

1966/7

MACKESON

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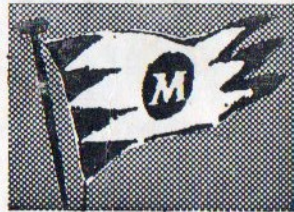
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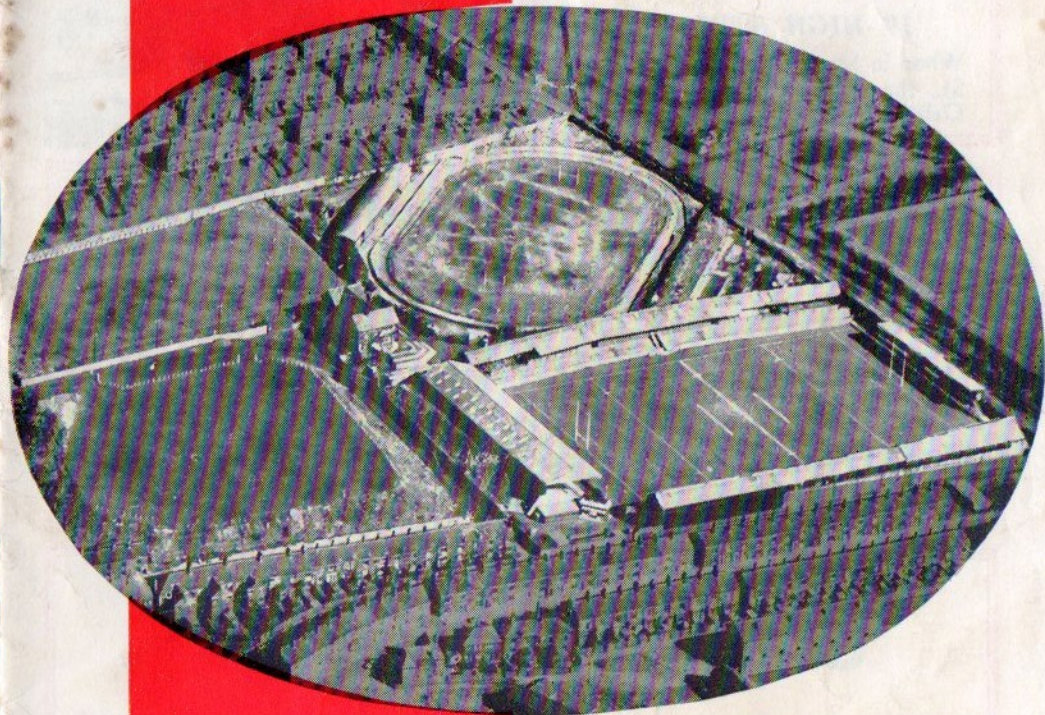
THE 5 PERIODS ARE:

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



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Rugby League Football Club



OFFICIAL



PROGRAMME

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RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Northern League Championship Match

OLDHAM *Y*

v.

SWINTON *10*

FRIDAY, 7th APRIL, 1967

Kick-off 7.0 p.m.

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CLUB NEWS AND VIEWS

Tomorrow is the last day for matches to be played which have a bearing on the top 16 positions.

This evening's match against Swinton was originally scheduled for December 26th but was postponed (which is not a rarity for Boxing Day games). It was then arranged for April 8th, but because of counter-attractions such as the Grand National and the Barrow v. Dewsbury cup-tie the game was switched to this evening with a 7 p.m. kick-off.

Everyone is asking the question: Will this match decide whether Oldham or Swinton takes the No. 8 position in the League? As far as I see it this may be the case but Swinton will have had to slip up at Fartown last Wednesday and on present form this is not likely to have happened.

For the last two seasons, in fact since the top 16 play-off idea came into being, we have been unfortunate in the fact that we have finished in ninth position and so miss a home tie in the play-off by a fraction. On the first occasion we had to travel to Hull K.R. and returned home heavily defeated. Last season we had the unenviable task of playing Workington away in the play-off first round and on this occasion we won 7-6 only to fall at St. Helens in the next round.

Will our luck change this season? We shall have to wait and see. If we lose tonight's game we may find ourselves in eleventh position which would probably mean another difficult task in taking on Workington at Derwent Park.

We had, to say the least, a very frustrating Easter from a playing point of view. On Good Friday at Swinton we were by far the better team but lost. Two fatal mistakes in this game let Swinton in for two tries and that was that. This was a game we wanted to win so badly, if we had won, the play-off position could have been very different.

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On Easter Saturday no one would have thought they were watching the same side as played at Station Road the day before. The side really hit rock bottom and it is fair to say that Widnes deserved their win, which squeezed them into sixteenth position, despite the fact that they scored one try against two.

Our Easter Monday game against Halifax was another match we should have won but as it was we had to be content with a draw when Colin Dixon scored the equalising try in the last minute despite the knock on which was allowed to go unnoticed.

Mike Elliott's sparkling try was the highlight of the 'derby' game at Rochdale last Friday evening although the tries scored by Peter Holroyd and Substitute Joe Collins merited credit.

Now what of tonight's game. I have already pointed out that the result will have a strong bearing on the final positions in the league and by the time you read this programme you will probably have a better idea than I have now because, of course, these notes are compiled well in advance of the match and one or two results of matches played after Tuesday may alter things a little.

We have met Swinton on two occasions this season, the first being in the Lancashire Cup first round when we won 16-13. Our team on this occasions was: Curry, Elliott, McCormack, Donovan, Simms, Warburton, Canning, Wilson, Taylor, Fletcher, Smethurst, Irving and Mooney. The substitutes were Crowther and Ogden. The other game has already been referred to in these notes, a match on Good Friday when we lost 13-10.

Tonight's game then is the decider and we hope it will be played in the spirit of the first two games. It is always a pleasure to entertain Swinton and we extend a hearty welcome to all their party, whether it be players, directors or staff.

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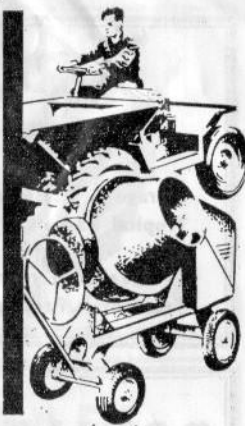
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TO THE LIONS — WELCOME!

As I have already said it is a pleasure to welcome our very good friends from Swinton for this evening's game.

Swinton have recently had the bad news that skipper Ken Gowers will not be available for the remainder of the season. This is indeed a blow to their Championship hopes as Ken was playing as good, if not better, than ever. Derek Whitehead may take the full-back role tonight although he has been playing well on the wing.

Buckley, Fleet and Stopford are dangerous threequarter backs, so too, are Billy Davies and John Gomersall. The question is, who will be left out. 'Daz' Davies is mainly a stand-off half but the Swinton Club, quite rightly, are reluctant to move Austin Rhodes, the former St. Helens and Leigh player who is playing exceptionally well and has helped to make his partnership with Graham Williams one of the most formidable in the League. Williams is a real live wire and needs some watching.

The Swinton forwards are perhaps the fastest in the League particularly the back three of Graham Rees, Frank Hutton and Dave Robinson. The latter was a member of the recent Touring Party to Australia and New Zealand. Swinton's front row men are likely to be Bate, Clarke and Halliwell.

Swinton have again been honoured in the fact that the Rugby League Challenge Cup Semi-Final tie between Dewsbury and Barrow will be played on their ground. The kick-off incidentally for this game is 2.30 p.m., and of course it is being played tomorrow. Why not make a trip to Station Road to see this game it should be worth watching.

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- 4—BUCKLEY, T.
- 5—McLEOD, S.
- 6—WARBURTON, T.
- 7—BROOMHEAD, W. J.
- 8—WILSON, K.
- 9—TAYLOR, K.
- 10—OGDEN, A.
- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—IRVING, R.
- 13—FLETCHER, G.
- Substitutes:—
- 14—CANNING, T.
- 15—MOONEY, M.

Referee:

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(Leeds)

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- 4—FLEET, R.
- 5—GOMERSALL, J.
- 6—RHODES, A.
- 7—WILLIAMS, G.
- 8—HALLIWELL, K.
- 9—CLARKE, D.
- 10—BATE, G.
- 11—REES, G.
- 12—HUTTON, F.
- 13—ROBINSON, D.

Substitutes—

- 14—DAVIES, W.
- 15—SIMPSON, G.

Touch Judges:

(Yellow Flag)
J. P. DAWSON
(St. Helens)
(Crimson Flag)
R. SYERS
(Warrington)

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HERE AND THERE

Referee Eric Clay is in charge of this evening's game, and tomorrow will be in control of the Semi-Final tie at Swinton between Dewsbury and Barrow. We might criticise them from time to time but one thing is sure, these boys have to be fit.

An Oldham referee for Wembley? This could be possible as Dickie Thomas, Terry Keane and Sam Shepherd were all officiating at third round cup-ties, which means they must be getting high marks from Clubs.

The Grand National Draw was made last Sunday morning by the Club Vice-President, Mr. A. F. Campbell. A list of numbers can be seen in the Pavilion together with the horses drawn with each number. A winning list will be sent to all members who sold tickets, after the race.

Agents are still urgently required for the Oldham Football Club Pools Organisation. Enquiries please, to the Promoter: Mr. F. J. Diskin at the Pavilion.

Our utility player John Donovan will enter hospital in a couple of weeks to undergo a cartilage operation.

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Meet the Players — No. 18

MARTIN MURPHY

Martin Murphy turned professional for the Oldham Club on December 6th, 1966. He was 'spotted' whilst playing for his Town Team, Leigh against Widnes at Leigh when he played a fine game at full-back. Martin followed with three trial games at full-back for our "A" team and was signed immediately afterwards.

Martin lives in Nel Pan Lane, Leigh and is an apprentice fitter. He is 18 years of age, stands 5 ft. 8 ins. and weighs 11 st. 8 lbs.

He had trials with Wigan but was turned down because of his size, but what Martin lacks in height and weight he makes up for with speed and courage. He has quickly become a firm favourite at Watersheddings mainly due to his tremendous tackling of big forwards.

Martin, who has also played stand-off and scrum-half is not married but is courting an attractive bank clerk.

His hobbies:— "I've not time for many mainly due to my studies at night school, but one sport I go for apart from Rugby is snooker".

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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	P'oned
" 23 (Tu)	Blackpool Borough	Home	W 40-9	" 14 (S)	Barrow	Away	W 13-8
" 27 (S)	Hull	Home	W 20-7	" 21 (S)	Salford	Home	W 17-4
Sept. 2 (F)	Swinton	Home	W 16-13	" 27 (F)	St. Helens	Away	L 7-25
" 10 (S)	(Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.) Salford	Away	L 13-15	Feb. 4 (S)	Huddersfield (1st Rd RL Cup)	Away	W 12-7
" 12 (M)	Blackpool B.	Away	W 22-4	" 11 (S)	Workington T.	Home	L 5-13
" 17 (S)	Whitehaven	Home	W 37-9	" 17 (F)	St. Helens	Home	W 8-7
" 24 (S)	Halifax	Away	L 15-23	" 25 (S)	Leeds (2nd Rd. R.L. Cup)	Home	L 4-13
" 30 (F)	Wigan	Home	L 15-16	Mar. 3 (S)	Widnes	Away	D 4-4
Oct. 8 (S)	Liverpool C.	Away	W 19-15	" 11 (S)	Huddersfield	Home	W 9-4
" 14 (F)	Rochdale H.	Home	W 12-7	" 24 (F)	Swinton	Away	L 10-13
" 22 (S)	Whitehaven	Away	L 0-12	" 25 (S)	Widnes	Home	L 6-11
" 29 (S)	Wigan (L.C. Final)	Away	L 13-16	" 27 (M)	Halifax	Home	D 10-10
Nov. 5 (S)	Leeds	Away	L 14-21	" 31 (F)	Rochdale	Away	W 15-7
" 11 (F)	Liverpool C.	Home	W 11-2	Apl. 7 (F)	Swinton	Home	L 10-7
" 18 (F)	Warrington	Away	L 17-21				
" 22 (Tu)	Widnes (Fl'lit Comp.)	Away	W 14-11				
" 25 (F)	Leeds	Home	W 16-13				
Dec. 3 (S)	Workington T.	Away	W 13-9				
" 10 (S)	Barrow	Home	W 10-4				
" 14 (W)	Leigh	Away	L 8-12				
" 17 (S)	Leigh	Home	W 14-5				
" 24 (S)	Huddersfield	Away	L 7-13				
" 26 (M)	Swinton	Home	P'oned				
" 27 (Tu)	Rochdale H.	Away	0-0 Abnd.				
" 31 (S)	Warrington	Home	L 6-12				

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