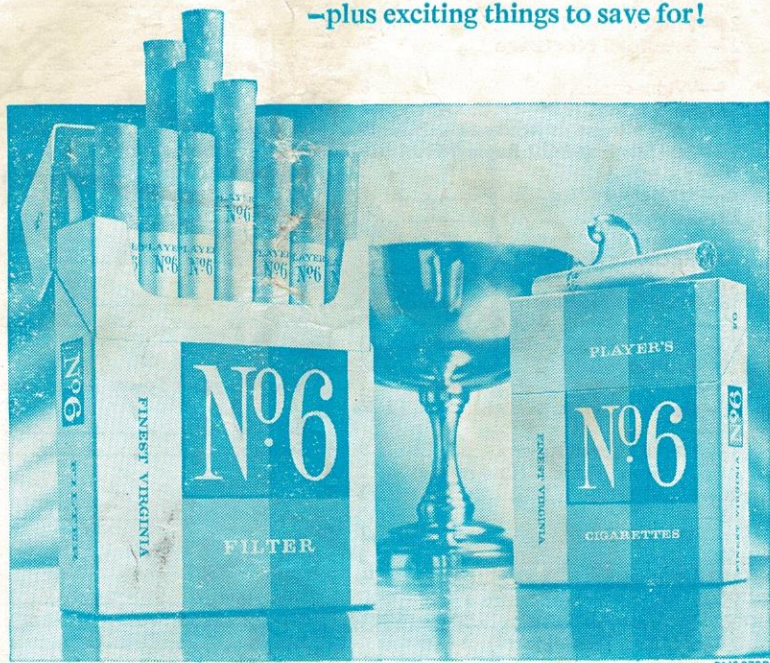


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Northern Rugby Football League
 Central Park

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Official Programme

5p

WIGAN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB LTD

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Colours: Cherry and White Hooped Jerseys, White Shorts

* * *

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Vice-Chairman: W. Wood

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J. Hilton
S. Baxendale
A. E. Walls

H. T. Gostelow
W. Ackers
M. Ryan
E. Ayles

Finance and Estates:

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M. Ryan
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Council Representative: S. Baxendale

Lancashire County Representative and President: H. T. Gostelow

* * *

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Groundsmen: T. Jackson
F. Green

Physiotherapist: J. Alstead

1st Team Coach/Manager:

E. Ashton, M.B.E.

'A' Team Coach: J. Lawrenson

1st Team Skipman: T. Dunne

'A' Team Skipman: M. Rourke

'B' Team Coach: E. Toohey

Colts Team Coach: J. Keane

HEADQUARTERS: CENTRAL PARK

TELEPHONE 43079

Wigan v Oldham

Friday, 23rd April, 1971

Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

OUR VISITORS

We welcome our friends from Oldham, who have been absent from our fixtures this season as a result of the new fixture arrangement.

Oldham, under their new committee, have greatly improved their performances this season. It is hoped that it is only a matter of time before they regain the status that they enjoyed during the early 'sixties. In that period players of the calibre of Alan Davies, Frank Pitchford, Jack Keith, Charlie Winslade, Sid Little and Derek Turner made them one of the most attractive sides in the game.

Tonight's team is likely to contain a number of Wigan born players amongst whom will be stand-off Tom Davies and centre Jim McCormack. It is likely that Oldham will be without both our former players Cliff Hill and Keith Ashcroft. Keith sustained a broken leg earlier in the season, whilst Cliff pulled a hamstring in training last week.

Oldham will certainly not be lacking in experience at number eight and hooker as tonight Ken Wilson plays his 245th club game and Kevin Taylor his 242nd. Taylor by the way is still only 24 years of age, so one could visualise an Oldham record in this direction before Kevin's playing days are over.

We look forward to a good open game of football tonight in the best Wigan v Oldham tradition. Replay in the event of a draw, Wed. 28th April.

PRESENTATION OF THE LEAGUE LEADERS ROSE BOWL

We offer our hearty congratulations to our team in finishing league leaders in what must be one of the most difficult fixture lists possible under the present fixture arrangement.

Tonight we welcome Mr. Jack Harding, Chairman of the League Management Committee and also Chairman of the Leigh Club who will present the League Leaders Trophy before the kick-off to our Captain Doug Laughton.

TONIGHT'S CURTAIN RAISER

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OFFICIAL NOTES

After being at the top of the league for most of the season, we finally clinched the league leader's trophy on Friday when we defeated Castleford by 16 points to 4 at Central Park. This was a game in which two new young players made their mark—Chris Fuller (wing) and Dennis Ashcroft (prop). Both had admirable games. Fuller, in his first Rugby League game, did remarkably well and looks sure to be a very valuable acquisition. Ashcroft, in his home "debut", perhaps overshadowed by the publicity given to new signing Chris Fuller, nevertheless emerged with great credit. On this form and with normal progress Dennis looks as though he could become a permanent fixture in the Wigan pack for many years to come, being only twenty-one years of age.

Victory over Castleford is always hard-earned and this was no exception, for although at times hopelessly outplayed, "Cas" stuck to their guns with great resolution to prevent any second-half scores. For the statisticians, the scorers were O'Loughlin, Ayres, Clarke and Rowe (tries) with two Tyrer goals, whilst Redfearn replied with two goals for Castleford. Laughton, with an outstanding display, took the Player's No. 6 Player of the Match award, with Ayres and Francis taking the minor placings.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
1 Wigan	34	30	0	4	662	308	60
2 St. Helens	34	29	0	5	748	231	58
3 Leeds	34	28	0	6	856	352	56
4 Leigh	34	26	0	8	636	380	52
5 Wakefield Trinity	34	24	1	9	760	330	49
6 Keighley	34	21	0	13	448	375	42
7 Salford	34	20	1	13	641	432	41
8 Hull	34	20	1	13	610	444	41
9 Workington	34	20	1	13	504	467	41
10 Halifax	34	20	0	14	538	497	40
11 Dewsbury	34	17	3	14	474	406	37
12 Castleford	34	18	0	16	467	403	36
13 Hull Kingston Rovers	34	18	0	16	447	524	36
14 Batley	34	16	2	16	492	411	34
15 Huddersfield	34	16	2	16	440	434	34
16 Oldham	34	12	7	15	487	434	31

The above sixteen clubs who finished in the top sixteen positions now compete for the League Championship Trophy and the games are arranged as shown below. The numbers, of course, represent the final league position. Of the clubs taking part, the higher placed clubs to have ground advantage.

First Round: 1 × 16 2 × 15 3 × 14 4 × 13 5 × 12 6 × 11 7 × 10
8 × 9

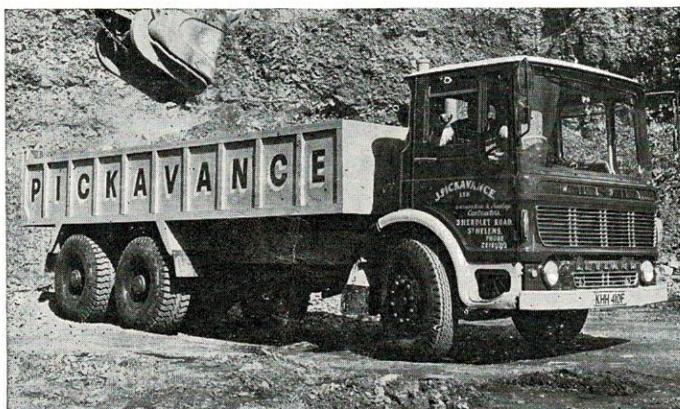
Second Round: 1 × 8 2 × 7 3 × 6 4 × 5

Semi-Final: 1 × 4 2 × 3

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This formula thus gives the following first round ties:

FIRST ROUND TOP SIXTEEN CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFF

Wigan v. Oldham	Wakefield Trinity v. Castleford
St. Helens v. Huddersfield	Keighley v. Dewsbury
Leeds v. Batley	Salford v. Halifax
Leigh v. Hull Kingston Rovers	Hull v. Workington

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP POST-WAR WINNERS

Year	Winners	Runners-up	Year	Winners	Runners-up
1945/46	Wigan	Huddersfield	1958/59	St. Helens	Hunslet
1946/47	Wigan	Deswbury	1959/60	Wigan	Wakefield T.
1947/48	Warrington	Bradford N.	1960/61	Leeds	Warrington
1948/49	Huddersfield	Warrington	1961/62	Huddersfield	Wakefield T.
1949/50	Wigan	Huddersfield	1962/63	Swinton	St. Helens*
1950/51	Workington	Warrington	1963/64	Swinton	Wigan*
1951/52	Wigan	Bradford N.	1964/65	Halifax	St. Helens
1952/53	St. Helens	Halifax	1965/66	St. Helens	Halifax
1953/54	Warrington	Halifax	1966/67	Wakefield T.	St. Helens
1954/55	Warrington	Oldham	1967/68	Wakefield T.	Hull K.R.
1955/56	Hull	Halifax	1968/69	Leeds	Castleford
1956/57	Oldham	Hull	1969/70	St. Helens	Leeds
1957/58	Hull	Warrington			

*First Division

SUPPORTERS NOTES

Congratulations on winning the League Leaders Trophy and this without having any player sent off during the season. Something to be proud of. Don't forget the Annual General Meeting in the Cocktail Lounge of the Social Club on Monday, 17th May.

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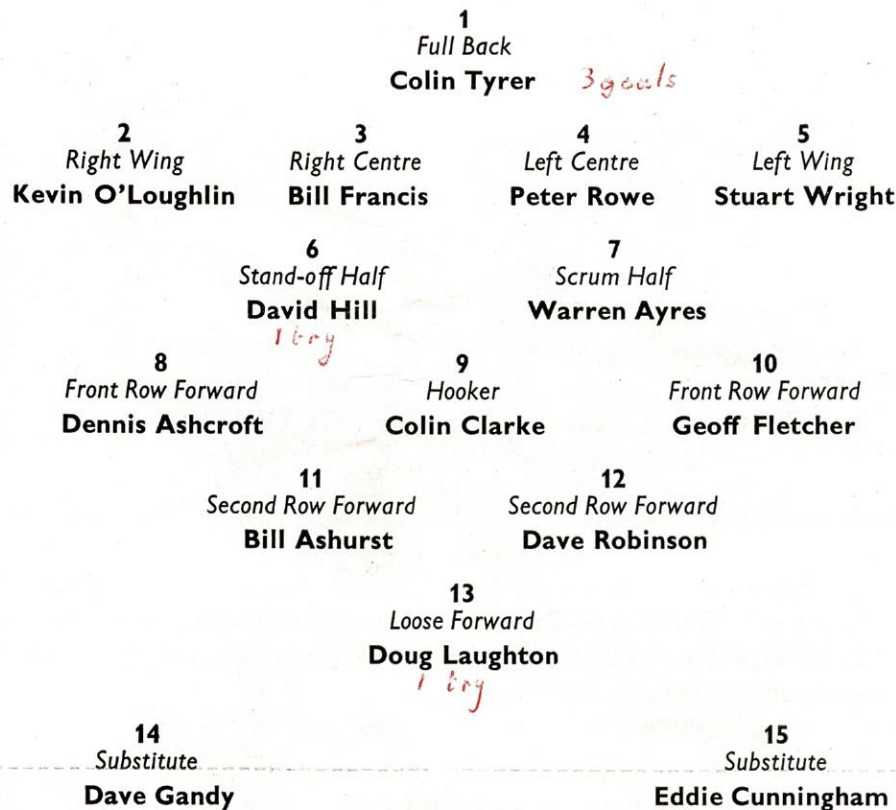
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WIGAN

12

Colours: Blue and White

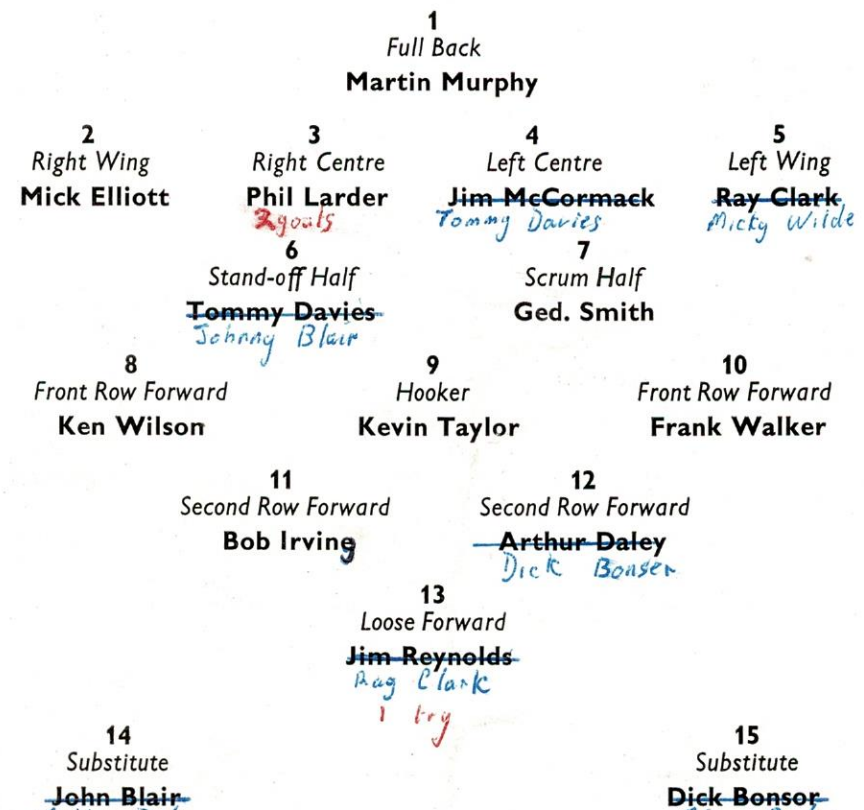


Referee: P. GERAGHTY (York)

OLDHAM

7

Colours: Red and White



Touch Judges: J. CASEY (Pink Flag)

J. MEADOWS (Tangerine Flag)

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WIGAN PLAYERS RECORDS — SEASON 1970-71

(up to and including Friday, 16th April, 1971)

	Appearances All Matches	League Matches	BBC 2 TV Competition	TRY SCORERS				TOTAL
				R.L.C.C.	L.C.C.C.	Top 16 Play-off	Ward Cup	
Ashcroft, D.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashcroft, K.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashurst, W. F.	34	11	—	—	3	—	1	15
Ayres, W.	20	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Barrow, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burdell, R.	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clarke, C.	37	3	1	—	3	—	1	8
Cunningham, E.	23	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Eastham, P.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fletcher, G.	43	1	2	—	—	—	—	3
Francis, W.	41	6	3	—	—	—	1	10
Fuller, C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gandy, D.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hill, C.	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hill, D.	30	4	1	—	2	—	2	9
Hogan, B.	32	3	—	—	—	—	1	4
Jones, K.	26	12	1	—	—	—	1	14
Laughton, D.	35	8	—	—	1	—	—	9
Molyneux, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
O'Loughlin, Kevin	24	4	—	—	—	—	1	5
O'Loughlin, Kieron	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Park, A.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parr, F.	28	4	2	—	1	—	—	7
Robinson, D.	35	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Rowe, P.	32	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Stephens, J.	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tyrer, C.	37	8	1	—	—	—	—	9
Whittle, J.	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Wright, S.	41	27	2	1	1	—	—	31
A. N. Other	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TRIES SCORED BY SUBSTITUTES

Ayres, W.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Burdell, R.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cunningham, E.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hill, C.	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Whittle, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	130	13	1	14	—	8	—	166

GOAL SCORERS

Ashurst, W.	33	2	1	4	—	5	—	45
Francis, W.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Hill, D.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Parr, F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Tyrer, C.	94	16	5	13	—	—	—	128
TOTAL	136	18	6	17	—	5	—	182

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	FIRST TEAM	F. A.	"A" TEAM	F. A.
Aug. 14	Warrington (Wardonia Cup)	34 6	Warrington (Friendly)	38 8
21	Warrington	17 11	St. Helens	8 18
22			Whitehaven (L.C.C.S. 1st leg)	0 15
26	Featherstone Rovers	29 11	Salford	26 10
29	Barrow (L.C.C.C. 1st round)	32 2	Huyton	4 7
Sept. 4	Salford	13 7	Whitehaven	10 28
11	Castleford	17 16	Whitehaven (L.C.C.S. 2nd leg)	7 23
13	Salford (L.C.C.C. 2nd round)	12 12	Oldham	14 19
15	Keighley (BBC 2 F.C. 1st round)	28 0	Rochdale Hornets	10 10
16			Warrington	55 0
19	Whitehaven	41 12	Huyton	11 8
20	Salford (L.C.C.C. 2nd rnd replay)	32 6	Rochdale Hornets	19 11
23	Swinton	21 10	Widnes	18 12
26	Hull	25 9	Barrow	P
30	Swinton	16 7	Workington Town	8 15
Oct. 3	Leeds	30 17	Oldham	27 7
7	Wakefield Trinity	18 5	Warrington	P
10	St. Helens (L.C.C.C. Semi-final)	0 23	Swinton	10 18
14	Featherstone Rovers	21 12	Widnes	7 8
16	Leigh	P	Workington Town	23 12
19	Rochdale Hornets	P	Barrow	27 12
23	Leigh	P	Swinton	0 7
31			St. Helens	13 18
Nov. 6	Rochdale Hornets	25 5	Warrington	21 20
Fri. 13	Widnes	15 10	Whitehaven	P
14			Leigh	16 10
Fri. 20	Barrow	P	Warrington	21 20
24	Huddersfield (BBC 2 F.C. 2nd rd.)	25 9	Whitehaven	P
Fri. 27	Bradford Northern	36 6	Leigh	7 5
28			Salford	8 12
Dec. 4	Widnes	8 5	Barrow 11-30 a.m.	
8	St. Helens (BBC 2 F.C. S. final)	7 7		
12	Hull Kingston Rovers	19 16		
13	St. Helens (BBC 2 Replay)	15 16		
18				
Sat. 26	St. Helens	12 5		
28	Barrow	28 10		
1971				
Jan. 8	Rochdale Hornets	28 12		
11	Warrington	16 9		
Sat. 16	Bradford Northern	23 5		
22				
23	Batley (R.L.C.C. 1st round)	13 4		
Fri. 29	Huddersfield	23 7		
30				
Feb. 5	Barrow	36 2		
6				
Sat. 13	Hull Kingston Rovers	9 14		
21	Swinton (R.L.C.C. 2nd round)	2 8		
Fri. 26	Huddersfield	13 9		
Mar. 3				
6	Wakefield	11 5		
Wed. 10	Leigh	3 15		
Sat. 13	Hull	26 7		
Mon. 15				
Sat. 20	Whitehaven	24 5		
27	R.L.C.C. Semi-final (1)			
30	Leeds	10 8		
Apr. 3	R.L.C.C. Semi-final (2)			
6	Leigh	20 7		
Fri. 9	St. Helens	6 9		
Mon. 12	Salford	7 16		
Fri. 16	Castleford	16 4		
24	Championship Play-off 1st round			
May 1	Championship Play-off 2nd round			
8	Championship Play-off Semi-finals			
15	R.L.C.C. Final at Wembley			
22	Championship Play-off Final			

All Saturday K.O's 3-15 p.m.