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Teams

Watersheddings Sunday January 20th. 1980

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FROM		
MARTIN MURPHY	1.	JIMMY BIRTS
GEOFF MUNRO	2.	MICK O'BYRNE
STEVE LUND	3.	GRAHAM GARROD
BILL FRANCIS	4.	DAVE CHOLMOMDELEY
ERIC FITZSIMONS	5.	KEITH WAITES
RAY ASHTON	6.	MICK BLACKER
KEN GWILLIAM	7.	TERRY LANGTON
ALEC ALEXANDER	8.	DAVE CALLAN
RAY MARTLAND	9.	PAUL O'HARA
STEVE HERBERT	10.	ALAN WOOD
BOB MORDELL	11.	MICK SCOTT
BOB BLACKWOOD	12.	DAVE BUSFIELD
TERRY FLANAGAN	13.	KENNY LOXTON
PHIL WARD	14.	STEVE LAWS
FRED HALL	15.	ALAN SHILLITO

REFEREE: Mr. W.H. Thompson (Huddersfield)
Red Flag: Mr. W.V. Greenalgh (Ashton-in Makerfield) **Yellow Flag:** Mr. E. Glazebrook (Wigan)

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Treasurer: K. Broadbent

Committee: E. Buckley, F. Diskin, J. Hall, D. Hulme, R. Ogden, K. Potter

Coaching Staff: Graham Starkey (Manager) Terry Gorman (Asst. Manager)
Bill Francis (Player/Coach) Bob Welding (A Team Coach)
Brian Gartland (Colts Coach)

Professional Playing Staff

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CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory	67-6 against Liverpool City April 59
Record defeat	11-67 by Hull K.R. Sept. 78
Record attendance	28,000 v Huddersfield Feb 24th 1912
Record receipts	£4,897 v Leeds 3rd March 1968
Record transfer fee paid	£10,650 to Workington for Ike Southward March 1959
Record transfer fee received	£11,002 : 10s from workington for Ike Southward Jan 62
Record try scorer	Reg Farrar 49 tries 1921/22 season
Record goal scorer	Bernard Ganley 224 goals 1957/58 season
Record point scorer	Bernard Ganley 28 pts v Liverpool City April 59

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off winners:	1909-10, 1910-11 and 1956-57
Runners-up:	1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22 and 1954-55.
First Division Champions:	1904-05
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, 1021-22, 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

FIGHTING BACK!

It is appropriate in many ways that both Halifax and Oldham are now in the top four of the Second Division and both looking banker bets for promotion.

Both clubs have shaken themselves out of tight situations in recent years and fought back in determined fashion after once looking down and out.

Halifax were bottom of the Second Division at the end of 1977-78, having won only two of their 26 league games and having been beaten by Hull amateurs Cawoods in the Player's No. 6 Trophy.

How times change! The arrival at Thrum Hall of coach Maurice Bamford, the former assistant to Peter Fox at Bradford, signalled the start of a bright new era.

Before the start of the 1978-79 season he had made sweeping changes. He raided his old club at Odsal and took full back Jimmy Birts, stand-off Mick Blacker, centre Graham Garrod and hooker Dean Raistrick to Thrum Hall.

Blacker, a vastly experienced performer, was made skipper of Bamford's new-look side which put the pride back in the club, reached the semi-finals of the Yorkshire Cup and missed promotion by only one point.

Halifax finished in fifth position, one point behind Blackpool, after losing in a decisive match at Borough park on the last day of the league season.

It was as close as that! And Halifax do not look like missing out this time in a successful season which has seen them reach the final of the Yorkshire Cup only to lose 15 - 6 to Leeds at headingley after knocking out Bramley, Hunslet and Dewsbury en route.

In the league so far this season they have lost only one match (at the time of writing). They went down 7 - 2 at Barrow in October and the only other points they have conceded were from drawn games against Bramley at home and Rochdale Hornets away.

In each case Halifax's never-say-die spirit stood them in good stead. A last-minute drop goal earned them a point against Bramley while a try in injury time by scrum-half Terry Langton did the trick at Rochdale.

Langton, known as the Iron Man, is one of the personalities in a strong, resolute and very good defensive side which includes Jimmy Birts, reckoned to be one of the best young full backs in the game, former Featherstone forward Dave Busfield in the second-row and the vastly experienced and talented ball player, Ken Loxton, at loose-forward.

A great game is in prospect by two teams who will probably be meeting again next season in the First Division!

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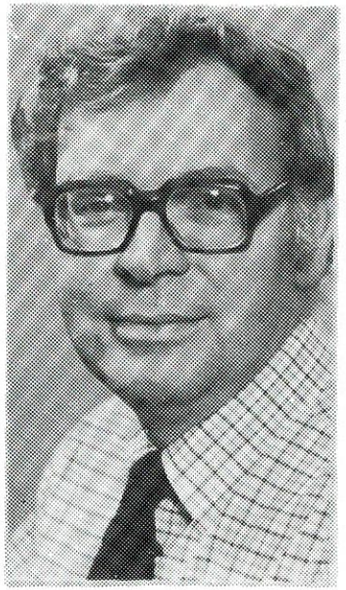
STARKEY AND FRANCIS - A CLEVER PAIRING

By Roger Halstead
(Oldham Evening Chronicle)



It was good to see Oldham named as team of the month in the Second Division and then manager Graham Starkey and player coach Bill Francis picking up a similar award as coaches of the month.

There are more prestigious things to win than this type of award in sponsered competitions, but that must not be allowed to conceal the fact that the Rugby League is starting to take notice of what is happening at Watersheddings.

Is it not 1973 all over again? That was the year, you will recall, when Oldham went to the semi-final of the Floodlit Trophy and the third round of the Challenge Cup.

In the Challenge Cup Oldham knocked out Barrow 24 - 7 at Watersheddings and then had a magnificent 24 - 2 triumph at Hull in the second round when fans and players alike travelled to Humberside by train on a memorable day.

The third round draw paired Oldham with Castleford at Wheldon Road and Castleford won 25 - 11 on a day when little went right for Oldham.

Nevertheless, it was still a bright period in the club's recent past and it was achieved with Starkey in charge as coach and the men on the field, principally Cliff Hill and Foster, to make it all happen.

The present arrangement is very similar with Starkey and Francis working hand in glove and Francis playing the sort of role on the field that was performed so successfully by Hill and Foster seven years ago.

Francis still has a tremendous amount to offer as a player and as a leader and the way he can pace a game is reminiscent of the way Hill approached his rugby in the later stages of his career.

When the chips are down Francis is at his best as he demonstrated when destroying Dewsbury in that late rally at Crown Flatt. he is at his best when his team really needs him to produce something special - the hallmark of a class player.

It is no secret that, off the field and in the sphere of team preparation, I believe Starkey has no peer. His contribution to the success of the team - and the club - is enormous.

Starkey is a top-class man. It is more than coincidence that Oldham are now making the sort of progress they made during his last spell here.

Graham Starkey

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ALEX RULES, O.K.

By Alex Givvons
(RL Grade I Referee)

OFFSIDE PLAY – Extracts from Section 14 of the Rugby League Manual on Laws of the Game.

1. A player is Offside except when he is in his own in goal if the ball is kicked, touched or held by one of his own side behind him.
2. An offside player shall not take any part in the game or attempt in any way to influence the course of the game. He shall not encroach within five metres of an opponent who is waiting for the ball and shall immediately retire 5 metres from any opponent who first secures possession of the ball.
3. An Offside player is placed on side if:–
a) An opponent moves 5 metres or more with the ball.
b) An opponent touches the ball without retaining it.
c) One of his own side in possession of the ball runs in front of him.
him.
d) One of his own side kicks the ball forward and takes up a position in front of him in the field of play.
e) If he retires behind the point where the ball was last touched

An Offside player must not make any move which actively interferes with an opponent waiting to catch the ball.

An Offside player therefore has to watch his step. His only chance of being placed onside (if he does not retire) is for the opponent to lose possession and, even then, the Referee has to be satisfied that the Offside player's proximity has nothing to do with the opponents fumble i.e. within 5 metres proximity.

When the Referee is satisfied that interference with play by an Offside player is accidental he should order a scrum.

A player who catches the ball near an Offside opponent must not go out of his way to make interference in play by the Offside player unavoidable. He should proceed with normal play and rely on the Referee to penalise the Offside player if the latter interferes with play. If the catcher deliberately and unnecessarily runs into the offside player then play should proceed, providing the Offside player is not within 5 metres of the catcher.

Players who are out of play at a Play-the-ball or a scrum are not put "on side" in the manner described above "Para 3".

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TOM WEBB's YESTERYEAR

We are attempting to give all the Oldham R.L.F.C. results since the club started in 1897. In the following tables the letters M, G, T, stand for Minors, Goals, and Tries. Minors were scored when either the attacking team kicked or carried the ball over the dead-ball line or the touch-in-goal line, or when the defending side made the ball dead. In the early days, a goal counted more than any number of tries.

Unfortunately, the match details are incomplete for the 1880's, and any details would be welcomed by me, Tom Webb, 3 Haggate Crescent, Royton, Oldham, OL2 5NF.

These are the results known for 1880/81 season.

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	OPPONENTS POINTS			OLDHAM POINTS			RESULTS
1880/81			M.	G.	T.	M.	G.	T.	
October 23rd.	BIRCH	AWAY	14	1	3	NIL	-	-	Lost
October 30th.	HALIFAX	AWAY	9	5	-	NIL	-	-	Lost
November 6th.	CHEETHAM	AWAY	4	-	1	NIL	-	-	Lost
November 13th.	ROSSENDALE	HOME							
November 20th.	SALFORD	HOME							
November 27th.	SWINTON	HOME	4	-	1	15	-	-	Lost
December 18th.	MANCHESTER (Free Ward)	AWAY	Cancelled		-	-	-	-	
April 4th.	SALFORD					3	2	3	WON

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CLUB NEWS

FRANCIS IS WELSH SKIPPER

OUR congratulations go out today to our player coach Bill Francis, who has been selected to Captain Wales from the stand-off half position in their opening European championship match against France at Widnes on Saturday, January 26th.
Though a Yorkshireman by birth, Bill is of Welsh descent and he is one of four Anglo-Welshmen in the side.
He has skippered Wales several times and has also represented them in a world cup competition Down Under.
His selection means that we will have FOUR players on international duty that week-end because on the following day, Sunday, January 27th, Terry Flanagan, Paddy Kirwan and Ray Ashton will be representing Great Britain Colts against France in Perpignan.

* * *

Following our selection as Second Division team of the month for December, another award came our way when Manager Graham Starkey and player-coach Bill Francis were announced as joint winners of the Sereena coach-of-the-month award.
Congratulations once again!

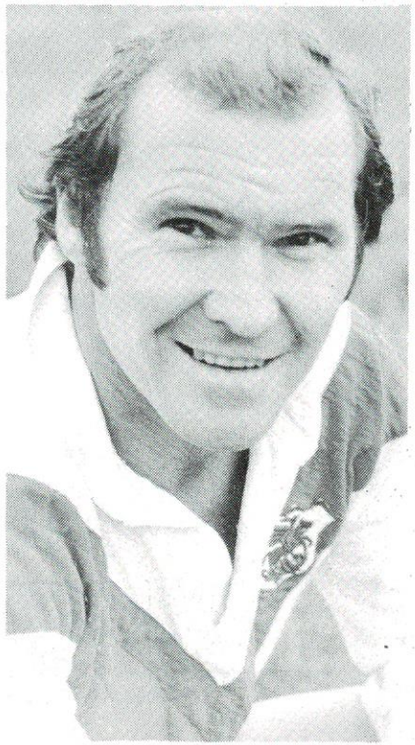
* * *

The State Express Challenge Cup draw, made on the B.B.C. Saturday afternoon television programme "Grandstand", paired us with Dewsbury at Crown Flatt in the first round.
This game, which should be a cracker, will be played on Sunday, February 10th. and it goes without saying that club and players will be hoping for as much vocal support as our fans can muster.
We have beaten Dewsbury twice this season in the league, but that will merely strengthen the resolve of the Heavy Woollen men to get their revenge.
If details of ticket allocation etc have not yet been announced watch the local press for details.

* * *

After just two "A" team trials, in which he impressed on both attack and defence, we have signed on professional forms the 21-year old Leigh Rugby Union Club centre Clive Hunter.
Clive came to Watersheddings for trials on the recommendation of our assistant manager Terry Gorman and twice did well in "A" team games against St. Helens.
We wish him a long and happy stay at Watersheddings and link with that the hope that he does as well as his trials promised he might.

* * *



Bill Francis . . . To Lead Wales

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Winger Geoff Munro also had something to celebrate after the home game against Swinton. His four-try feat not only made him, at the time of writing, the second highest try scorer in the Second Division but it meant that he became the first Oldham player to score four tries against a professional side since Malcolm Price did it in a Lancashire Cup-tie at Whitehaven way back in 1964.

TOP TEN TRIES: (Including 6th. January)

Roy MATHIAS	(St. Helens)	21
John BEVAN	(Warrington)	19
Keith FIELDING	(Salford)	18
Chris CAMILLERI	(Barrow)	18
Peter GLYNN	(St. Helens)	17
Steve HUBBARD	(Hull K.R.)	17
David SMITH	(Leeds)	17
Geoff MUNRO	**(Oldham)**	**15**
Chris BOWMAN	(Bramley)	13
Ian BALL	(Barrow)	12
Eric HUGHES	(Widnes)	12
Keith BENTLEY	(Widnes)	12
Terry BILSBURY	(Leigh)	12
Paul McDERMOTT	(Wakefield T.)	12
Clive SULLIVAN	(Hull K.R.)	12
Jack AUSTINA	(Dewsbury)	12

TOP TEN GOALS

Steve QUINN	(Featherstone R.)	112	1	113
Steve RULE	(Salford)	88	9	97
Steve HUBBARD	(Hull K.R.)	76	–	76
Steve HESFORD	(Warrington)	71	4	75
Ian BALL	(Barrow)	61	8	69
Mick BURKE	(Widnes)	69	–	69
Steve DIAMOND	(Wakefield T.)	67	–	67
John WOODS	(Leigh)	66	1	67
Mick PARRISH	(Hunslet)	60	–	60
Harry PINNER	(St. Helens)	50	10	60

Start of something big for Geoff Munro

as he crosses for the first of his four tries against Swinton

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

COACHES:

Our next away game is on February 10th. at DEWSBURY, 1st. Round Challenge Cup Tie.
Coaches leave the Social Club at 2 p.m.

Adult Members	**£1.20**	Adult Non-Members	£1.40
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Team of the month! Oldham presented with their framed citation after winning a competition run by the Daily Mirror in conjunction with Shopacheck.

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COLTS CORNER

Our high-stepping colts side has been drawn at home to Wakefield Trinity in the first round of the colts challenge cup, run on similar lines to the senior club's State Express Challenge Cup. The first two rounds of the colts cup are played on the same week-ends as those reserved for the first two rounds of the senior trophy which means that we will be taking on Trinity at Watersheddings on Saturday, February 9th. - the day before our big Challenge Cup tie at Dewsbury.

Wakefield have won only three of their 15 games to date and we beat them 37 - 16 in Yorkshire at the end of October. On paper we should not have too much difficulty in qualifying for the second round, but the cup is a leveller and there must be no complacency on our part.

The full first-round draw is: Leigh v Leeds; St. Helens v Bramley; Bradford v Rochdale; Hull K.R. v Hunslet; Dewsbury v Castleford; **OLDHAM v Wakefield;** Widnes v Hull; bye, Salford.

The final of the competition - one of three major trophies that our colts should be in contention for in the next few exciting months - will be played as a curtain raiser to one of the Challenge Cup semi-finals.

In addition there is the Stanneylands Trophy for the league champions and the Premiership Trophy for the winners of an end-of-season knock-out involving the top four teams.

The top team plays the fourth and the second plays the third and the winners play-off in a curtain raiser to the senior Premiership final.

As we are currently sitting pretty on top of the league with games in hand on most of our close rivals there is a quiet confidence that we can be there or thereabouts in the quest for all three trophies.

In the league our matches have been curtailed in recent weeks and before last week-end we had played only one match in six weeks - a 28 - 5 win at St. Helens.

Despite this we have retained our top spot and we have six matches in hand on second-placed Hunslet and two in hand on third-placed Leeds.

But there could be dark horses in Rochdale Hornets. Though in fifth place at present they are bang in form and have a game in hand on us, though they are four points behind.

We play them at Rochdale on February 2nd. - and that should be some match!

Our colts who will play in France on January 27th. Paddy Kirwan, Terry Flanagan, and Ray Ashton, have been presented with travelling bags by Trevor Heywood and Donald Pilkinton on behalf of the Supporters Club.

COLTS FIXTURES

1979			F.	A.
Aug. 18	Leigh	A	16	11
25	Bradford	H	38	2
Sept. 1	Leeds	A	15	13
8	Bramley	H	29	4
15	Castleford	A	28	11
29	Leeds	H	12	19
Oct. 6	Widnes	A	21	17
13	Hull	A	17	16
20	St. Helens	H	P.	
27	Wakefield	A	37	16
Nov. 3	Hunslet	H	19	13
10	Bradford	A	8	6
17	Salford	H	P.	
24	Hunslet	A	7	12
Dec. 1	Widnes	H	P.	
8	St. Helens	A	28	5
29	Leigh	H	P.	

1980			F.	A.
Jan. 5	Salford	A	P.	
12	Bramley	A	21	13
19	Hull	H		
26	Dewsbury	A		
Feb. 2	Rochdale	A		
9	Cup-First Round			
16	Hull K.R.	H		
23	Cup-2nd. Round			
March 1	Castleford	H		
8	Hull K.R.	A		
22	Dewsbury	H		
29	Wakefield	H		
April 5	Rochdale	H		

COLTS LEAGUE — HOW WE STAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
OLDHAM	13	11	0	2	284	148	22
Hunslet	19	11	0	8	278	200	22
Leeds	15	10	1	4	379	208	21
Bramley	18	10	1	7	366	202	21
Rochdale Hornets	12	9	0	3	209	155	18
Bradford Northern	16	9	0	7	212	217	18
Hull	15	8	1	6	266	173	17
Leigh	16	7	1	8	249	239	15
Widnes	14	7	0	7	241	225	14
Hull K.R.	13	7	0	6	216	249	12
Castleford	16	6	1	9	292	358	13
Salford	13	6	0	7	183	257	12
St. helens	13	3	1	9	136	257	7
Wakefield	15	3	0	12	177	350	6
Dewsbury	14	1	0	13	141	428	2

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FIRST ROUND CHALLENGE CUP

By Brian Batty
Daily Mail

It is remarkable how in recent years the first round of the Challenge Cup draw has kept the majority of the giants apart.
But the fact that it has again this year in the State Express-Sponsored competition does not lessen the tension building up throughout the clubs.
Wembley will always possess that lure for the clubs as they take the trail in search of cash, glamour and history.
There are two outstanding clashes in this first round with Wigan at home to Hull K.R. and Leigh entertaining Leeds.
With Roger Millward hoping to launch his final bid for a first Wembley final appearance Rovers need little more inspiration yet Wigan are determined to salvage some success from this season.
And Syd Haynes takes his Leeds men over the Pennines motivated by the urge to avenge that shock John Player defeat at headingley be Leigh.
There are two fine clashes involving four of the clubs bidding for promotion to the First Division.
Favourites Featherstone Rovers are home to Halifax while big spending Oldham must go to Dewsbury.
Featherstone is steeped in Cup Tradition and I can recall some memorable clashes there watching Saints crash out twice in successive seasons in the fifties.
Blackpool Borough can expect a big following from Bradford Northern whose form in the John Player final suggests they have the right material to reach Wembley.
Among their stars hoping to make a first Wembley final appearance is stand-off Nigel Stephenson who has fitted in so well at Odsal.
'I got my League Championship medal with Dewsbury and the only one left now is a Wembley medal', say Stephenson. 'I think it could be our year'.
St. Helens have thrashed Cumbrian rivals Workington who are struggling in the League but it will be a different type of game in the Cup.
Warrington and Salford must have welcomed Second Division opposition, but there is little time for Frank Myler to lick Swinton into shape before they face the Wires but he will bring a new approach to their play.
Huyton cannot expect to hold Salford while Castleford face a tough trip to Keighley.

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First team fixtures 1979/80
Oldham Rugby League Football Club

Date	Opponent	Venue	K.O.	F. A.
Aug. 19	County Cup Swinton	Away		22–15
Aug. 26	Warrington 2nd round	Home		6–34
Sept. 2	Doncaster	Away		25–0
Sept. 9	Huyton	Home	3.00 p.m.	15–3
Sept. 16	John Player Leeds	Home		7–31
Sept. 19	B.B.C. St. Helens			9–20
Sept. 23	Batley	Away		17–17
Sept. 30	John Player 2nd Round			
Oct. 7	Featherstone	Home	3.00 p.m.	23–22
Oct. 14	Whitehaven	Away		13–13
Oct. 21	Bramley	Home	3.00 p.m.	22–9
Oct. 28	Halifax	Home	3.00 p.m.	P
Nov. 4	Huddersfield	Away		12–3
Nov. 11	Barrow	Home	3.00 p.m.	6-5
Nov. 18	Swinton	Away		12-15
Nov. 25	Dewsbury	Home	3.00 p.m.	25 - 6
Dec. 2	Huyton	Away		31 - 4
Dec. 9	Batley	Home	3.00 p.m.	32-9
Dec. 16	Dewsbury	Away		17-14
Dec. 26	Rochdale	Home	3.00 p.m.	13-0
Dec. 30	Featherstone	Away		8-8
Jan. 6	Swinton	Home	3.00 p.m.	29 - 4
Jan. 13	Keighley	Away		18 - 17
Jan. 20				
Jan. 27	Huddersfield	Home	3.00 p.m.	
Feb. 3	Challenge Cup 1st Round			
Feb. 17				
Feb. 24	Challenge Cup 2nd round			
Mar. 2	Barrow	Away		
Mar. 9	Whitehaven	Home	3.00 p.m.	
Mar. 16	Keighley	Home	3.00 p.m.	
Mar. 23	Halifax	Away		
Mar. 30	Doncaster	Home	3.00 p.m.	
Apr. 6				
Apr. 13				
Apr. 20	Bramley	Away		
Apr. 27				

'A' Team Fixtures 1979/80
Oldham Rugby League Football Club.

Date	Opponent	Venue	K.O.	F. A.
Sept. 1	Workington	Home	3.00 p.m.	15–12
Sept. 7	Leigh	Away	7.00 p.m.	5–13
Sept. 13	Blackpool	Home	7.30 p.m.	25–23
Sept. 21	Warrington	Away	7.30 p.m.	18 0
Oct. 6	Workington	Away	2.30 p.m.	P
Oct. 18	Wigan	Home	7.30 p.m.	18–17
Oct. 26	Wigan	Away	7.30 p.m.	25–15
Nov. 1	Leigh	Home	7.30 p.m	16–3
Nov. 10	Barrow	Away	2.30 p.m.	16-22
Nov. 15	Swinton	Home	7.30 p.m.	
Nov. 24	Rochdale	Away	3.00 p.m.	P
Nov. 29	St. Helens	Home	7.30 p.m.	P
Dec. 7	Widnes	Away	7.30 p.m.	16-16
Dec. 15	Whitehaven	Away	3.00 p.m.	12-8
Dec. 20	Rochdale	Home	7.30 p.m.	P
Jan. 4	St. Helens	Away	7.30 p.m.	12 - 15
Jan. 10	Swinton	Away	7.30 p.m.	6 - 28
Jan. 17	Widnes	Home	7.30 p.m.	
Jan. 19	Whitehaven	Home	3.00 p.m.	
Jan. 26				
Feb. 2				
Feb. 9				
Feb. 14	Warrington	Home	7.30 p.m.	
Feb. 23				
Mar. 1	Barrow	Home	2.30 p.m.	
Mar. 12	Salford	Away	7.30 p.m.	
Mar. 15	Blackpool	Away	3.00 p.m.	
Mar. 20	Salford	Home	7.30 p.m.	

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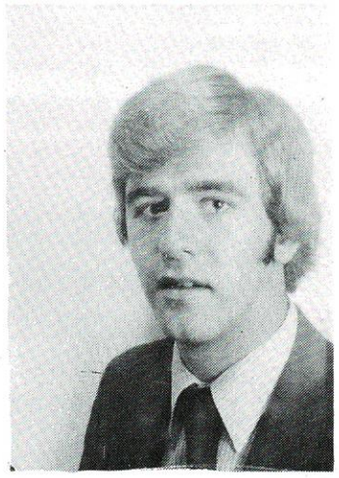
TOP BARLA COMPETITIONS OPEN NEXT WEEKEND

By Alan Burke
Public Relations Officer,
Oldham Amateur Rugby League.



The British Amateur Rugby League Association's National Cup competition begins next Saturday when the 1st. Round matches are played, although only one game is to take place in the Oldham area. That will be at Chamber Colliery where Saint Anne's entertain Langworthy Juniors of Manchester. Of our other two local sides in the tournament, Waterhead visit North-West Counties Division 4 club, Haydock, while Saddleworth Rangers have received a bye. The two Oldham sides to be in next Sunday's National Youth Cup competition have both received similar fates to their senior teams, with Saint Anne's having been drawn at home to Latchford Albion of Warrington, and with the Saddleworth Under-19's, last season's beaten fnalists, having again a free passage into Round 2. The eventual finalists in the open-age event will be next season's amateur representatives in the Player's No. 6 Trophy.

While mentioning the John Player Tournament, congratulations must be given to Waterhead, who have brought prestige to both themselves and to the town by becoming the first-ever winners of the new John Player Amateur Sevens Trophy. The Oldham side were the 'underdogs' in every round they played, but fully deserved their success, which they achieved by defeating the competition favourites, National Dock Labour Board of Hull, in the Final at Headingley, Leeds, by 19 points to 16 after extra time. As well as the trophy, Waterhead received a cheque of £657 from John Player & Sons.

The quarter-finals of the Oldham Standard Cup were played last weekend, with Fitton Hill, Mayfield, Saddleworth, and Saint Anne's, qualifying for the last 4. The semi-final draw was due to be made on Friday on B.B.C. Radio Manchester, and news of this will be given in next week's programme.

Last weekend also should have been the touring Australian Youth team taking on the Lancashire Under-19's here at Watersheddings. However, a heavy overnight frost caused the match to be postponed, and although BARLA officials hoped to possibly play the match in the afternoon rather than in the morning, as originally planned, the Australians' tight tour schedule prevented this plan from being put into operation. The tourist therefore returned home from their tour of France and England unbeaten, having last Saturday defeated the Great Britain Youth team 14 – 2.

The collection during today's half-time interval is on behalf of Terry Hart, an amateur player and Chairman for the Ovenden Club in Halifax, who died of a massive heart attack while playing for his club's second team in a Pennine League match in November. Terry has left his wife and two children, aged 8 and 4, and the tragic irony is that Mrs. Hart herself suffers from multiple sclerosis, and a donation to help alieviate her problems would be much appreciated. Terry was 32 years old and a great asset to his club, and should anyone wish to make a personal donation to help his dependents, then these should be forwarded to:– Terry Hart Trust Fund, Lloyds Bank, Queens Road, Halifax.

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