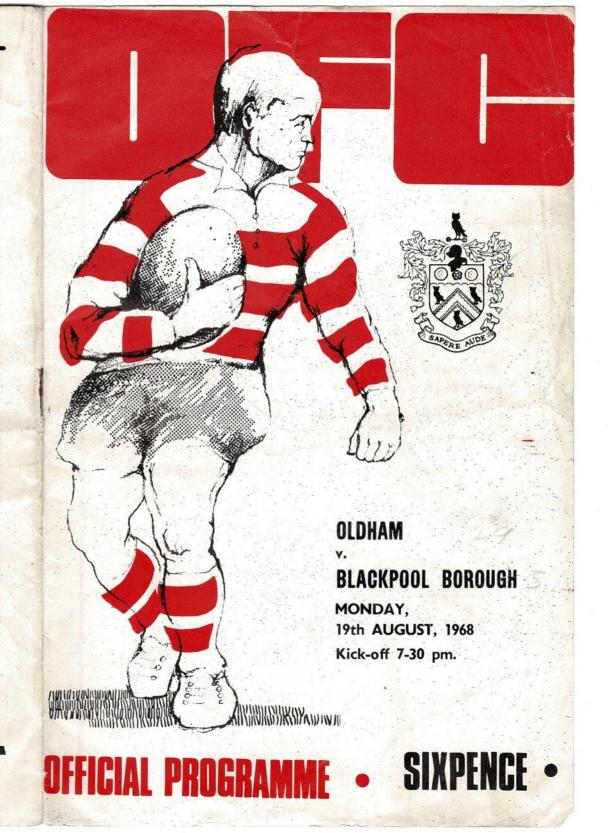


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# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM

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### SO WE MEET AGAIN!

For the first league game of the 1968/69 season at Watersheddings we welcome once again our friends from Borough Park, Blackpool. Stan Owen and his boys were, of course, visitors to Oldham just over a week ago in the Annual Charity match and our welcome to them this evening is none the less.

On the occasion of the Charity match the boys from Blackpool were defeated by 37 points to 27 in a game which produced some good rugby but was marred in the second period by a blistering sun and a hard pitch. In the first half both sides tried to open up the game, with Oldham particularly showing flashes of high speed football.

As the game progressed players of both sides found the hot atmosphere difficult to overcome and the foot blisters were too painful to run at top speed. Both sides must be credited on their efforts to play good football in the conditions but it is felt that they were all rather glad to hear referee Eric Lawrenson's final whistle.

In the Oldham side debut boys Phil Larder and John Mullarkey showed up well and Larder had a dream come true when he raced some 70 yards to the line in his first game, mid way through the first half. Mullarkey's inclusion in the second period was due to a slight concussion to scrum half Tommy Davies just before the interval.

Blackpool too had their debut boys but perhaps in slightly different circumstances. Keith Holden and Ray Ashby both former Wigan players are, of course, full of experience and it must only be a matter of time before they are a telling force in Borough's ranks.

In my notes for the Charity game I inadvertantly stated that Blackpool had signed Colloby from Workington Town. I am afraid my information was incorrect, the fact being that Blackpool are in negotiation with 'Town' for the the signature of Colloby but nothing as yet has been finalised. Who knows: Colloby may have signed in time to play in this evening's game.

The Blackpool Borough Board of Directors, determined to have a successful side this term, have also got their irons in the fire at Watersheddings. After the Charity game terms were agreed for the return to Borough Park of our forward Mick Mooney but, I understand, Mooney is not prepared to leave Oldham and is adamant about fighting to regain a place in the first team.

A face missing from Blackpool's team now is loose forward cum hooker

Martin Dickens, who is yet another player who has joined the Salford ranks. We wish Martin well at his new Club.

Both Oldham and Blackpool commenced the season on Saturday with League games, but at the time of these notes going to press the results were not known. Let us hope both Clubs won their matches to make tonight's game all the more interesting.



Many of our supporters will recognise the man in the picture above. He is of course, Don Vines, the former Oldham forward. Don will be wrestling at the Social Club next month.

Photograph by kind permission of Oldham Chronicle

### HERE AND THERE

We would like to welcome Oldham's new Club Doctor. Dr. Preston from Failsworth has taken over from Dr. McNamara and we hope he has a long and happy association with the Club.

Former Oldham player and coach Frank Dyson is now a member of the Huddersfield F.C. Committee.

Our congratulations to our new recruit from Sale R.C., Phil Larder. Phil married Miss Anne Chester of Balfour Street at Moorside Parish Church on Saturday. The couple are now spending their honeymoon in Cornwall.

Dickie Thomas from Oldham, the reserve referee for last season's Wembley Cup Final is still out of action following an operation. Dick is expected to resume very shortly.

Our sincere condolences go out to Mr. John Hebblethwaite, last season's Wembley referee. John's wife died suddenly recently. John is expected to be back refereeing very soon, after his tragic loss.

New signing from Swinton Derek Whitehead was expected to make his Oldham debut at Fartown last Saturday.

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4—DONOVAN

5-MURPHY

6-BRIGGS TTTT

8—WILSON 9—TAYLOR

10-FLETCHER

11—IRVING 12—McCOURT

13—HUGHES

Substitutes :14—McCORMACK

15—OGDEN

Referee : Mr. G. F. LINDOP of Wakefield

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9—FAIRHURST

10-NORMINGTON

11—CHADWICK

12-McCARRICK

13—FARRELL

Substitutes :-

14—OLSEN 15—OWEN

Touch Judges: Mr. J. P. DAWSON Mr. J. HEAP

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# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB SOCIAL CLUB Notice to Members

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# HISTORY OF OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB — Part 2

When Oldham and Rochdale Hornets met at Watersheddings, Nolan, of the home team, and Mellalieu, of the Hornets, were playing for Lancashire. Oldham were victorious by 1 goal 1 try 2 minors to nil. Manchester Rangers who then played at Rusholme, also had fixtures with Oldham.

After a long period of suspension suspension, Heckmondwike resumed playing the game, and came here on January 1st, 1890, to win by 2 goals 1 try 2 minors to 2 tries. Brighouse next appeared at Watersheddings, and got 2 goals 1 try to 1 minor. Oldhamers, however, had the satisfaction of defeating Carlisle by 1 goal 4 tries 3 minors to nil.

It was during the closing period of this season that Gwynn commenced his association with the Oldham Club, with such happy results for all concerned. The side finished the playing period by defeating Huddersfield, the Yorkshire Cup holders, here, by 2 goals 1 try to 1 goal 1 try.

The successes gained by the Oldham team were increasing the popularity of the code, and when Crompton appeared at Watersheddings

early in the 1890-1891 season the crowd was said to be the largest ever seen there. W. McCutcheon was absent, having been injured the previous week on the ground of the Rochdale St. Clement's Club. Gwynn and Groves were the rival captains. Oldham scored 1 goal 1 try 2 minors to 1 try 1 minor. When Oldham went to Brighouse, the Rangers defeated them for the fifth time by goal 3 tries 5 minors to 1 goal 1 try. Manningham, Wakefield, Dukenfield, Kendal, Rochdale Hornets, and Mossley also had home and away fixtures with Oldham that season.

During the closing period of 1890 and early in 1891 there was a severe spell of frost, and, for 7 weeks it was impossible for the Oldham team to play. Their next game was against St. Helen's Recs., and on that day Gwynn and McCutcheon, of Oldham, and Pyke of the Recs., were playing for Lancashire against Devonshire. The Recs were victorious by 1 goal 1 try 6 minors to 1 minor.

When the Oldham team went to Widnes the ground was so hard that the visitors' captain refused to play the match, which was cancelled amid much excitement. Brighouse afterwards got their sixth victory at Oldham's expense.

to be continued



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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES					1	'A' TEAM FIXTURES					
Date		Club	Grd.	F	A	Date		Club	Grd.	F	Α
Aug.	17 19 24 28 31	Rochdale H Workington	home home away away			Sept.	7 14 21	Workington 'A'	away home away home away		
Sept.	6 9 14 21 28	Rochdale (Lancs, Cup) Blackpool Hunslet Wigan Doncaster	away away home away			Nov.	26 9 16 23	Salford 'A'  Whitehaven 'A'  Wigan 'A'  Warrington 'A'  Whitehaven 'A'	away home away		
Oct.	5 12 19 25	Featherstone R	away home away	 		Dec.	30 14 21 28	St. Helens 'A'	home away home	••••	
Nov.	9 16 23	Whitehaven Wigan Warrington Whitehaven	away home away			Jan.	4 11 18	Huyton 'A'	away home away		
Dec.	30 7	St. Helens	home				8	Leigh 'A' St. Helens 'A'			
	14 20 26	Leigh Widnes Swinton	away home			1 24	1 8 21	Workington T. 'A' Barrow 'A' Swinton 'A'	away		
Jan.	28 4 11 18	Warrington Huyton Huyton Salford	home			:	7 12 19	Rochdale 'A'	home		
Feb.	1 8	Leigh					Times of Kick-off All Saturday games at home k.o. 3 p.m. Evening				
Mar.	1 8 15	Workington T, Barrow Doncaster	home	e		. k.o.'	k.o.'s as advertised. All 1st & 'A' team matches.				
Apr.	4 7 11	Swinton (G.F.) Rochdale H. (E.M.) Barrow	. home	9		These fixtures are the copyright of the Northern Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7 and must not be reproduced without permission.					

### **NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS**

OLDHAM v FEATHERSTONE ROVERS
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