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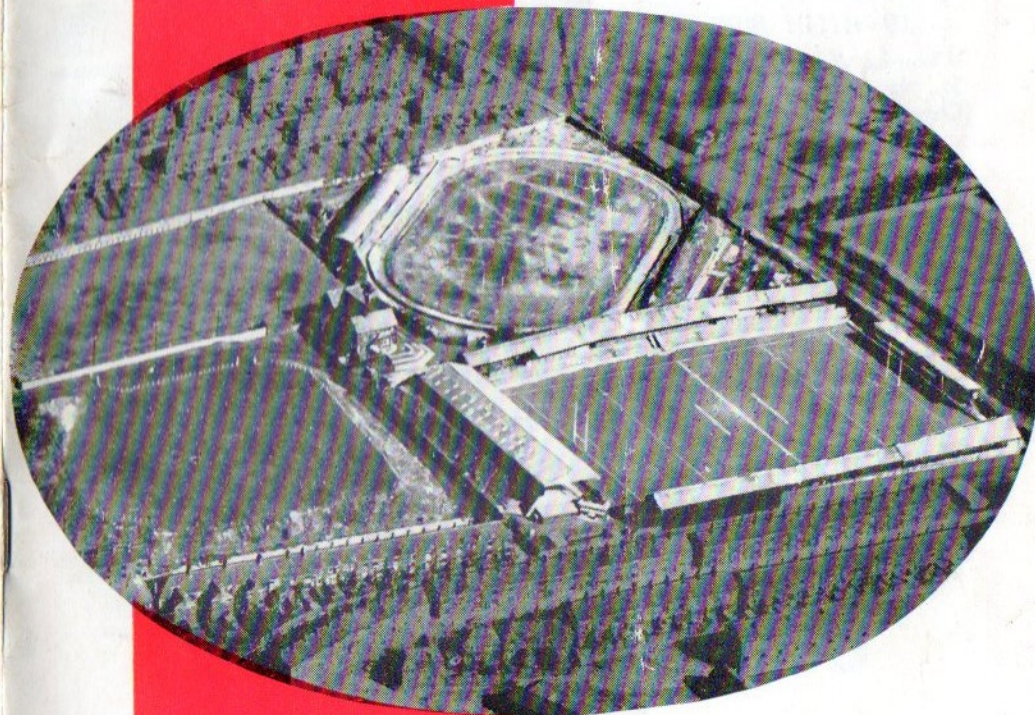
August	6	to	September 24
September	26	to	November 19
November	21	to	January 14
January	16	to	March 11
March	13	to	April 29



OFFICIAL  
**6d.**  
PROGRAMME

# OLDHAM

## *Rugby League Football Club*



**RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**  
Northern League Championship Match

**OLDHAM** 14  
v.  
**LEIGH** 5

**SATURDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1966**  
Kick-off 3.0 p.m.



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## CHRISTMAS RUSH

Our gate for last Saturday's game against Barrow was 2,980 (1,000 of these being members) and receipts were £303. Out of this we have to run the club for virtually two weeks.

It is true that Oldham Athletic were at home last Saturday, and it is likely that this did affect our 'gate'. However, with Tom Brophy and Terry Kirchin making their debuts at Oldham for Barrow and Oldham playing for their fourth successive victory, it was a very disappointing attendance, to say the least.

The 'gate' at the 'Latics' last Saturday was just under 10,000—comparatively speaking, not a good gate. It would appear that the missing thousands from these two games were involved in the Christmas rush in the Town Centre. Supporters plead with us not to play games on a Friday night, but were these people present on Saturday afternoon?

We tried Friday night games because we had no alternative. We can't even pretend to compete with a successful Oldham Athletic team even if we are successful ourselves. That's just the way it goes!

Turning to our performances on the field, they continue to be good. Last Saturday our boys turned in another good display against the vastly improved Barrow side, and recorded their fourth win in succession. Victories against League leaders Leeds, and Workington at Derwent Park, have given the team plenty of confidence, and with the very heavy Christmas programme ahead, this confidence will be needed.

Leigh are our visitors today, but they must not be under-estimated. It is only two years ago that Leigh came to Watersheddings and won 25-0.

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## WELCOME TO THE BOYS FROM 'HILTON PARK'

A hearty welcome is extended this afternoon to players, officials and supporters from 'Hilton Park', Leigh.

This, of course, is the game rearranged from Saturday, October 29th, when the Oldham team were engaged in the Lancashire Cup Final at Swinton. Our opponents in that final, Wigan, also defeated Leigh in one of the earlier rounds, but since then the Leigh playing performances have improved tremendously. This could be due to the fact that Leigh have engaged the former St. Helens scrum-half star Alex Murphy as team manager and coach, but the Leigh team have also had some fine victories under the former Warrington star Gerry Helme, who is now assisting Alex. It is hoped that between them they can get together a good side. They deserve it.

Colin Tyrer, one of the game's best full-back's will wear the No. 1 jersey in today's match. This season, Colin has gained County honours and also represented his country in the recent under-24 game in Bayonne. Welshman Gordon Lewis and ex-Waterloo R.U. player Mike Collins will be included in the threequarter line, together with up-and-coming stars Tom Grainey and Jim Hoffman. Ex-Warrington wingman Ashcroft may also be challenging for a spot. One player who will be missing from the wing position this afternoon is flyer Rod Tickle, who, I understand, has been an absentee from 'Hilton Park' for a few weeks.

At half-back Leigh have a tireless pair in Wilf Briggs and Syd Miller on trial from Rochdale Hornets, and in the pack, players like Tony Davies, ex-Warrington, Derek Higgs, Mick Murphy, another Warrington R.U. player, Bob Welding, Mick Martyn and the ex-Whitehaven forward John McVay do not need a great deal of introducing to the Rugby League public.

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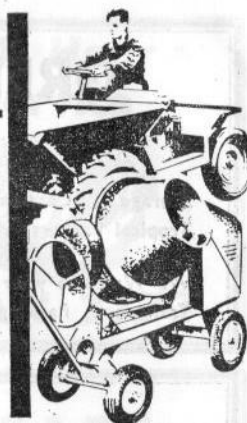
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After winning five games on the trot, Leigh have fallen twice, against Huddersfield and in a farce against St. Helens. They will no doubt be hoping to return to winning ways this afternoon.

## CHRISTMAS DRAW, 1966

By the time you get up in the morning, Christmas Day will be just one week away. It would be a very nice surprise for you if we were able to tell you that you had won one of our Premium Bond prizes.

What nicer and more welcome Christmas present could you wish for!

Prizes to be won are as follows: £100 in Premium Bonds, £50 in Premium Bonds, and £25 in Premium Bonds, plus many more smaller prizes.

To day is your last chance to buy tickets for the draw, which will be made in the Pavilion on Monday.

So, don't delay, GET YOUR TICKET NOW and open up the possibility of winning a fortune for yourself.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barrow .....	v Huddersfield .....	Liverpool C. ....	v Salford .....
Bramley .....	v Hull .....	OLDHAM .....	v LEIGH .....
Dewsbury .....	v Whitehaven .....	Swinton .....	v Rochdale H. ....
Featherstone .....	v Leeds .....	Wakefield T. ....	v Doncaster .....
Hull K.R. ....	v Halifax .....	Workington .....	v St. Helens .....
Hunslet .....	v Batley .....	York .....	v Bradford N. ....
Keighley .....	v Castleford .....		

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- 4—SMETHURST, P. *SMETHURST INJURED*
- 5—COLLINS, J.
- 6—WARBURTON, J. *WILSON*
- 7—CANNING, T.
- 8—BOTH, C.
- 9—TAYLOR, K. *WILSON*
- 10—WILSON, K.
- 11—IRVING, R. *SMETHURST*
- 12—FLETCHER, G.
- 13—PARKER, R.
- Substitutes—
- 14—BUCKLEY
- 15—HILL

Referee:  
J. MANLEY  
(Warrington)

THE

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- 3—LEWIS
- 4—HOFFMAN, J.
- 5—COLLINS, M.
- 6—BRIGGS, W.
- 7—MILLER, S.
- 8—DAVIES, A.
- 9—HIGGS, D.
- 10—MURPHY, M.
- 11—WELDING, R.
- 12—MARTYN, M. *1*
- 13—McVAY, J.

Substitutes—

- 14—ENTWISTLE, T.
- 15—DICKENS, J.

Touch Judges:

- (Yellow Flag)
- H. JACKSON (Barrow)
- (Crimson Flag)
- L. HUNT (Widnes)

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Meet the Players — No. 11

## BOB IRVING

In January, 1965, Bob Irving signed professional forms for Oldham. Since that date, several clubs have been kicking themselves for missing this bright young star. Bob was just seventeen when he was signed from Huddersfield St. Joseph's; now, at eighteen, Bob has just returned from France after representing Great Britain in the Under-24 International.

He is single, stands 5ft. 10½in. tall and weighs 14½st. He is employed as a textile finisher. In his spare time, Bob enjoys motoring and eating and is also keen on any sport.

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ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT, COMMITTEE, PLAYERS AND STAFF OF THE OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB, I WOULD LIKE TO WISH ONE AND ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

N.B.—On account of the heavy Christmas postal difficulties, these notes were compiled prior to our game at Leigh on Wednesday. As a consequence we have not been in a position to refer to this game.

## NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Positions up to and including Wednesday, 14th December, 1966)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds .....	18	16	0	2	400	195	32
Hull Kingston Rovers ...	18	15	0	3	379	183	30
St. 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
Workington Town .....	19	12	0	7	317	206	24
Wakefield Trinity .....	18	12	0	6	302	207	24
Salford .....	20	12	0	8	244	259	24
Oldham .....	18	11	0	7	306	209	22
Halifax .....	17	11	0	6	334	246	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	296	286	20
Leigh .....	19	10	0	9	223	246	20
Featherstone Rovers .....	17	9	1	7	237	207	19
Swinton .....	20	9	1	10	282	256	19
Huddersfield .....	19	9	0	10	254	210	18
Rochdale Hornets .....	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
Keighley .....	18	6	0	12	250	368	12
Blackpool Borough .....	20	5	1	14	220	340	11
Hunslet .....	17	5	1	11	190	310	11
Bramley .....	17	4	0	13	199	300	8
Batley .....	18	4	0	14	186	342	8
Liverpool City .....	18	3	0	15	190	360	6
Doncaster .....	17	2	1	14	180	359	5

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### FIXTURES FOR 1966 - 67

#### First Team

Date 1966		Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1967		Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 20	(S)	Hull	Away	W 24-12	Jan. 7	(S)	Wigan	Away	
" 23	(Tu)	Blackpool Borough	Home	W 40-9	" 14	(S)	Barrow	Away	
" 27	(S)	Hull	Home	W 20-7	" 21	(S)	Salford	Home	
Sept. 2	(F)	Swinton	Home	W 16-13	" 27	(F)	St. Helens	Away	
" 10	(S)	(Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.)			Feb. 4	(S)	(1)		
" 12	(M)	Salford	Away	L 13-15	" 11	(S)	Workington T.	Home	
" 17	(S)	Salford	Away	W 7-2	" 18	(S)	St. Helens	Home	
" 24	(S)	(Lancs. Cup 2nd Rd.)			" 25	(S)	(2)		
" 30	(F)	Blackpool B.	Away	W 22-4	Mar. 3	(F)	Widnes	Away	
Oct. 8	(S)	Whitehaven	Home	W 37-9	" 11	(S)	Huddersfield	Home	
" 14	(F)	Halifax	Away	L 15-23	" 24	(F)	Swinton	Away	
" 22	(S)	Wigan	Home	L 15-16	" 25	(S)	Widnes	Home	
" 29	(S)	Liverpool C.	Away	W 19-15	" 27	(M)	Halifax	Home	
Nov. 5	(S)	Rochdale H.	Home	W 12-7					
" 11	(F)	Whitehaven	Away	L 0-12					
" 18	(F)	Wigan (L.C. Final)	Away	L 13-16					
" 22	(Tu)	Leeds	Away	L 14-21					
" 25	(F)	Liverpool C.	Home	W 11-2					
Dec. 3	(S)	Warrington	Away	L 17-21					
" 10	(S)	Widnes (Fl'it Comp.)	Away	W 14-11					
" 14	(W)	Leeds	Home	W 16-13					
" 17	(S)	Workington T.	Away	W 13-9					
" 24	(S)	Barrow	Home	W 10-4					
" 26	(M)	Leigh	Away	L 8-10					
" 27	(Tu)	Leigh	Home	W 14-5					
" 31	(S)	Huddersfield	Away						
		Swinton	Home						
		Rochdale H.	Away						
		Warrington	Home						

### NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS OLDHAM v SWINTON

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26th

KICK-OFF 3.0 p.m.



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