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**RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**OLDHAM**

**V**

**WARRINGTON**

**SATURDAY 23rd AUGUST 1969**

**KICK OFF 3-0 p.m.**

**OFFICAL PROGRAMME**

**SIXPENCE**



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Hon. Treasurer: J. ERROCK, Esq.

Committee:

Messrs. F. Buckley, J. Burke, A. F. Campbell, P. G. Carter, L. Eyre, A. Marlor,  
S. McDonough, S. Ogden, A. Wormald.

Coach: Mr. G. HELME.

Assistant Coach: Mr. H. ENTWISTLE.

Physiotherapist: Mr. D. WRIGHT.

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### NEWS AND VIEWS

First of all an apology is due to all spectators who purchased a programme for the match v. Salford on Tuesday evening. Due to a delay in the postal service the copy, posted at lunch time on Sunday, did not arrive at its destination until lunch time on Tuesday which cut out all possibility of a complete programme being issued.

On behalf of the Committee I would apologise for this unavoidable happening and everything possible will be done to make sure a similar thing does not happen again.

The match on Tuesday proved that Oldham's share of luck is missing. Another two untimely injuries on Tuesday mean another re-shuffle for this afternoon's game. Phil Larder and Ray Clark were victims of the Swinton match, and Salford match victims were Alan Ogden and Ray Hopwood. On top of these worries the Club have to await the results of the Disciplinary Committee on the dismissals of Whitehead and McCourt. It could be that there will a struggle if these unfortunate injuries continue to spread. Let us hope Lady Luck is just around the corner and that the Club will begin to rise up that table.

### COMMITTEE CHANGES

At the last election there were a couple of changes on the Committee.

Mr. Arthur Parker retired and we would like to extend to Mr. Parker our very best thanks for his time and efforts.

Mr. Herbert Jones filled the vacancy and at the first meeting of the Committee following the election Mr. Jones was elected Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Ken Fisher was appointed Chairman and Mr. Jack Errock Treasurer.

There was also a change or two in the training staff, the main one being the departure of Mr. Alex Grivons from the scene. Alex has been a very good and loyal servant to the Club over a good number of years and our very best and warmest thanks go to Alex for his wonderful service.

Mr. Harold Entwistle has taken over the "A" Team coaching position and Mr. Derek Foy is now in charge of the "B" Team.

There was also a secretarial change, Mr. Len Robinson taking over the Secretaryship of the Club from Mr. John Stringer.



## £1,500 in prize money to be competed for by Rugby League Clubs in the Mackeson Merit Table



**At a time like this...MACKESON!**

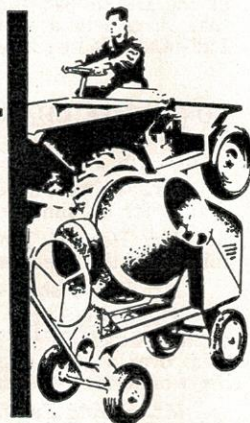
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## ALL ABOUT "THE WIRES"

Those people who have been associated with the Oldham and Warrington clubs for a long while, will recall the many battles between the respective teams. Warrington gained the better of Oldham in a Northern Union final: in 1921 they beat the Watersheddings team at Broughton Rangers' ground, the Cliffe, in the Lancashire Challenge Cup Final and also struggled to win the League Championship on a mud heap at Maine Road, Manchester, after a cloudburst.

Warrington also won a famous cup tie when Brian Bevan made an interception when it seemed certain that Oldham would succeed and get a place at Wembley. But it has not always been like that, as Oldham have gained some good wins over the Wires. Warrington folk remember such fine players as Sloman, Ferguson, Rix, Farrar, Hall, Rees, and in recent years Ganley, one of the best goal-kickers we have seen in the game.

Then again, Warrington have signed a few of Oldham's stars. We recall Gerry Donovan, the scrum half back who could head a rugby ball as skilfully as some of the men who have played for the Latics, Charlie Winslade, Keith Holden and Geoff Sheldon. I think that full back Bobbie Scott, who eventually played for Swinton, was signed from Oldham, but that point seems to be arguable.

Warrington these days have not the pride of place as they had when Brian Bevan, Harry Bath, Jim Featherstone, Bill Riley, Bill Derbyshire and Harold Palin were playing. But there are some highly promising players — Parry Gordon, scrum half, and his partner Warren Ayres. Tom Conroy, who is in the centre, was having one of his first matches here when Mervyn Hicks was also in his early days at Wilderspool.

Unfortunately, a broken nose keeps international Billy Aspinall out of action, and Ken Parr, the ex-Rochdale forward, is also an absentee. You have seen Len McIntyre in action before! He just will not say he is a veteran and the way he is going on, he will be playing well into the seventies.

Dave Cotton is the son of the Warrington ex-hooker, and Barry Briggs is the brother of Wilf the Oldham player. So they will be keen rivals this afternoon.

Brian Glover, the County three-quarter, is still a forceful player although he has been at Warrington for about twelve seasons. Jack Melling, the centre, has had more than his share of injuries. He is a resourceful player. Keith Affleck, the full back, has regained his place in the side and is a useful goal-kicker.

You all know the capabilities of Arthur Hughes, your former loose forward. This should be his favourite pitch. Over the past few years you have had very good service from that brilliant half back Gerry Helme, who did wonders at Warrington.

All fans at Warrington hope that he will have much better health and that fortunes will improve at your club, which has many proud traditions.

Finally, if you hear a lot of chanting, it will be the Warrington Junior Supporters' Club who are making things really hum at Wilderspool. Formed only a few months ago, they are recruiting new members and doing an excellent job in whipping up enthusiasm. Perhaps you can start a similar club at Oldham!

## CUP LUCK—NIL

Our exit from the Lancashire County Challenge Cup Competition on Saturday last was, to say the least, a great disappointment, especially as we got to the final last season and it was hoped to go one better this term and take the trophy.

The performance of the team, however, was marred by some atrocious luck. The dismissal of Whitehead and McCourt and the injuries to Crellin and Clark in the second half did not help matters and the task for the nine fit Oldham men on the field was far too great.

But how hard they tried and credit must go to each and every one of them for a fine effort. To lose by only four points against a team like Swinton and with the odds stacked heavily against you is indeed a fine effort.

My own view is that Whitehead particularly was exceptionally unlucky to get "marching orders" on the intervention of a touch judge who saw the Whitehead incident but seemingly saw very little else.

For instance he failed to see a vicious attack on Whitehead by young Kenny, the Swinton No. 7, when Whitehead had kicked downfield. Kenny continued to run despite the fact that the ball had gone. He felled Whitehead with what could be termed as a "forearm smash" and a couple of times earlier the touch judges had overlooked attacks on the former Swinton player.

However, it's no use crying over spilt milk, but surely this Swinton win must go down as a luck-inspired win against a luckless Oldham side.



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- 10—RAVATALI
- 11—IRVING
- 12—McCOURT
- 13—HICKS

- 14—DAVIES
- 15—RUSSELL

Referee:  
Mr. D. Davies (Swinton)

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Next Matches at Watersheddings

OLDHAM 'A' v WORKINGTON

Saturday, 30th August, 1969

OLDHAM v KEIGHLEY

Saturday, 6th September, 1969

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#### Player's No. 6

The Player's No. 6 Competition will again be in operation with an award being made to the player of the match and points will be accumulated to determine the season's prize-winners. Spectators will again have their chance to vote for their Players of the year.

#### Mackeson Merit Table

This is a new title which will be used in connection with the Mackeson Contest for season 1969/70. The new Contest replaces last season's Golden Ball Competition. The season is split into four periods ending 30th September, 30th November, 31st January and the end of the season. Period winners will be those teams which have the best scoring margins during these periods. The scoring margin is the difference between the points scored by a team and the points scored against it. The main prizes, and these are substantial with the winners getting £750, will go to the overall winners based on the season's League programme. The Competition applies to League games and not Cup Competitions.

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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES					"A" TEAM FIXTURES				
Date	Club	Grd.	F	A	Date	Club	Grd.	F	A
1969					1969				
Aug. 9	Blackpool	home			Aug. 23	Warrington	away		
	(Charity)					(Shield, 1 Rd., 1 leg)			
16	Swinton	home			30	Workington	home		
	(L.C. 1st Rd.)				Sept. 6	Rochdale	away		
19	Salford	home			13	Wigan	home		
23	Warrington	home			20	Huyton	away		
27	Bradford	away			27	Warrington	home		
30	Workington	away				(Shield, 1 Rd., 2 leg)			
Sept. 6	Keighley	home			Oct. 4	Workington	away		
8	Blackpool	away			11	Warrington	home		
13	Wigan	away			17	Salford	away		
20	Huyton	home			25	Barrow	home		
22	Rochdale	home			Nov. 8	Leigh	home		
26	Warrington	away			15	Widnes	away		
Oct. 4	Workington	home			22	St. Helens	home		
11	Keighley	away			Dec. 13	Wigan	away		
24	Barrow	away			20	Huyton	home		
Nov. 1	Whitehaven	home			1970				
8	Leigh	away			Jan. 3	St. Helens	away		
15	Widnes	home			10	Swinton	home		
22	St. Helens	away			17	Swinton	away		
Dec. 6	Huddersfield	home			24	Barrow	away		
13	Wigan	home			Feb. 14	Leigh	away		
20	Huyton	away			28	Salford	home		
26	Swinton	away			Mar. 14	Widnes	home		
28	Batley	away			20	(Fri.) Warrington	away		
1970					28	Rochdale	home		
Jan. 3	St. Helens	home							
17	Huddersfield	away							
24	Barrow	home							
31	Whitehaven	away							
Feb. 7	(Chal. Cup 1st Rd.)								
14	Leigh	home							
21	(Chal. Cup 2nd Rd.)								
27	Salford	away							
Mar. 7	Bradford	home							
14	Widnes	away							
23	Blackpool	home							
27	Swinton	home							
28	Rochdale	away							
Apr. 11	Batley	home							

**Times of kick-off**  
All Saturday games at home k.o. 3 p.m.  
Evening k.o. times as advertised.  
All 1st and "A" team matches.

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Next Matches at Watersheddings

**OLDHAM 'A' v WORKINGTON**

Saturday, 30th August, 1969

**OLDHAM v KEIGHLEY**

Saturday, 6th September, 1969

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