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Rugby League Football Club

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME 3p



Dewsbury 12

VERSUS

OLDHAM 12

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FOUNDED 1875

Club Colours: Red, Amber & Black.

OFFICIALS 1970/71

President: M. J. Lumb, Esq.

Vice-Presidents: R. Anderson, Esq., R. Bedford, Esq., J. Mackay, Esq.

Committee: Messrs. R. Harter, W. D. Mann, F. Rock, A. Talbot, J. Crowther.

Secretary: Mr. T. Clark, Crown Flatt, Dewsbury. (Tel. Home Batley 4972)

CLUB RECORDS

Challenge Cup Winners: 1919, 1943 Championship Winners: 1941/42.
Yorkshire League Champions: 1946/47. County Cup Winners: 1925, 1927, 1942.
Yorkshire Senior Competition Cup Winners: 1961.
Try Scorer: D. Thomas (40) 1906/07. Goalkicker: S. Thompson (110) 1951/52.
Points in Season: S. Thompson (223pts) 1951/52.
Ground Record: 27,000. International Tourists: F. Gallagher, H. Street, R. Pollard.

EDITORIAL

by W.H.E.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NIGEL STEPHENSON

Our warmest congratulations go to NIGEL STEPHENSON our young centre who has created a new points scoring record for this Club. His total for this season to date, friendly games not included, is 97 goals and 10 tries making 224 points and that breaks the previous record established in season 1951/52 by Stanley Thompson of 223 points. Nigel now goes for Stanley Thompson's goal kicking record of 110 goals which was established in season 1951/52, with quite a number of games still to play Nigel should break this record quite comfortably. A wonderful feat for a young man of 20 years of age whose senior career has only just begun to take shape. Its really been a momentous season for the young man, in addition to his scoring feats, he has appeared twice with Yorkshire, both occasions against Lancashire, both games were won by Yorkshire and Nigel had two tries in each game. He is also the only ever present this season and has failed to score in only one game, that was against Keighley at Lawkholme on Oct. 10th, 1970 when we went down by 22pts to nil. Nigel needs only 3 goals to reach his first century in senior football and indeed he will be the first Dewsbury player for a very long time to kick 100 goals in a season. Provided he gets the opportunity and kicks those 3 goals today, don't forget to give him a big cheer when the 3rd goes over the bar.

Which brings me to the question of our league position. We are at present 13th from the top with 26pts just like Oldham and Huddersfield who are immediately below us, but we have the better record as far as scoring aggregate goes so we get the top spot from the other two. We have now lost 4 games in succession, including the cup game with Bramley, we lost at home in a league game with Bramley the week previous to the cup tie. Frankly, those two league points were points I expected the team to pick up and the situation is, that we cannot afford to drop any more home points if we are to finish in the Top 16 and take part in the Championship Play Off. I had also been prepared to write off the game at Leigh which should have taken place last Saturday but which had to be postponed because Leigh are still in the cup. After Oldham (H) today, we have Hunslet (A), Halifax (H), Wakefield (H), Huyton (A), Huyton (H), and Blackpool (H) whilst the Leigh game has to be re-arranged. Surely, we would expect to have a very good chance of winning at Hunslet and Huyton and on their best form the team must be capable of winning everyone of the home games. Having experienced a unsuccessful period the sincere hope is that from now to the end of the fixtures we may be on a winning streak.

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The question of summer football has again come up and there is to be a competition in the shape of an experiment to test out the potentialities of summer football. Though full details are not yet available, it is known that the competition will start in July, the first and second rounds will be two leg affairs, the semi-finals and final will be normal one game "sudden death". Seventeen clubs are expected to take part and the draw will be made at the next meeting of the League Management Committee. As far as this club is concerned, we are not by any means convinced that summer football is the answer to any of the problems of today and we shall not be taking part in the competition. In any case, after a hard winter season the players and the ground are entitled to a rest which as far as we are concerned they will get this summer.

After their meeting this week, the League Management Committee announced that there would be a new knock-out competition next season, to be played in the late autumn. No other details were given, but we understand that the competition will be sponsored and will depend on the two County authorities co-operating through holding their County Cup Competitions probably in August, which according to Mr. W. H. Hirst the Yorkshire County R.L. Secretary, would probably suit the Yorkshire authorities very well. No doubt we shall have full details of the new competition very shortly.

OUR VISITORS

Today, we extend a most warm and cordial welcome to Officials, Players and Supporters of OLDHAM, although they are not very far away from us, only just over the border in Lancashire, it isn't often that we see them here. The last time they were here for a league fixture was on Aug. 22nd, 1964 and they beat us 17pts to 4pts. On April 19th, 1965, which is the last time the two clubs met in the league, prior of course to this season,

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* TEAMS *

DEWSBURY *12*
(Red, Amber & Black)

FULL BACK

1—RUSHTON

THREE-QUARTERS

2—CHILDE *1 try*

3—FLETCHER *16 try*

4—STEPHENSON, N. *3 goals*

5—TATE

HALF-BACKS

6—AGAR

7—BATES, A.

FORWARDS

8—TAYLOR

9—STEPHENSON, M.

10—COATES

11—WHITTINGTON

12—BATES, J.

13—ROBINSON, B.

SUBSTITUTES

14—SMITH, D.

15—LOWE

REFEREE

Mr. R. WOOD

(Barrow)

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(Red Flag)

Mr. D. C. Holden
(Amber Flag)

OLDHAM *12*

(Red & White)

FULL BACK

1—MURPHY

THREE-QUARTERS

2—CLARK *1 try*

3—LARDER

4—HILL

5—GARRETT *Elliott*

HALF-BACKS

6—BLAIR *3 goals*

7—SMITH

FORWARDS

8—WILSON

9—TAYLOR

10—BONSOR

11—IRVING *16 try*

12—MCGORMACK *Michael*

13—REYNOLDS

SUBSTITUTES

14—ELLIOTT *Carnett*

15—DALEY *Fletcher*

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we went to Oldham and gained our revenge by 6pts to 3pts. The rarity of a meeting between the two clubs is further shown when the records reveal that though the clubs met in season 1963/64, when Oldham did the 'double' on us, there had been a three seasons gap before that going back to the 1959/60 season when our visitors had again managed a 'double'. So in the last six league games, previous to this season, we had won only once and that was at Oldham in 1964. The law of averages seems to indicate that we are well overdue for a victory over Oldham on our own "midding" though our visitors will undoubtedly have other ideas.

Though they took part in several Challenge Cup Finals prior to 1929, Oldham haven't been in a Wembley Cup Final. They have however taken part in the Championship Final since the last war and won the Championship in 1956/57 season, they were in the Final in 1954/55. As far as the Lancashire County Challenge Cup is concerned, they were in the 1968 Final but lost to St. Helens. They were also runners-up in 1966 and had a fine run of three victories in the County Cup Finals of 1956, 1957 and 1958. Oldham were founder members of the Rugby League and played their first game on their present ground at the Watersheddings on Sept. 28th, 1889.

PERSONNEL

The Chairman of the Oldham Club is **Mr. Arthur Walker** a well-known Rugby League legislator, a former Tour Manager, he was joint Manager with the late **Mr. Stuart Hadfield** of the 1962 Tour and was formerly for many years Chairman of the Rochdale Hornets Club. The Coach from the Oldham Club is **Graham Starkey** who was signed as Player-Coach from **Huddersfield** during last close season. Starkey was of course formerly with Rochdale Hornets and was a pretty prolific goalkicker, it does however seem unlikely that he will be playing today.

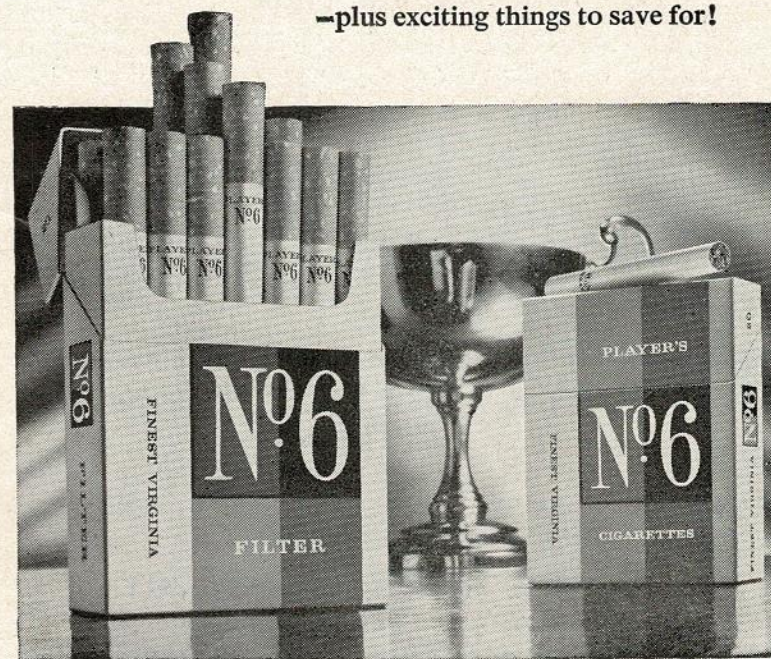
At full back for our visitors we expect to see **Martin Murphy** a former Leigh junior who has played for Lancashire this season. Probable right wing is **Rav Clark** formerly of Warrington who seems to alternate between loose forward and wing a big fellow he has proved a dangerous customer on the right wing. Right centre is likely to be **Phil Larder** a former Sale R.U. player who seems a fairly consistent performer, left centre **Cliff Hill** was signed this season from Wigan he is equally at home at stand off half, he is brother of Dave Hill still with Wigan who played for Gt. Britain earlier this season. Left wing **Terry Garrett** is very important to the side for his goal kicking, his kicking style is in the mould of Willie Horne, he kicks with the side of his foot. Stand off half **Johnny Blair** is a former local junior only 19 years of age who has quickly showed his ability in the short time he has been in the senior side. Scrum half is a player of considerable experience, formerly with Widnes and Barrow **Ged Smith** though small of stature is a player with a lot of ability.

Open side prop is another player of considerable experience, **Ken (Tug) Wilson** is a former Gloucester and England R.U. forward and his partner at hooker is **Kevin Taylor** a former local junior who Oldham say is the best uncapped hooker in the league, others would be inclined to argue that one. To complete the front row **Dick Bonsor** the former Swinton and Huyton second row forward, who will be deputising for **Keith Ashcroft** the former Wigan prop who is likely to be out for the rest of the season with a broken ankle. In the second row **Bob Irving** who many of the top clubs would dearly like to have in their side. Irving is a Yorkshireman and in a recent Yorkshire County game gave a brilliant display of forward play, he hails from Huddersfield and was of course on the recent Australian Tour. His second row partner will probably be **Terry Michaels** a former coloured Welsh R.U. player who is on trial from Halifax, Michaels came North as a centre or wing. Loose forward **Jim Reynolds** is another former junior from the Leigh area and has come to prominence this season. Likely forward substitute is **Arthur Daly** from the Widnes area and back substitute **Mike Elliott** another coloured young man who came out of R.U. in the Cardiff area.

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FLASH BACK

We don't have to go back very far for the last meeting between the two clubs. It was this season in the fixture at the Watersheddings, on Sept. 26th, 1970 to be exact and a narrow win for us by 17—16. Our side that day was: Rushton; Child, N. Stephenson, Grayshon, Yoward; Agar, A. Bates; Naylor, M. Stephenson, Taylor, J. Bates, Rhodes, Robinson. Nigel Stephenson kicked 4 goals and scored a try, the other two tries were scored Alan Child and Mike Stephenson. So having won on our opponents ground we have a chance of a 'double', as I said earlier, undoubtedly our visitors will be eager to gain revenge for that defeat earlier in the season.

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1970/71

Aug. 22	Keighley	(h) won 27—0	Jan. 9	Swinton	(a) lost 9—11
" 30	Keighley	(h) won 13—10	16	Rochdale	(h) won 17—4
" 31	Wakefield	(a) won 10—7	30	Workington	(h) draw 7—7
Sept. 5	Batley	(a) lost 12—14	Feb. 7	Doncaster	(a) won 17—11
Sept. 8	York	(h) won 12—10	9	Halifax	(a) lost 9—15
" 11	Bramley (YC)	(a) lost 7—12	23	1st Rnd. Challenge Cup	
" 12	Blackpool	(a) lost 14—15		B.O.C.M.	(h) won 25—3
" 16	York	(a) won 12—10	14	Bramley	(h) Lost 9—10
" 23	Featherstone	(a) lost 7—20	21	Bramley	(h) Lost 13—17
" 26	Oldham	(a) won 17—16		(2nd Rd. R.L. Cup)	
" 29	Featherstone	(h) won 40—0	27	Workington	(a) Lost 7—13
Oct. 3	Leigh	(h) lost 5—16	Mar. 6	Leigh away 3.00
" 10	Keighley	(a) lost 0—22	13	Oldham home 3.00 12-12
" 17	Swinton	(a) won 20—17	21	Hunslet away 3.00
Nov. 13	Barrow	(a) lost 12—17	27	First Semi Final Cup	
22	Doncaster	(h) won 25—2	Apr. 3	Second Semi Final Cup	
28	Rochdale	(a) lost 9—10	12	Wakefield home 3.00
Dec. 5	Barrow	(h) won 17—10	13	Huyton away 3.00
13	Bramley	(a) draw 15—15	17	Blackpool home 3.00
19	Batley	(h) won 13—10			

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