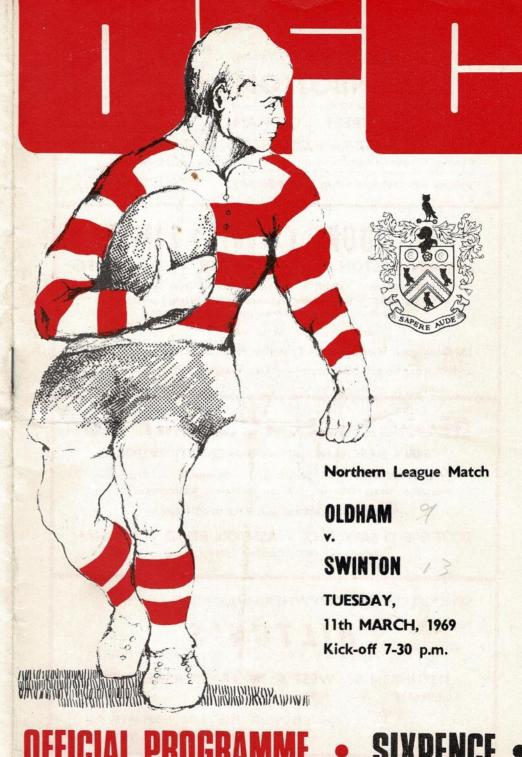


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WELCOME TO SWINTON

In my programme notes written for the match v. Swinton on Boxing Day which was postponed, I said "We hope we have a little more luck today for our traditional Boxing Day fixture with Swinton and that the pitch is fit enough to play on, which is not very often the case on Boxing Day."

Unfortunately the luck was not with us to stage a 'holiday' fixture against the 'Lions' on Boxing Day, so we make another effort to play this game this evening.

We extend to all players, officials and supporters of the Swinton Club a hearty welcome and we trust that this evening's game will keep with the tradition of games between Oldham and Swinton—played in a clean and sporting manner.

Swinton had an outstanding win in their last game against Wigan last Friday evening, winning by 17 points to 10. This is a game which I personally saw and was more than impressed with the performance of the Swinton side.

From the word go they set about Wigan as if their existence depended on a win against the Central Park Club. Alan Buckley grabbed a great try just five minutes after the start and with Bill Holliday's conversion Swinton were in a happy position of being five points

up in as many minutes against a team like Wigan.

A Bill Ashurst try which was converted by Ashton, levelled the scores and we had to wait until the second half to see Swinton's real power.

In the second period they scored two excellent tries following exciting raids into Wigan territory, both these were converted and Holliday also kicked a penalty. Wigan's other five points came in the closing seconds when David Hill scored a clever try which Eric Ashton augmented.

Yes, it was a performance which must have delighted Swinton supporters and particularly coach Albert Blan for Swinton played with method, ran and tackled well and were always in a position to find the man with the ball supported by a colleague.

One Oldham player, with me after the game commented, "This is a good omen for us on Tuesday, because they never play two good games together". We shall have to see.

At full back Ken Gowers is still playing exceedingly well. He has been relieved of the goal kicking duties since Bill Holliday's arrival at Station Road and this has given Ken more time to concentrate on his full back duties.

Reg Williams and John Stopford are on the flanks and both are difficult men to stop when in full cry for the

line. Williams' partner in the centre is Bobby Fleet, while inside Stopford in the No. 4 jersey is international Alan Buckley.

Fleet recently had his transfer fee slashed by half from £6,000 and he is certainly a bargain for some Club. He had an outstanding game on Friday.

At half back the 'Lions' are well served by current international Billy Davies and Peter Kenny. We offer our congratulations to Davies on his excellent game against France recently and our congratulations are also extended to him on his recent marriage.

Prop forward Bill Holliday has adden zest to the 'Lions' pack. He has taken on the role of pack leader and is also an excellent kicker both for goal and judicious kicks for touch, Alongside him in the front row are hooker Derek Clarke and blind side prop forward Bernard Scott.

In the second row new signing Smith from Workington has created a good impression at Station Road and Frank Hutton, who attracted the eye of Oldham scouts last season is turning in some sound performances. International Dave Robinson is as forceful as ever in Swinton's No. 13 jersey.

On paper the match should be one of excitement, let's all hope that this is the case.

RE-ARRANGED MATCHES

Supporters are asked to make a note of these re-arranged matches :-

1st Team

Tuesday March 18th kick-off 7-30 p.m. Leigh v. Oldham (at Leigh) Friday 28th March kick-off 7-30 p.m. St. Helens v Oldham (at St. Helens) Tuesday 15th April kick-off 7-30 p.m.

Oldham v St. Helens (at Oldham)

'A' Team

Monday 24th March kick-off 7-30 p.m. Oldham 'A' v Wigan 'A' (at home) Saturday 29th March kick-off 3 p.m. Whitehaven 'A' v Oldham 'A' (away) Monday 31st March kick-off 7-30 p.m. Oldham 'A' v Warrington 'A' (home) Saturday 5th April kick-off 3 p.m. St. Helens 'A' v Oldham 'A' (away) Monday 21st April kick-off 7-30 p.m. Oldham 'A' v Leigh 'A' (home) Saturday 26th April kick-off 3 p.m. Oldham 'A' v Whitehaven 'A' (home) The game Oldham 'A' v Widnes 'A' has still to be arranged.

GERRY HELME

A lot of people have enquired as to the progress of our Coach, Gerry Helme, who is still in hospital following a heart attack.

Gerry is making steady progress and his family expect that he will be home within the course of the next day or so.

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TRAGEDY

Tragedy struck our recent signing Jim Crellin on Saturday morning when he was informed in the early hours of Saturday morning last that his 27 years old brother Tom has been killed in a road accident.

The accident happened when Tom was walking home, some twenty yards from his home he was struck by a car. He died afterwards in a Whitehaven hospital.

We extend to Jim our very sincere condolences.

HOLIDAY DRAW

It has been decided to hold a Grand Wakes Draw, with cash prizes which will help considerably to your holiday spending money should you be one of the lucky winners.

The tickets will be on sale very soon and are just 6d. each.

As usual all our members will be sent tickets and we hope they will be able to sell these for us. There will be an attractive incentive prize to the seller of the winning ticket.

The first prize in the draw is £50. 2nd prize £25, 3rd prize £15 and there will be six other prize of £5 each.

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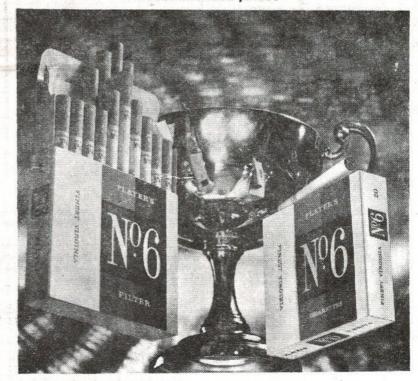
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES			'A' TEAM FIXTURES							
Date	Club	Grd.	F	A	Date		Club	Grd.	F	A
Aug. 10 17 19 24 28 31 Sept. 6 9	Blackpool (friendly) Huddersfield Blackpool Featherstone R Rochdale H Workington T Rochdale (Lancs, Cup) Blackpool B Hunslet	home home away away away away	14. 29. 22. 14. 10. 17. 44.	19 5 24 22 29	Sept.	7 14 21 12 19 26 2	Workington 'A' Rochdale 'A' (Shield) Rochdale 'A' (Shield) Wigan 'A' Rochdale 'A' Widnes 'A' Salford 'A' Whitehaven 'A'	away home away home away home		
21 28 Oct. 5	Wigan Doncaster Huddersfield	home away home	4. 26. 15.	9 10 13		9 16 23 30	Wigan 'A'	home away home		
12 19 25 Nov. 11	Featherstone R	home away	17.	.9	Dec.	21 28	Leigh 'A'	away home home		
15 30 Dec. 1 7	St. Helens	home away away	14	. 10	Jan. Feb.	4 11 18	Huyton 'A' Huyton 'A' Salford 'A' Leigh 'A'	home away		
20 22 26	Widnes Whitehaven Swinton	away home	5 17	26 . 7	Mar.	8 1 8	St. Helens 'A'	away away away		
Jan. 4 8 11 18	Huyton Warrington Huyton Salford	away away	19	.10	Apr.	7 12 19	Swinton 'A' Rochdale 'A' Barrow 'A' Swinton 'A'	away away home		
Feb. 1 8	LeighSt. Helens	away home					Times of Kick-off			
Mar. 1 3 8 15	Workington T Leigh Barrow Doncaster	home home home	13 20 18	.11 .7 .8	All Sa k.o.'s	as a	day games at home k.o. 3 advertised. All 1st & 'A' to	p.m. E eam m	ven	ing hes.
Apr. 4 7 11	Swinton (G.F.) Rochdale H. (E.M.) Barrow	away home			Footba	II Le	res are the copyright of the Pague, 180 Chapeltown Road, Loroduced without permission.			

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15th March—Kick-off 3-0 p.m.



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