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RUGBY LEAGUE  
FOOTBALL  
Northern League  
Championship Match

OLDHAM 5  
v.  
WORKINGTON 36

SATURDAY,  
9th MARCH,  
1968  
Kick-off 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

6<sup>d</sup>

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## HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN?

A deep depression of gloom has settled over Bradford since last Thursday's resounding Oldham win against the second Cup favourites, Bradford Northern.

Northern need not feel too despondent, because earlier this year the two Bradford soccer clubs, Bradford Park Avenue and Bradford City, followed suit by being dismissed from the F.A. Cup competition in Round 2.

I understand the prevailing wind of despair is travelling slowly towards Headingley and, no doubt, will settle there shortly after 4.30 p.m. on March 16th.

Yes! we have to be confident after that fantastic win against Northern on Thursday week last, but I am sure Gerry Helme and the boys will not be too 'cocky'.

The performance in the Cup replay was, indeed, a tremendous tonic, and a performance which is bound to give the lads confidence for the forthcoming battle against the League leaders from Headingley. The match is eagerly awaited and should draw a bumper crowd.

The magnificent goalkicking of Brian Curry and two fine Bob Irving tries set the scene for Oldham's march into round three. After the replay against Northern, captain Geoff Fletcher referred to the game as a magnificent team effort, and how right he was. The fans are already Wembley-minded after this great showing and one application received through the post for third round tickets was addressed to "The 1968 Cup Winners", Oldham. The postman, of course, knew where to bring it.

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Tickets for the Cup-tie against Leeds are going very well indeed and can still be obtained from the Pavilion, the Social Club and several other selling points which will be advertised in Monday's Oldham Evening Chronicle.

If you wish to avoid any unnecessary queueing you can apply for your ticket by post, enclosing the appropriate remittance and a stamped self-addressed envelope, to the Secretary, The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham.

As you all know, John Donovan was a casualty at Rochdale last Sunday and it is almost certain that he will miss the big game next weekend. Brian Curry also suffered from bruised ribs after this game, but Brian is certain to take his place this afternoon in the return League game against our Cumberland friends from Workington.

Alan Ogden recently underwent a cartilage operation and is now out of hospital. It is hoped Alan will have a quick recovery and be back to peak fitness for at least the start of next season.

Yet another casualty who was recently discharged from hospital is coach Gerry Helme, who had a minor operation for an infected arm this week. Gerry is expected to be back in charge of the team today.

### WELCOME TO WORKINGTON

Our friends from Derwent Park are welcomed to Watersheddings this afternoon for what we hope will be sweet revenge for our defeat at Workington earlier in the season.

Unfortunately, Workington are no longer interested in the Challenge Cup, having been defeated by Castleford in round two. They do, however, have their stars but generally are an attractive, mobile side right from full-back Paul Charlton to loose-forward Bill Pattinson.

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Workington recently sold Under-24 international Bill Kirkbride to Halifax for a big fee but Bill is not having the best of times at his new club, being in a side striving to regain lost form.

It is always a pleasure to have Workington at Watersheddings and today is certainly no exception, and we hope they play up to their usual formidable standard.

### TESTIMONIAL SEVEN-A-SIDES

We have received two invitations to enter a team in seven-a-side tournaments at Halifax and Huddersfield.

The Huddersfield seven-a-side tournament is on Sunday, May 19th, at Fartown, on behalf of the Don Close Testimonial Fund. The kick-off is at 3 p.m.

Apart from ourselves, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Hull K.R., Salford, Wakefield and, of course, Huddersfield have been invited.

The invitation received from Halifax is to enter a seven's team in a tournament on behalf of the Charlie Renilson Testimonial Fund. Player's No. 6 have agreed to sponsor this tournament.

No date officially has been announced, but the organising committee have intimated that the tournament will be held on Saturday, 25th May, or Sunday, 26th May, depending on whether or not television cameras cover the tournament.

Our club will be entering a team in one of these competitions, but it is being left to Gerry Helme, the club coach, to decide which one we enter.

It would, however, be nice if supporters could attend both to support very worthy testimonials.

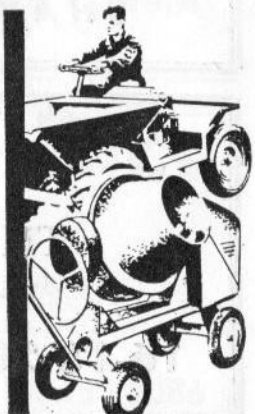
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Red & White Jerseys  
 Blue Shorts

- 1—CURRY, B. *C*
- 2—ELLIOTT, M.
- 3—McCORMACK, J.
- 4—MURPHY, M.
- 5—DOLLY, T.
- 6—BRIGGS, W.
- 7—CANNING, T.
- 8—WILSON, K.
- 9—TAYLOR, K.
- 10—FLETCHER, G. *T*
- 11—IRVING, R.
- 12—MOONEY, M.
- 13—HUGHES, A. *McCourt*

Substitutes:

- 14—DAVIES, T.
- 15—SMITH, C.

Referee

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 Band, White Shorts

- 1—CHARLTON
- 2—GLASTONBURY *T*
- 3—SOUTHWARD *C.C.C.C.C. T.T.T.*
- 4—BELL *T*
- 5—DAVIES
- 6—KITCHEN *T T*
- 7—TURNBULL
- 8—MARTIN *T*
- 9—MOSS
- 10—WILSON
- 11—SMITH
- 12—McFARLANE
- 13—PATTINSON

Substitutes:

- 14—CRELLIN
- 15—McCOURT

Touch Judges:

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## LANCASHIRE COUNTY AMATEUR GAMES

The Lancashire Amateur Commission have chosen Watersheddings for the two inter-County games between Lancashire and Cumberland to be played on Sunday, March 17th.

The first game will be the under-17's match and the second game will involve the open-age teams.

Admission will be by programme and these will be available on the day of the games.

The kick-off for the under-17's game will be 1.45 p.m. and the open-age game will follow immediately afterwards.

Both games should be worth watching. The best of the amateur talent will be on view.

I might say, at this juncture, that the inter-town open age final between Oldham and St. Helens, which was postponed at Christmas time, will now be played on Easter Sunday afternoon, kick-off 2.30 p.m., the date being April 14th.

### MATCH VERSUS LEIGH

Talking of Sunday games, supporters should not forget that our home League fixture against Leigh will be played on Sunday, March 24th, kick-off at 3 p.m.

This, of course, will be another game where admission is by programme. These will be on sale prior to the game and also at the turnstiles on the day of the game.

### ANOTHER RULE CHANGE

Most supporters are aware of the new rule which came into being on Sunday, 25th February, 1968, namely: the rule relative to bringing the ball back into play when it goes dead after last being touched by an opponent.

The defending side recommence play with a tap kick from the '25' on all occasions when the ball is made dead by an attacking player. This includes the occasions when the ball goes dead from a penalty place kick.

## NEW SOCIAL CLUB PROGRAMME

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## LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE

(Table up to and including 4th March, 1968)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leigh .....	22	17	0	5	296	147	34
Warrington .....	21	17	0	4	332	154	34
Salford .....	22	16	0	5	273	153	32
Wigan .....	23	16	0	7	395	204	32
St. Helens .....	21	15	1	5	295	166	31
Workington Town .....	20	13	0	8	343	236	26
Widnes .....	23	11	1	11	334	277	23
Swinton .....	22	11	1	10	286	279	23
Barrow .....	23	10	0	13	270	292	20
Rochdale Hornets .....	24	10	0	14	232	304	20
Oldham .....	24	10	0	14	304	360	20
Whitehaven .....	22	6	1	15	183	411	13
Liverpool City .....	22	6	0	16	192	331	12
Blackpool Borough .....	24	5	1	18	197	420	11
Batley .....	22	2	1	19	174	375	5

### APPEARANCES AND SCORERS 1967-68 (TO DATE)

	App.	G.	Tries		App.	G.	Tries
J. Donovan .....	32	2	3	W. Broomhead .....	10	6	0
M. Murphy .....	28	0	5	T. Davies .....	10	0	0
R. Irving .....	27	0	5	G. Wood .....	10	0	0
J. McCormack .....	27	0	8	J. Collins .....	9	0	1
K. Taylor .....	25	0	10	J. Hill .....	9	0	0
T. Canning .....	24	0	6	D. Maders .....	9	0	0
A. Hughes .....	23	0	3	F. Howarth .....	8	0	0
K. Wilson .....	23	2	2	C. Smith .....	8	0	0
G. Fletcher .....	22	0	6	P. Bamford .....	5	0	0
M. Elliott .....	21	0	8	P. Smethurst .....	5	0	1
B. Curry .....	18	55	2	W. Briggs .....	4	1	1
T. Warburton .....	16	35	3	K. Flanagan .....	2	0	0
T. Dolly .....	15	0	7	W. Delooze .....	1	0	0
C. McCourt .....	16	0	3	S. McLeod .....	1	0	0
M. Mooney .....	15	0	1	D. Parker .....	1	0	0
G. Shelton .....	14	0	3	F. Russell .....	1	0	0
T. Buckley .....	13	0	1	P. Walker (Trialist) .....	1	0	0
A. Ogden .....	13	0	3	W. Wilkinson .....	1	0	0
P. Holroyd .....	11	0	0				

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## FIXTURES 1967-8

1967				1968			
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 15	(Tu) Liverpool City	Home	L 12-13	Dec. 30	(S) Barrow	Home	W 15-10
" 19	(S) Leigh (Lancs Cup - 1)	Home	W 17-11	Jan. 1	(M) Workington Town	Away	L 5-10
" 23	(W) Bradford Northern	Away	L 10-28	" 6	(S) Batley	Away	W 22-7
" 26	(S) Hull	Away	L 20-29	" 13	(S) Wigan	Away	P'poned
Sept. 2	(S) Whitehaven	Home	W 34-14	" 20	(S) St. Helens	Home	L 14-26
" 4	(M) Blackpool Borough	Away	L 19-15	" 22	(M) Wigan	Away	L 3-39
" 7	(Th) Swinton (Lancs C - 2)	Away	L 8-11	" 27	(S) Barrow	Away	L 13-14
" 9	(S) Warrington	Away	L 2-26	Feb. 3	(S) Hunslet (RL Cup Rd 1)	Away	W 9-4
" 16	(S) Rochdale H.	Home	W 13-12	" 14	(W) Batley	Home	W 19-3
" 23	(S) Whitehaven	Away	W 24-12	" 17	(S) Widnes	Home	W 13-10
" 30	(S) Wigan	Home	L 13-17	" 24	(S) Bradford	Away	W 13-10
Oct. 3	(Tu) Hull K.R.	Home	L 7-9	Mar. 1	(F) Rochdale H.	Away	W 13-10
" 14	(S) Bradford Northern	Home	L 14-25	" 9	(S) Workington T.	Home	L 5-36
" 20	(F) Salford	Away	L 6-12	" 24	(Su) Leigh	Home	
" 28	(S) Blackpool Boro'	Home	W 13-4	Apl. 12	(F) Swinton	Home	
Nov. 4	(S) Leigh	Away	L 2-29	" 15	(M) Hull K.R.	Away	
" 11	(S) Australia	Home	L 8-18				
" 13	(M) Salford	Home	L 0-4				
" 17	(F) Widnes	Away	L 14-33				
" 25	(S) Hull	Home	W 31-7				
Dec. 2	(S) Liverpool City	Away	W 13-0				
" 8	(F) Warrington	Home	P'poned				
" 16	(S) St. Helens	Away	L 2-10				
" 26	(Tu) Swinton	Away	L 18-22				

*Mark 6 & E.F.D's 3rd half Cup Home*

## NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

FIRST TEAM

SUNDAY, 24th MARCH, 1968

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

OLDHAM v LEIGH



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