

Warrington

Jersey: Blue
Shorts: Blue
Stockings: Blue with Yellow Turnover

1—FINNIGAN, D.

2—CURLING, D.
3—BEVAN, J.
4—HESFORD, S.
5—KELLY, M.

6—GWILLIAM, A.
7—GORDON, P.

8—WEAVILL, D.
9—PRICE, J.
10—CASE, B.
11—MARTYN, T.
12—LESTER, R.
13—PHILBIN, B.

Substitutes:
14—KELLY, K.
15—

Oldham

Jersey: Red & White
Shorts: White
Stockings: Red & White

1—O'BRIEN, C.

2—ELLIOTT, M.
3—RADCLIFFE, I.
4—MUNRO, G.
5—LUND, S.

6—WHITTLE, A.
7—PATERSON, J.

8—ASHCROFT, K.
9—O'MAHONEY, R.
10—CLARKE, C.
11—STARBUCK, P.
12—PETERS, A.
13—REYNOLDS, J.

Substitutes:
14—
15—

Referee: Mr. M. J. Naughton (Widnes)

Touch Judges: Mr. K. L. Gaskell (Wigan—Pink Flag)
Mr. F. J. Tomlinson (Widnes—Orange Flag)

Next Match at Wilderspool:

First Division Fixture

SATURDAY, 23rd APRIL, 1977

WARRINGTON v. ST. HELENS

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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WILDERSPOOL STADIUM—SUNDAY, 17th APRIL, 1977

'WIRE' VERSUS

OLDHAM

FIRST DIVISION FIXTURE

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.



Official
Programme

10p

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Season 1976/77

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J. P. Worthington



**Mike Kelly, our former Crosfields Amateur RL
winger, touches down for a fine try against
Bradford Northern.**

*Picture by Stuart Ritchie,
Warrington Guardian Series*

The **ALEX MURPHY** **COLUMN**

Bad news and good news usually come together and very often it's the same with the results. After our set back of two close defeats in Yorkshire we certainly made up for things over Easter with two excellent wins over Widnes and Bradford. We put it all together again to maintain our top four challenge. I felt in both matches we played some great football and whilst I have always maintained it is unfair to pick out individuals I thought that Tommy Martyn's try against Bradford is one that supporters would go a long way to see again. Tommy's form has without any question been a feature of our recent revival and I'm sure I speak for everyone in offering our heartiest congratulations on his selection for the Great Britain World Cup squad. Well done Tommy, it's really been deserved! Another encouraging sign was also the form shown by recent signing Mike Kelly, making his home debut, and also to see namesake Ken Kelly reappearing in our colours for the first time since January and, in fact, since he officially became a Warrington player. For this afternoon's game it is possible John Bevan could be back in the side which only leaves Mike Nicholas and Ian Potter still regaining fitness in a season where we have been really punished with injury. All round therefore, it does look as if we could be well set for a good run in the Premiership and we can really get down to some good preparation in the close season to be in full readiness for the start of next season.

Turning to today's fixture we extend a warm welcome to our friends from OLDHAM who I'm sure in many respects will be glad to see the end of a season which has again seen them doomed to relegation. For their part also it can be said that injuries have brought about a disappointing run of defeats at a time when points were needed to be earned and even this afternoon their line-up will not be finalised until just before kick-off. At full back covering for the injured Martin Murphy, will be former Cardiff Rugby Union player of four years ago, namely Chris O'Brien, whilst on the right wing will be another former Cardiff player and currently the longest serving player at Oldham in Mick Elliott. Two locals form the centre partnership in Ian Radcliffe and Geoff Munro, whilst on the left flank is one of a number of Castleford juniors signed by Oldham, namely Steve Lund. Stand-off Alan Whittle is well known to us and partners John Paterson at half back. The front row is very experienced with the props being our former player Keith Ashcroft and the other Colin Clarke, the former Wigan player and currently on loan from Salford. Hooker Roger O'Mahoney completes the trio and made shadow squad selection for the Lancashire County team this season. Paul Starbuck, Tony Peters and Jim Reynolds complete the thirteen but in spite of any ideas my rival Coach Ken Wilson may have, I expect, us to win this match and complete our fifth double of the season.

G. A. MARSHALL

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Alex Murphy Column — *continued*

Jim Challinor Testimonial Match. Permission has been granted by the Rugby League for a Testimonial Match to be played for the late Jim Challinor. It is proposed that the game should take place on Tuesday, 17th May and the match will be between the Gt. Britain World Cup squad and a representative side from the clubs with whom Jim was connected, namely Warrington, Barrow, St. Helens and Oldham. Further details will be announced later but it is hoped everyone from the Warrington area will make a full effort to support this match.

Fixture v. St. Helens. Will all our supporters please note that next Sunday's fixture against St. Helens has been brought forward to Saturday, 23rd April, 1977, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Wembley, '77. Every day we receive a number of enquiries asking about tickets for this year's final. Please note, all the seats were sold long ago, but standing enclosure tickets priced £1.50 can still be obtained from the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7, or direct from Widnes RLFC.

Cambrian Player of the Year. Today is the last match for judging before next Saturday's presentation, and, as can be seen from the table on the opposite page, with eight points to be earned today it is anybody's guess who will get the final vote.

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POINTS TO DATE

Gordon, P.	13
Philbin, B.	12
Weavil, D.	8
Martyn, T.	8
Miller, A.	6
Kelly, K.	5
Nicholas, M.	5
Case, B.	4
Butler, B.	3
Gwilliam, A.	3
Kelly, M.	3
Curling, D.	1
Lester, R.	1

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

1976	Opponents	Ground	
Aug. 15	Wigan (3.00)(Locker Cup)	H	27-15
22	Barrow (2.30)(Lancs Cup 1st Rd)	A	40-7
29	Salford (3.00)(Lancs Cup 2nd Rd)	H	14-13
Sept. 3	Salford (7.30)	A	5-16
12	Workington Town (3.00)	H	16-9
14	Leigh (BBC2 Floodlight Prelim.)	A	10-11
19	Rochdale Hornets (2.30)	A	21-14
21	Workington T. (Lancs Cup Semi-)	H	9-9
26	Wakefield Trinity (3.00)	H	15-31
29	Workington T. (Lancs Cup Semi-Final Replay)	A	15-26
Oct. 3	Barrow (2.30)	A	38-13
10	Castleford (3.00)	H	11-18
17	St. Helens (3.00)	A	9-23
23	Hull (John Player Trophy 1st Rd)	A	5-18
31	Barrow (3.00)	H	15-16
Nov. 7	(John Player Trophy 2nd Rd)		
14	Wakefield Trinity (3.30)	A	21-38
21	Hull K.R. (2.45)	A	11-23
28	Featherstone Rovers (3.00)	H	10-9
Dec. 4	Leeds (3.00)	A	Post.
12	Salford (3.00)	H	44-10
19	Leeds (3.00)	H	14-10
27	Bradford Northern (2.30)	A	7-26
1977			
Jan. 1	Leigh (3.00)	H	9-4
9	Workington Town (2.30)	A	14-16
16	Rochdale Hornets (3.00)	H	16-7
23	Wigan (3.00)	A	12-2
30	Hull K.R. (3.00)	H	Post.
Feb. 6	Leigh (3.00)	A	18-15
12	St. Helens (Ch. Cup 1st Rd)	H	12-13
20	Oldham (3.30)	A	Post.
27	Oldham (3.30)	A	43-4
Mar. 6	Wigan (3.00)	H	12-3
11	Castleford (7.30)	A	Post.
16	Hull K.R. (7.30)	H	22-12
20	Widnes (3.00)	H	17-5
27	Featherstone Rovers (3.30)	A	5-11
Apr. 1	Castleford (7.30)	A	13-15
8	Widnes (3.0)	A	26-7
11	Bradford Northern (3.00)	H	22-10
17	Oldham (3.00)	H	
20	Leeds (7.30)	A	
27	St. Helens (3.00)	H	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

1976	Opponents	Ground	
Aug. 14	Wigan (Friendly)(3.00)	A	12-31
20	Wigan (7.30)(L.C.C. Shield 1st Leg)	H	17-30
31	Wigan (3.00)(L.C.C. Shield 2nd Leg)	A	8-12
Sept. 7	Salford (7.30)	H	16-16
11	Workington Town (3.00)	A	7-19
17	Rochdale Hornets (7.30)	H	Post.
25	Leigh (11.30)	A	10-11
Oct. 2	Barrow (3.00)	H	27-19
8	St. Helens (7.30)	A	5-29
15	St. Helens (7.30)	H	13-9
23			
30	Barrow (2.30)	A	38-17
Nov. 6			
12	Huyton (7.30)	H	44-10
19	Widnes (7.30)	H	14-9
27			
Dec. 4	Huyton (2.30)	A	Post.
13	Salford (7.30)	A	17-4
18	Swinton (3.00)	A	29-17
25			
1977			
Jan. 1			
8	Workington Town (3.00)	H	27-10
15	Rochdale Hornets (3.00)	A	Post.
21	Wigan (7.30)	H	13-24
29			
Feb. 4	Leigh (7.30)	H	29-11
12			
18	Oldham (7.30)	H	Post.
25	Swinton (7.30)	H	19-8
Mar. 5	Wigan (3.00)	A	10-23
12	Oldham (3.00)	A	15-13
18	Widnes (7.30)	A	17-18
25	Rochdale (7.30)	H	17-16
29	Oldham (7.30)	H	Post.
Apr. 5	Oldham	H	25-13
12	Huyton (6.30)	A	
15	Rochdale (7.30)	A	

APPEARANCES, TRIES AND GOALS SCORED

(up to and including Featherstone away)

Player	Apps.	League	Locker Cup	Lancs Cup	Floodlit	Player's RL Cup	TOTAL	
Bevan, J.	17	12	—	—	—	1	13	
Butler, B.	24	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Case, B.	7	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Cunliffe, D.	10	1	1	—	—	—	2	
Curling, D.	27	6	1	—	—	—	7	
Clark, R.	14	1	—	1	—	—	2	
Earl, J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Finnigan, D.	29	4	1	1	—	1	7	
Fletcher, G.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
France, G.	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	
Gordon, P.	24	5	—	1	—	—	6	
Gwilliam, A.	8	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Hart, C.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Hesford, S.	20	5	—	1	—	—	6	
Hudson, L.	7	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Hunter, E.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kelly, K.	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Knight, G.	24	5	—	5	2	—	12	
Lester, R.	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Martyn, T.	31	9	2	—	—	—	11	
Middlehurst, C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Miller, A.	25	3	—	2	—	—	5	
Nicholas, M.	24	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Peers, M.	8	2	—	—	—	—	2	
Philbin, B.	18	4	—	1	—	—	5	
Philbin, M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Potter, I.	7	—	2	1	—	—	3	
Price, J.	13	1	—	—	—	1	2	
Sutton, D.	11	2	—	1	—	—	3	
Taylor, P.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Turley, N.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Wanbon, R.	3	4	—	—	—	—	4	
Weavill, D.	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Whitehead, D.	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Trialist	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A. N. Other	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Goals		74	7	14	2	1	2	100
France, G.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hesford, S.	68(3D)	—	11	—	—	—	3	82
Knight, G.	1(D)	3	—	1	—	—	—	5
Miller, A.	2(D)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Nicholas, M.	3	—	3	—	2	—	—	8
Whitehead, D.	18(1D)	—	3	—	—	1	—	??
		95	3	18	2	1	3	122

Substitutes: The following have taken part in a match whilst acting as a substitute but any points scored have been credited to the above appearances:
Peers, M. (3); Clark, R. (2); Wanbon, R. (7); Gwilliam, A. (1); Philbin, B. (3); Price, J. (2); Turley, N. (2); Case, B. (4); Philbin, M. (1); Dalzell, R. (1); A. N. Other (1); Hudson, L. (1); Cunliffe, D. (2); Whitehead, D. (8); Lester, R. (5); Butler, B. (3); Taylor, P. (1); Fletcher, G. (1).

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Second-row forward Tommy Martyn was in great form in our two Easter games, scoring a marvellous try against Bradford Northern and taking the Cambrian Man-of-the-Match award.

Pictures by Mike Boden, Warrington Guardian Series



Full-back Derek Finnigan, on the way to the first of his two tries against his home town club, Widnes, on Good Friday.

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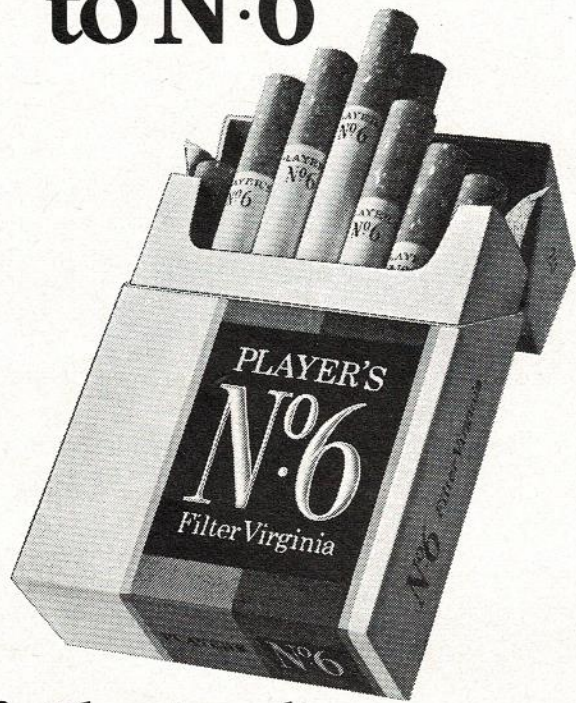
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Batty's Column (Daily Mail)

With the Australian season moving nicely into its beefy stride it is not surprising that Eastern Suburbs are setting the pace.

They have taken the first major trophy—the Wills Cup— and their success spells out another warning for Great Britain.

Player-coach Artie Beetson is still the top Aussie prop and is still doing as much damage as ever with his strength and ball distribution.

But it is a slightly slimmer-looking Beetson this season as he tries to become even more of a slippery customer.

Big Artie has taken to heavily greasing his thighs with vaseline before a game and is causing tacklers more problems as they try to put him to the ground.

Loose forward Ron Coote has made the successful comeback I predicted and is putting himself in line for an international return.

Another significant feature of Easts success has been the encouraging return to form of golden boy Ian Schubert, who lost his senior spot for a spell last season.

The powerful running and finishing of young Schubert made him the star of the 1975 World championship in this country.

He is now high in the running to make the World championship side and scored 17 points—three tries and four goals—in the Wills Cup.

That was the same amount as Easts talented full back Russell Fairfax. But the man who topped the points table turned out to be a Pom!

Former Test star John Gray finished on 26—with 13 goals—two more points than Graham Eadie, the Manly full back, who looks certain to fill the No. 1 spot for Australia.

Gray had a good series and even in the final pinched the headlines despite North Sydney's defeat. He was introduced to Prince Philip and is reported to have said: 'I am one of yours, Sir!'

The Prince is supposed to have replied: 'I bet you are from Wigan.' Well, at least it went down well in Sydney!

ALEX MURPHY

HIS OPINIONS AND EXPERT COMMENT

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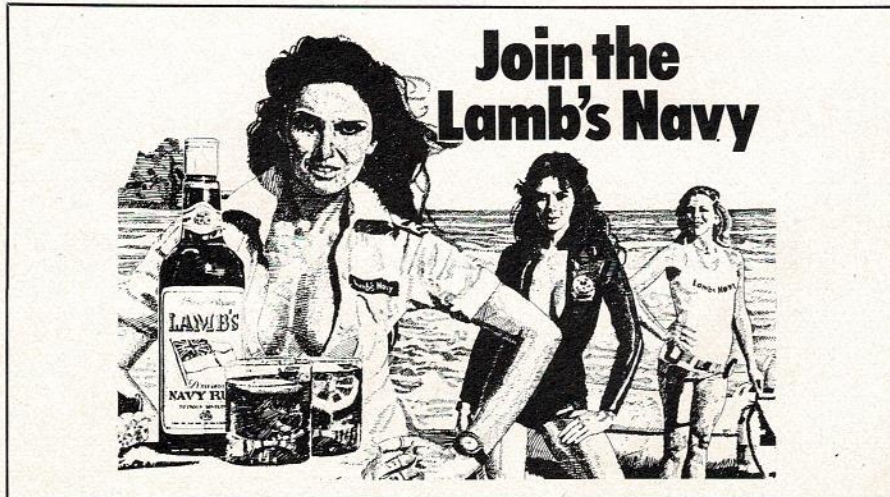
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