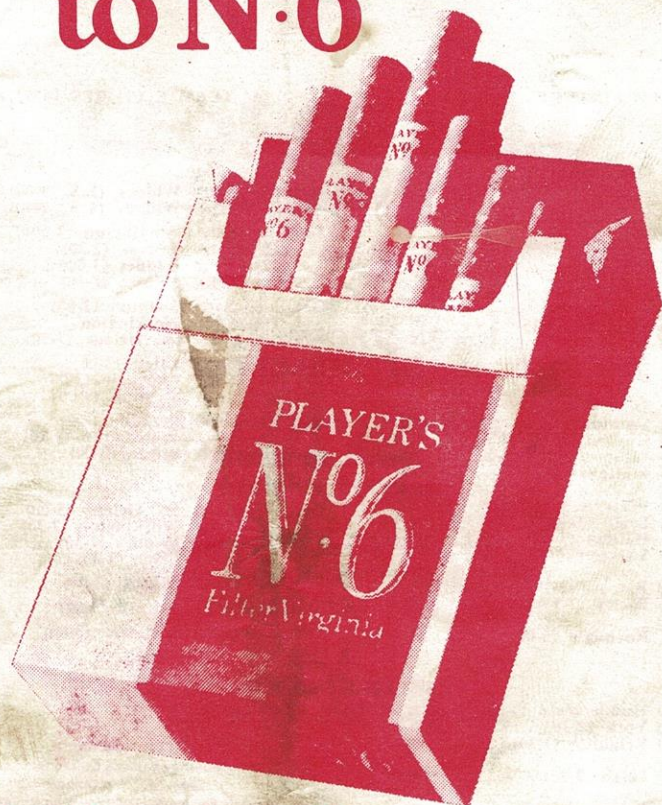


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Second Division Champions: 1963-64.

Rugby League Challenge Cup winners: 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27.

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26.

Lancashire Cup winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69.

Lancashire Championship winners: 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55.

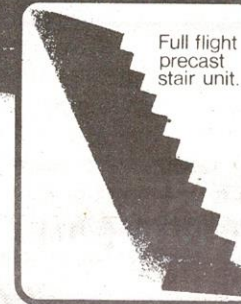
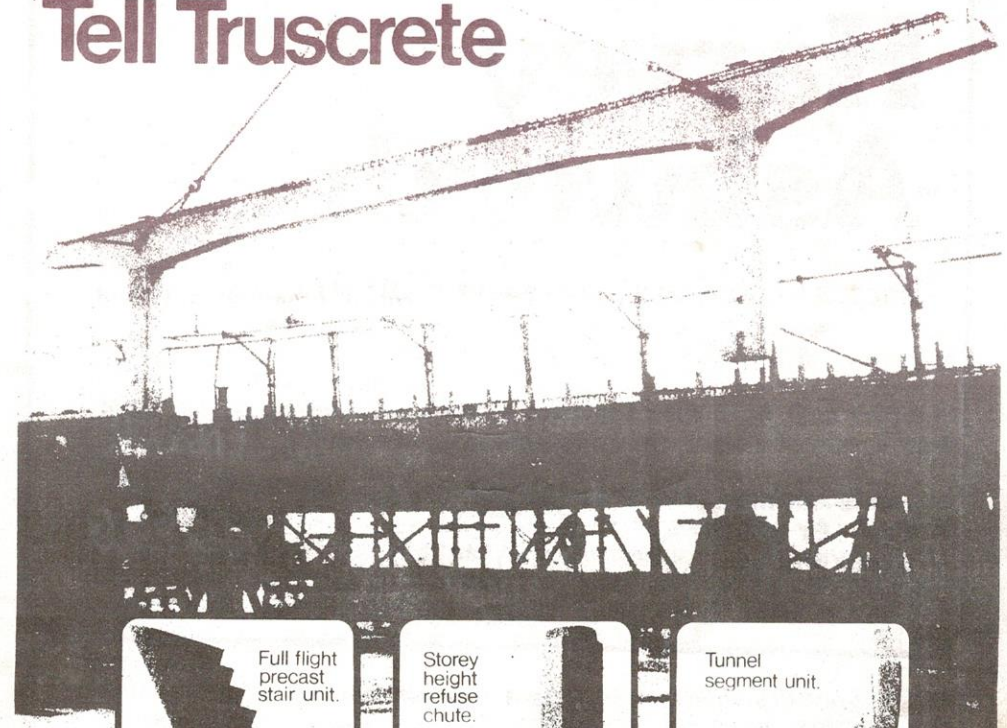
Lancashire Shield winners: 1975-76.



Alan Bates, the Oldham scrum-half, falls to a last-ditch tackle against Swinton after beating Tommy Davies.

Picture by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle.

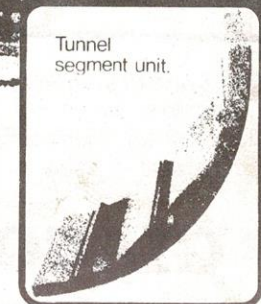
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OLDHAM OUTLOOK

Today we entertain Barrow for the second time this season in the first round of the Player's Competition.

Barrow have lost only one match since they were beaten here and we will have it all to do to ensure that we go into the hat for round two.

However, it is most pleasing to report that we now have seven consecutive wins under our belts and have soared into the top four "promotion bracket" for the first time.

After today's game we are at home to Whitehaven next Sunday and then on the following Tuesday, November 1st. we are at Salford in the second round of the Floodlit Trophy.

Since our last home game we have transferred stand-off Glen Knight to Huddersfield in exchange for second-row forward Alan Forster a cash adjustment.

Alan made his debut in the second-row at Huyton last Sunday and considering that he was not fully match fit he came through very well indeed and did a good job in difficult circumstances.

As you will have read all four props were sent off early in the game and Alan not only found himself playing with a new set of mates for the first time but in a strange position, too, when he was pushed up into the front-row.

We wish him a long and happy stay at Watersheddings and trust that he will soon settle down well in what undoubtedly is a happy dressing room full of players with the right attitude and commitment to their game.

Behind the scenes we were delighted to get a 13 week extension to the project to spruce up the ground and surroundings.

Work will now go through until Christmas week and we hope that, by then, we will have a ground which will compare favourably with any in the league.

Already a tremendous amount of work has taken place as you can no doubt see.

However, we are very short of building materials and would welcome any offers, no matter how small. We are on the look-out for timber, cement gravel, chippings, sand nails or virtually any sort of material that is used in building work.

We will be grateful to anyone who believes he might be able to help us out of a difficulty. If YOU can help please contact the club secretary at the pavilion or phone 624-4865.

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OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

Oldham's hard earned victory over Huyton last Sunday took them up into fourth position in the Second Division table, nicely placed for promotion but those promotion hopes are once again shelved this afternoon as the team turn to the important business of cup-tie action and the second visit of the season from fellow promotion challengers Barrow.

The current Barrow squad contains six members of the Cumbrian County side which lost recently to Yorkshire, they are full-back Tommy Thompson, winger Ralph McConnell, half-backs Mel Mason and Frankie Jones, prop Harold McCourt and loose-forward Phil Hogan. But the most talked about member of the Barrow side is Eddie Szymala the versatile 23 years old hooker who next month has been chosen to play in his third match for the England under-24 side against France. As well as being an excellent hooker in the tight, Szymala is an outstanding forward in the loose and an accurate goal kicker whose dropped goals could prove vital in close fought cup-ties such as this. He is a product of local junior rugby but he did not have too happy a time on his last visit to this ground for on that occasion he was sent off in the 55th minute by referee Harry Hunt after an incident involving Steve Herbert. It is a great pity that Szymala, or Smiler to his friends, cannot keep a firmer grip on his temper for there is little doubt that he is a player of great potential and it would be a shame if his impetuosity was to interfere with the fine career which lies before him.

When Oldham defeated Barrow by 23 points to seven at Watersheddings last month it was their fifth successive victory over the Furnacemen on this pitch and one has to go back eight matches to January 1970 for their last victory over Oldham at Watersheddings, although they did force a 13-all draw here in August 1971. Their victory in 1970 was by the narrowest of margins, 13-12, but, no doubt, they would be pleased to repeat that result and score this afternoon in the first ever match between these clubs in this particular competition. Of course, Oldham have met Barrow several times in other cup competitions, the last time being in February 1973 in the opening round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup. On that occasion Barrow provided stiff opposition and led 7-5 after 20 minutes with a try from Alan Bowker and goals from Joe Chamberlain. However, Oldham recovered to eventually win 24-7 before a crowd of 3,643 who saw Oldham score tries through Kevin Taylor (2), Mike Elliott (2), Tommy Davies and Tony Wainwright. Phil Larder kicked one goal and Tony Wainwright two.

Oldham went on to reach the quarter-finals of the Challenge Cup competition that year and they will be anxious to reach a similar stage of this lucrative Players Trophy for so far they have failed to pass the second round. They must, though, start today's match as favourites for Barrow have never won away from home in a Players Cup-tie so Oldham will feel confident of registering their eighth successive victory.

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Oldham loose-forward Tony Peters, who is having a great season, seen in action against Swinton.

Picture by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle.

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Oldham

- 1 ANGLIN, A.
- 2 MUNRO, G. LARDER T.
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 JACKSON, K.
- 5 STONDIN, U GGGGG
- 6 BATES, A.
- 7 PATERSON, J.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 FRODSHAM, P. Peter Fiddler
- 11 FORSTER, A. F. HANE
- 12 STARBUCK, P.
- 13 JEWITT, P.
- 14 BLAIR
- 15 FLANNAGAN.

Referee:
R. MOORE (Wakefield) 16
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Barrow

- 1 O'BRIEN, K S/B/L
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- 3 DAVIES, P. T.
- 4 McCONNELL, R.
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 MASON, M.
- 7 JONES, F.
- 8 PERRY, J.
- 9 SZYMALA, E. S/O
- 10 McCLEAN, P.
- 11 FLINT, M.
- 12 HADLEY, D.
- 13 HOGAN, P.
- 14 THOMPSON, T. FALLAN
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Year 5

Saturday October 1st. Bradford 0 Oldham 21.

A game played in terrible conditions, strong wind and torrential rain. The Oldham team was considerably weakened by injuries following the midweek victory of Huddersfield, but was still far too strong for Bradford. Given reasonable conditions Oldham would have recorded a cricket score. The tries were scored by Damien Chadwick, Peter Kilgannen, Martin Gratten, Des Foy (all St. Albans) Peter Rankin (Our Ladys) and Paul Stott (Counthill). All goalkicks were missed, and the man of the match was the strong running centre Paul Stott closely followed by Mark Mills (Royton and Crompton).

Saturday October 8th Dewsbury 21 Oldham 11.

Following two very easy victories against Huddersfield and Bradford the fifth-year Town Team came unstuck against a very big and aggressive Dewsbury.

All the Oldham players, with the possible exception of David Johnson (North Chadderton) and Martin Royle (St. Albans) played well below themselves. The handling in particular was atrocious and although the conditions were difficult there was no excuse for Oldham dropping the ball on 33 occasions. Matters were not helped by two serious injuries to two of our most experienced forwards, which resulted in them both retiring and taking no further part in the game. They were to David Johnson (broken arm) and Peter Kilgannon (chipped shoulder).

Scorers were : Tries David Johnson, Mark Derbyshire (North Chadderton) and Chris Willis (Saddleworth). One conversion by Chris Deaken (Our Ladys)

October 15th. Oldham 22 Wakefield 6

This was considered to be the important game. The question was could Oldham with seven players unavailable because of injuries pull themselves together following the defeat at Dewsbury.

Because of injuries the Oldham team was very young and included one 3rd year pupil and seven fourth year pupils.

It was apparent from the kick off, that Oldham were intent to forget last weeks disaster. Immediately they dominated Wakefield in every department and played some fine Rugby. Martin Gratten (St. Albans) banged back to form at prop forward and made countless surging runs. Billy Rainer (Count-hill), Paul Willis (Saddleworth) and Chris Deakin (Our Ladys) also played well in the pack.

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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

Last Saturday the Oldham League team moved into the 2nd Round of the BARLA Inter-Town competition with a 19-6 victory over Widnes and now face another challenge from the Cheshire area when they take on Warrington at home, on the weekend of November 12-13th.

However, before that date there are several other important cup matches taking place involving most of the local amateur clubs, with the first of these being next Saturday when the opening games are played in this season's Oldham Standard Cup. There are 4 matches in this 1st Round, with the remaining 4 teams receiving byes, but the top match of the round Waterhead v Mayfield has had to be put back, as next Saturday Waterhead will be entertaining the winners of yesterday's Leigh Miners-Millom clash in the quarter-final of the BARLA Lancashire/Cumbria Cup.

Waterhead's "A" team will also be involved in a tough cup-tie next Saturday, as they have the unenviable task of travelling to take on the Pennine League's Division 1 leaders Saddleworth, at Shaw Hall Bank Road, Greenfield, in the 1st Round of the Standard Cup. The Waterhead second string have been producing some good performances this season in the 4th Division, and last weekend just failed to end the unbeaten run of league leaders East Ward from Rochdale. However, they now face an awesome task at Saddleworth, whose only defeat at the time of writing was at the hands of Pilkingtons from Saint Helens in the Lancashire/Cumbria Cup.

Saddleworth's impressive clubhouse should be full of activity on Saturday, as their second team have also been drawn at home in the Standard Cup, to last season's beaten finalists, Higginshaw. The match will take place on the Churchill Playing Fields in Greenfield, and is a repeat of one of last season's 2nd Round matches when, on the same ground, the visitors triumphed by 7 points to 6. Higginshaw then defeated the Saddleworth 1st team in the semi-final, again by the odd point, before falling to Saint Anne's in the Final on Good Friday morning.

The remaining 1st Round match is between both Ferranti teams, but although the 1st team must be favourite there will be no question of the match being a virtual walk-over, as the "A" team players will be competing not only for the club, but also for their own personal honours. Prior to the 1st Round matches, every competing team had to hand in a list of up to 25 players from which they would choose their sides for the competition, and a club entering two teams had to submit entirely separate lists. Therefore, if a club's "A" team progressed into the next round but their 1st team is beaten, none of the 1st team players will be eligible to take any further part in the tournament.

One Ferranti player who will be missing the match entirely will be their town-team 2nd Row forward Steve Grimshaw, who in last weekend's Inter-Town match against Widnes took an extra hard knock and suffered a broken collar bone, which will mean him being out of action for several weeks. Prior to his departure Steve must surely have impressed the County Selectors at the match, who also must have noted the performance of

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Waterhead's John Glover at prop-forward, whose powerful running made him Oldham's Man-of-the-Match.

Finally, BARLA have just published their handbook for the 1977/78 season, which contains records of all last season's major competitions including the Standard Cup, and several interesting articles on the amateur game, including an account of the BARLA Youth Tour to Australasia. Copies, priced 60p. can be obtained from : BARLA, Britannic Building, 3, Upperhead Row, Huddersfield.

THE 1977-78 JOHN PLAYER COMPETITION

Today we start our campaign to get among the big prizes in the popular John Player Competition, the league's biggest and richest sponsored tournament.

This season the competition has a record £30,000 prize pool at stake, £4,400 more than last season. That increase is divided among clubs falling at all rounds but the biggest increase this time goes to the winner who now stands to pick up £8,000.

Success in today's first round will mean our club goes into the draw for the second round and that draw will be made at the studios of BBC Radio Leeds at 11 a.m. next Monday, 24th October. It will be made by Mr. Bryan Scott, Special Events Executive of John Player, Accompanied by Mr. Harry Womersley, Chairman of the Rugby League, and Mr. David Oxley, Secretary of the League.

Supporters Club

SALFORD AWAY Tuesday, 1st November.

A coach will be leaving the Club at 6.30 p.m. for Salford for the 2nd. Round of the Floodlit Competition, seats can be booked at the canteens or Social Club.

RADIO MANCHESTER QUIZ 1.

Monday October 31st. Social Club everybody welcome, Admission Free. Oldham Rugby v Oldham Athletic and Swinton v Leigh.

MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of the Supporters Club now. Complete an application form at any of the canteens at today's match. Membership of the Supporters Club entitles you to cheaper away travel and other events organised by the Supporters Club throughout the year.

MARTIN MURPHY BENEFIT

The Supporters Club are running a "Sponsored Try" competition for Martin's Benefit during the 1977/78 season. If you would like to sponsor Martin in this event please contact any Supporters Club Official at today's match for a Sponsorship Form.

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Fixtures 1977-8

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 7—(Sun.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	5-14
21—(Sun.)	Wigan (L.C. 3-00) A	5-19
28—(Sun.)	L.C. 2	
Sept. 4—(Sun.)	Keighley (3-15) A	5-15
11—(Sun.)	Barrow (3-30) H	21-7
18—(Sun.)	Blackpool (3-00) A	28-2
25—(Sun.)	Huyton (3-30) H	19-13
Oct. 2—(Sun.)	Doncaster (3-00) A	18-7
9—(Sun.)	Swinton (3-30) H	19-10
16—(Sun.)	Huyton (2-30) A	20-7
23—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (4)	
30—(Sun.)	Whitehaven (3-30) H	
Nov. 6—(Sun.)	Player's No. 6 (2)	
13—(Sun.)	Leigh (3-30) A	
20—(Sun.)	Halifax (3-30) H	
27—(Sun.)	Swinton (3-00) A	
Dec. 4—(Sun.)	Barrow (2-30) A	
11—(Sun.)	Batley (3-30) H	
18—(Sun.)		
26—(Mon.)	Rochdale (3-00) H	
1978		
Jan. 2—(Sun.)	Huddersfield (3-00) A	
8—(Sun.)	York (2-30) A	
15—(Sun.)	Keighley (3-30) H	
22—(Sun.)		
29—(Sun.)	Leigh (3-30) H	
Feb. 5—(Sun.)	Batley (3-00) A	
12—(Sun.)	Challenge Cup 1	
19—(Sun.)	York (3-30) H	
26—(Sun.)	Challenge Cup 2	
Mar. 5—(Sun.)		
12—(Sun.)		
19—(Sun.)	Blackpool (3-30) H	
24—(Fri.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	
27—(Mon.)	Huddersfield (3-00) H	
Apr. 2—(Sun.)	Doncaster (3-30) H	
9—(Sun.)	Whitehaven (3-00) A	
16—(Sun.)	Halifax (3-30) A	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78

Date	Opponents	Ground
1977		
Aug. 20—(Sat.)	Widnes (L.S. 3-00) H	15-7
26—(Fri.)	Widnes (L.S. 7-30) A	8-22
Sept. 3—(Sat.)	Warrington (3-00) H	
10—(Sat.)	Barrow (2-30) A	
17—(Sat.)	Widnes (3-00) H	
30—(Fri.)	Salford (7-30) A	
Oct. 8—(Sat.)	Swinton (3-00) A	
16—(Sun.)	Workington (2-30) H	
28—(Fri.)	St. Helens (7-30) A	
Nov. 12—(Sat.)	Leigh (3-00) H	
19—(Sat.)	Rochdale (3-00) A	
26—(Sat.)	Swinton (3-00) H	
Dec. 3—(Sat.)	Barrow (3-00) H	
9—(Fri.)	Warrington (7-30) A	
17—(Sat.)	Wigan (3-00) A	
1978		
Jan. 7—(Sat.)	St. Helens (3-00) H	
14—(Sat.)	Workington (2-30) A	
20—(Fri.)	Widnes (7-30) A	
28—(Sat.)	Leigh (3-00) A	
Feb. 4—(Sat.)	Wigan (3-00) H	
Mar. 11—(Sat.)	Salford (3-00) H	
Apr. 15—(Sat.)	Rochdale (3-00) H	

CUP ROUNDS

Forshaw's Lancs Cup Final:
Saturday, 29th October
Player's No. 6—Round 3: 19/20th November
1st Semi-Final: 26th November
2nd Semi-Final: 3rd December
BBC 2 Floodlight Final: 13/20th December
Player's No. 6 Final: 28th January, 1978
RLCC 3rd Round: 11/12th March
1st Semi-Final: 1st April; 2nd Semi-Final: 8th April
Premiership—Round 1: 23rd April
Semi-Final 1st Leg: 29/30th April
Semi-Final 2nd Leg: 7th May. Final 20th May
RLCC FINAL: 13th May

Oldham

- 1 ANGLIN, A.
- 2 MUNRO, G.
- 3 BARTON, E.
- 4 JACKSON, K.
- 5 STONDIN, U
- 6 BATES, A.
- 7 PATERSON, J.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 O'MAHONEY, R.
- 10 FRODSHAM, P.
- 11 FORSTER, A.
- 12 STARBUCK, P.
- 13 JEWITT, P.

14
15

Referee:

R. MOORE (Wakefield)

Barrow

- 1 O'BRIEN, K
- 2 FAWKES, W.
- 3 DAVIES, P.
- 4 McCONNELL, R.
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 MASON, M.
- 7 JONES, F.
- 8 PERRY, J.
- 9 SZYMALA, E.
- 10 McCLEAN, P.
- 11 FLINT, M.
- 12 HADLEY, D.
- 13 HOGAN, P.
- 14 THOMPSON, T.
- 15 KAVANAGH, P.

H. Worth (Widnes) **Orange**
K. L. Gaskell (Wigan) **Red**

Sunday 23rd October

1971

Admission by Programme only