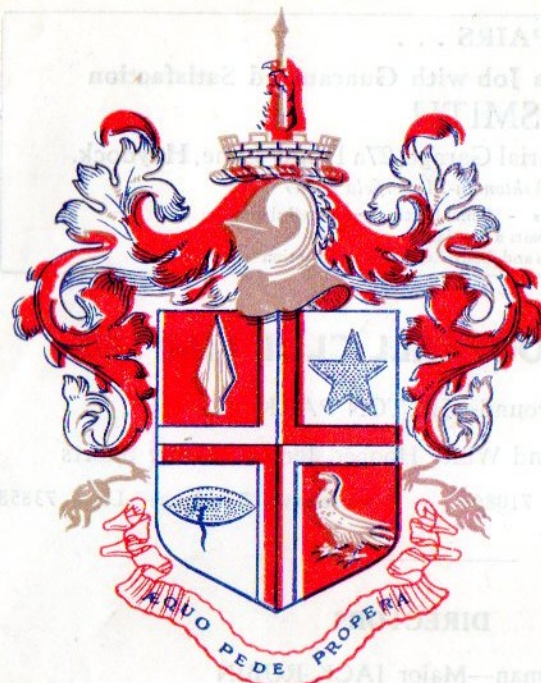
Organised by Whitbread & Co. Ltd.  
in association with The Rugby Football League

The Mackeson Rugby League Contest Trophy and a cheque for 200 guineas goes to the team with the best scoring record for the season. Cheques for 100 guineas and 50 guineas go to the runners-up.

The Champions' Flag and inscribed silver tankards are awarded to the top scoring team in each of five periods during the season.

### THE 5 PERIODS ARE:

August	6	to	September 24
September	26	to	November 19
November	21	to	January 14
January	16	to	March 11
March	13	to	April 29



Leigh  
Football  
Club Ltd.

Headquarters :  
Hilton Park

Rugby League Fixture

## LEIGH V. OLDHAM

Wednesday, 14th December, 1966

Kick-Off 7.30 p.m.

Official Programme

6D.





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## TWO CLASHES WITH OLDHAM

Oldham, who are visitors to Hilton Park tonight, will be our opponents on Saturday next at Watersheddings. The reason why we are meeting Oldham next Saturday is because the game had to be switched from October 29th as the East Lancashire club were engaged in the final of the Lancashire Challenge Cup Competition. The Oldham team is having a reasonable season and at the present time they are ninth in the table.

They were most unlucky in the recent floodlit competition, for they actually beat Widnes at Naughton Park, but did not have enough points in hand to go forward to the semi-final. They lost the Lancashire Cup final by a matter of three points and recently they have given some satisfactory shows despite the fact that they have been handicapped through injury.

It is interesting to see that Dave Parker, their loose forward, is now able to play after suffering a bad injury at the start of the season. But in last Saturday's game against Barrow our ex forward, Geoff Fletcher, was at number 13 for Oldham and played very well indeed. Oldham are well known for their strong pack. They have such good men as Ken Wilson, Jack Hill, Bob Irving, Mick Rooney and Charlie Bott, while their young hooker, Kevin Taylor, is particularly good in the loose.

### LOCAL LINKS

Brian Curry was previously with Huddersfield, and succeeded another ex Huddersfield player in Frank Dyson, who is the club coach. On his day Curry can win a match by goal kicking alone. Mike Elliott, the coloured winger, and the centres might be Peter Holroyd and John Donovan. The latter was formerly at St. Helens. Also figuring in various back positions is Stan McLeod, previously with Wigan. Tom Warburton is the ex Tyldesley Rugby Union player and his partner Tom Canning comes from the Newton-le-Willows area. Everything points to a rattling good match.

Much has been said and written about our game against St. Helens last week when we were only beaten by four points—two goals. In this game we were given no opportunities to get within striking distance of the St. Helens posts with goal kicks.

The game was played under terrible conditions and it was surprising that interest was maintained right to the end. There were one or two 'incidents' and Len Killeen, the St. Helens winger, was sent off the field. In marked contrast to the Knowsley Road ground, the pitch at Hilton Park has not suffered quite the same through the heavy rain. No doubt we have had as much water on the ground as the Saints, but it would appear that our playing area has better powers of recovery. All teams coming to Leigh praise our ground and the many facilities.

### GOOD RUN ENDS

So after our good run in which we won five games in succession, we have lost at home to Huddersfield and St. Helens away. There will have to be an all-out effort if we are to reach the top 16, but we feel that we can achieve our objective. The team spirit is very good and we have every faith in our coaching staff. Unfortunately we have had more than our share of injuries.

Wing man Rodney Tickle who has an ankle injury has been working in the Birmingham area but we hope that he will be available soon. As far as Joe Walsh is concerned he is unable to play because of a toe complaint. This injury is very slow to heal. Brian Shillinglaw is having treatment at hospital and the injury may not be quite as serious as was first thought.

Tony Leadbetter has not got a broken leg. The injury he received in a recent match has turned out to be a severe bruising of the leg but he will be out of action for a number of weeks.

Now for the brighter side. Mick Martyn, our international forward, is to be married early in the New Year. There will be a large crowd of well wishers at the Church and we all tender to Mick and his bride our best wishes for the future. There is no doubt whatsoever that he has been the most popular player in Leigh since the war. We also hope to see Mick appearing in first team colours many times this season.

## RUGBY LEAGUE TABLE TO DATE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Leeds	18	16	0	2	400	195	32
Hull K. R.	18	15	0	3	379	183	30
S. Helens	19	13	2	4	347	223	28
Castleford	19	13	0	6	316	224	26
Bradford Northern	20	13	0	7	305	231	26
Salford	20	12	0	8	244	259	24
Workington	19	12	0	7	307	206	24
Wakefield	18	12	0	6	302	207	24
Halifax	17	11	0	6	334	246	22
OLDHAM	17	11	0	6	298	199	22
Widnes	18	9	3	6	238	200	21
Warrington	19	10	1	8	257	278	21
Hull	18	9	2	7	283	246	20
Wigan	19	10	0	9	295	286	20
Swinton	20	9	1	10	282	256	19
Featherstone	17	9	1	7	237	207	19
Huddersfield	19	9	0	10	254	210	18
LEIGH	18	9	1	9	213	238	18
Rochdale	19	8	1	10	224	275	17
Barrow	18	7	2	9	276	223	16
York	19	7	0	12	257	322	14
Dewsbury	19	7	0	12	165	245	14
Whitehaven	17	7	0	10	193	294	14
Blackpool B.	20	5	1	14	220	340	11
Hunslet	17	5	1	11	190	319	11
Keighley	18	5	0	13	243	375	10
Batley	18	5	0	13	193	335	10
Bramley	17	4	0	13	199	300	8
Liverpool C.	18	3	0	15	190	360	6
Doncaster	17	2	1	14	180	359	5

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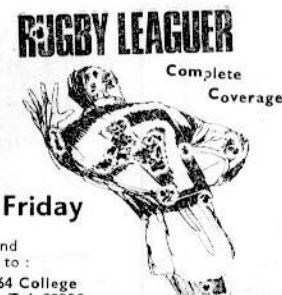
**SATURDAY, 24th DECEMBER, 1966—Kick-off 3 p.m.**  
(Lancashire Combination)

**LEIGH 'A' v. SWINTON 'A'**

**MONDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1966—Kick-off 3 p.m.**  
(First Team match)

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By the time this match has started we shall know what the Management Committee have decided about the future of Alec Murphy, our coach. The matter has already been discussed at a meeting in Leeds and now the Management Committee are going into further detail and will make known their recommendations.

### FIRST TEAM SCORERS

	G.	T.	Pts.
COLIN TYRER (Full-Back)	62	6	140
TOM GRAINEY (Full-Back)	23	—	46
WILF BRIGGS (Stand-off Half)	2	6	22
RODNEY TICKLE (Winger)	—	4	12
GORDON LEWIS (Centre)	—	5	15
J. HOFFMAN (Winger)	—	3	9
TERRY ENTWISTLE (Scrum-half)	—	2	6
MIKE COLLINS (Centre)	—	2	6
BRIAN SHILLINGLAW (Scrum-half)	—	1	3
TONY DAVIES (Forward)	—	1	3
PHILIP ROWE (Half-back)	—	1	3
JOSEPH WALSH (Winger)	—	1	3
DAVE COTTON (Forward)	—	1	3
JOHN BOLTON (Winger)	—	1	3
BRIAN BROOKS (Forward)	—	1	3
PETER ASHCROFT (Winger)	—	1	3

### LEIGH RUGBY SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

On behalf of the Leigh Rugby Supporters' Club may I extend a warm welcome to our visitors tonight from Oldham. Oldham are, at the present time, riding on the crest of a wave. They are well up the league table with games in hand and are a very strong side. Like ourselves, they too have been to Workington recently and come back with two points, and this takes some doing. We are very pleased to see one of our ex-players, Geoff Fletcher, has made the grade with Oldham. From all reports he is playing very well.

After praising our team's performances over recent weeks we evidently have spoken too soon. The Huddersfield match showed us to be worse than ever, showing no constructive ideas at all, and our tackling was non-existent. However at St. Helens, whilst we still lost, our tackling had improved and some praise for this fact is due; but as for attacking ideas we were again clueless. Let us hope that tonight we can regain some of the sparkle which enabled us to thrash the Saints some weeks ago. A defeat tonight could deal a severe blow to our top sixteen chances. It is unfortunate for Alex Murphy that Brian Shillinglaw broke down in his first match back after his long lay-off. It is hoped that he will soon be back for team selection.

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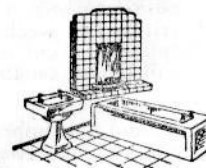
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## LEIGH

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Tyrer     | Full-Back       |
| 2. Ashcroft  | Right Wing      |
| 3. Lewis     | Right Centre    |
| 4. Hoffman   | Left Centre     |
| 5. Collins   | Left Wing       |
| 6. Briggs    | Stand-off       |
| 7. Miller    | Scrum-Half      |
| 8. Davies    | Prop Forward    |
| 9. Higgs     | Hooker          |
| 10. Murphy   | Prop Forward    |
| 11. Welding  | 2nd Row Forward |
| 12. Martyn   | 2nd Row Forward |
| 13. McVay    | Loose Forward   |
| Substitutes— |                 |
| 14. Grainey  |                 |
| 15. Dickens  |                 |

## OLDHAM

- |               |
|---------------|
| 1. Warburton  |
| 2. Elliott    |
| 3. Holroyd    |
| 4. McLeod     |
| 5. Collins    |
| 6. Donovan    |
| 7. Canning    |
| 8. Bott       |
| 9. Taylor     |
| 10. Wilson    |
| 11. Smethurst |
| 12. Irving    |
| 13. Fletcher  |

Referee—Mr. B. BAKER (Wigan)

T.J.'s—Mr. K. Ashall (Liverpool) Mr. J. Meadows (Prescot)

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Last night we made the draw for the 'Xmas Draw, the results of which can be had from the Leigh Rugby Supporters' Club office behind the scoreboard, so if you have any tickets for this draw look out for our results, you may be one of the 75 lucky winners. Unfortunately, at the time of writing this week's 400 Club winners are not to hand. However we are still accepting new entries for this club. It should be understood that any new entries will be put on the waiting list until vacancies arise in this very popular club.

If tonight's weather is anything like the weather last week, and it is hoped that it won't be, our canteen should do a roaring trade. There is nothing better on a cold wet night than a good cup of tea and a pie and these can be bought along with cigarettes, minerals, sweets, etc. from our three canteens on the ground.

### WHAT OUR READERS THINK

Just a few minutes before typing these notes I had watched with ever-growing interest the people who have become bingo-minded and were hurrying into an afternoon session at one of the former "picture houses". Women - most of them housewives - business men on a half-day holiday - and quite a lot of old age pensioners trooping up the steps.

Money was rolling in—and rolling out, but when the new terms of the Betting and Lotteries Act were known why didn't the R.L. think about hiring these vacant buildings on a Northern scale and turn the cash to good account? Surely we have men of vision in R.L. The resultant £. s. d. would have been useful for investments.

The chance has been missed, although I'm reminded that one Lancashire amateur league, who would now have been in a position to loan cash to the professional side, had it not been for an unfortunate twist of fate. The amateur body were making £130 per week, and playing to packed houses every night. Then came a shock - a noted petrol company had bought the cinema (then in a good state of repair) and brought in the demolition men. The site is now a petrol filling station.

To those who say it's all very well thinking about these matters when other people have got their foot on the ladder, but surely the success of the amateur league's project must have reached the ears of the professional clubs. But I'm afraid, like so many other things, R.L. has missed the boat. Then it's about time the league decided to appoint a sub-committee to explore all ideas which will raise money. There must be machinery ready to put into action when eventualities occur.

It is unfortunate that R.L. has not expanded in the past few years. There have been encouraging signs however in some areas that floodlighting has enabled more fans to be attracted, while there is no doubt that while attendances are not satisfactory in the general pattern, the game is known to thousands outside Lancashire, Cumberland and Yorkshire. T.V. has played a great part here. But are we cashing in on that propaganda? I think not.

The Wembley final is not advertised as it might be, in fact those who have attended the finals have been most disappointed with Southern publicity. Surely the special committee which I have suggested might look into this matter of publicising the final. Advertisements in the Midlands, West and South Wales might contain the message "you have seen it on T.V., now come and see the game in the flesh".

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## FIXTURES AND RESULTS 1966-67

1966	FIRST TEAM	F. A.
August—		
8	Widnes (Charity) 7-30	A 27-25
15	Castleford (F'Lt Comp).	H 11-16
20	Salford .....	A 5-38
24	Wigan .....	H 18-9
27	York .....	H 19-15
29	Wigan .....	A 13-18
September—		
3	Wigan (1st Rd. L.C.) ...	H 4-18
7	Castleford (F'l'dlit Comp)	A 18-39
10	Blackpool B. ....	H 2-18
14	Swinton .....	A 15-8
21	Rochdale H. ....	H 13-7
24	York .....	A 13-31
28	Widnes .....	H 9-10
October—		
1		
8	Featherstone .....	A 13-20
17	Salford .....	H 6-9
22	Keighley .....	H 20-9
November—		
2	St. Helens (7-30) .....	H 29-5
12	Workington Town .....	A 10-5
16	Liverpool C. ....	H 8-3
26	Whitehaven .....	A 13-4
December—		
3	Huddersfield .....	H 7-25
9	St. Helens (7-30) .....	A 0-4
17	Oldham .....	A
26	Warrington .....	H
27	Huddersfield .....	A
31		
1967		
January—		
7	Rochdale H. ....	A
14	Swinton .....	H
21	Blackpool B. ....	H
28	Liverpool City .....	A
February—		
4	1st Rd. R.L. Chall. Cup	
10	Widnes (7-30) .....	A
18	Featherstone R. ....	H
25	2nd Rd. R.L. Chall. Cup	
March —		
4	Keighley .....	A
11	Workington .....	H
18	Barrow .....	H
24	Whitehaven .....	H
25	Barrow .....	A
27	Warrington .....	A

1966	'A' TEAM	F. A.
August—		
9	Widnes (Farrell Cup) ...	H 10-15
20	Salford .....	H 22-2
27	Wigan .....	A 16-17
September—		
3	Wigan (Lancs. Shield) A	20-25
10	Blackpool B. ....	H 23-5
17	Rochdale Hornets .....	A 29-3
24	Oldham .....	A 13-17
30	Widnes .....	A 8-33
October—		
8		
14	Salford .....	A 3-11
21	Warrington (7-30) .....	A 0-5
28	Oldham .....	H 10-3
November—		
4	St. Helens .....	A 9-15
12	Workington T. ....	H 10-11
19	Liverpool C. ....	A 19-7
December—		
3		
10	St. Helens .....	H 4-25
24	Swinton .....	H
1967		
January—		
7	Rochdale H. ....	H
14	Swinton .....	A
21	Blackpool B. ....	A
28	Liverpool C. ....	H
February—		
4	1st Rd. R.L. Cup	
11	Widnes .....	H
18		
25	2nd Rd. R.L. Cup	
March—		
4	Wigan .....	H
11	Workington .....	A
18	Barrow .....	A
25	Barrow .....	H
27	Warrington .....	H
31		

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