

1969

Castleford 16 Wakefield Trinity 10
(Attendance: 21,497 at Headingley, Leeds)

Many Trinity followers believed that the 'Watersplash' Final at Wembley the previous season was the end of the 'Glory Years' of the 1960s, but Trinity fought through to their sixth semi final of the decade, in 1969, following defeats of Ackworth (50-7), Bradford Northern (7-7 and 10-7) and Rochdale Hornets (10-10 & 15-2) with the latter two requiring replays. The initial Bradford game was postponed three times due to snow and eventually played at Headingley; the replay played the following day, the Rochdale game two days later and that replay four days later; four cup games in eight days.

Local rivalry was spiced up when Trinity drew Castleford in the semi final. 'Cas' had already defeated Trinity three times throughout the season and were now coached by former Trinity legend, Derek Turner.

When Trinity led 10-2 after half an hour, through two Ken Hirst tries, another Wembley appearance beckoned. Trevor Briggs scored a try just before half time (10-7) and in the 78th minute, Trinity still held the lead, 10-9 but, then, a long range penalty from Mick Redfearn put Castleford 11-10 ahead with a minute remaining. An injury time try by Alan Hardisty, converted by Redfearn, his fifth, sent Castleford to Wembley.

(Right: Neil Fox & Alan Hardisty)



CASTLEFORD

Colours: Yellow jerseys with black collar and cuffs, white shorts

1. D. EDWARDS
Full Back
2. T. BRIGGS T.
Right Wing
3. K. HOWE
Right Centre
4. A. THOMAS
Left Centre
5. A. LOWNDES
Left Wing
6. A. HARDISTY (Capt.) T.
Out Half
7. K. HEPWORTH
Scrum Half
8. D. HARTLEY
Prop Forward
9. C. DICKINSON
Hooker
10. J. WARD
Front Row Forward
11. M. REDFEARN
Second Row Forward
12. B. LOCKWOOD
Second Row Forward
13. M. REILLY
Loose Forward
14. T. BEDFORD
Substitute
15. F. FOX
Substitute

THE TEAMS

40 minutes' play in each half. Five minutes' interval. In the event of a draw after 80 minutes, the replay will be at Farsden, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, 2nd April, kick-off 7.30 p.m. Seating tickets at £1 and 15/- can be obtained from either of the two competing clubs or the Huddersfield R.L.F.C.

Today's Gymnastic Display is by members of the Gymnastics Display Team which will be performing at the International Gymnastics to be staged in Biele in July, 1969. The collection is organised by members of the Leeds Athletic Institute and the proceeds are to defray the cost of sending the Gymnastic team to Biele. If the weather or ground conditions are bad, the display will be cancelled.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY

Colours: White jerseys with red and blue band, white shorts

1. G. COOPER
Full Back
2. K. SLATER
Right Wing
3. I. BROOKE
Right Centre
4. N. FOX (Capt.) T.
Left Centre
5. K. HIRST T.J.
Left Wing
6. K. BATTY
Out Half
7. J. BONNAR
Scrum Half
8. D. JEANES
Prop Forward
9. T. HILL
Hooker
10. D. FOX
Front Row Forward
11. T. RAMSHAW
Second Row Forward
12. R. HAIGH
Second Row Forward
13. D. HAWLEY
Loose Forward
14. R. PALEY
Substitute
15. M. McLEOD
Substitute

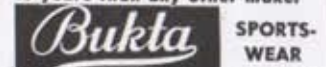
Referee: J. MANLEY (Warrington)

Touch Judges: H. PEARCE (Leeds), E. GRANTHAM (Hull)

a tough game needs tough kit



rugby outfits have been worn by more leading teams over the past 50 years than any other make.



1968/69 Football Catalogue. Copies of this fully detailed full colour booklet that shows over 1,000 colour combinations of jerseys, shorts and knee caps available at your local sports retailer, or for name of local stockist write to:

SALES PROMOTION MANAGER, BUKTA, BRINKSWAY, STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE

Team:

Gary Cooper, Keith Slater, Ian Brooke, Neil Fox, Ken Hirst, Ken Batty, Joe Bonnar, David Jeanes, Tom Hill, Don Fox, Terry Ramshaw, Bob Haigh, David Hawley. Subs: Richard Paley & Matt McLeod (both unused)

1975

Widnes 13 Wakefield Trinity 7

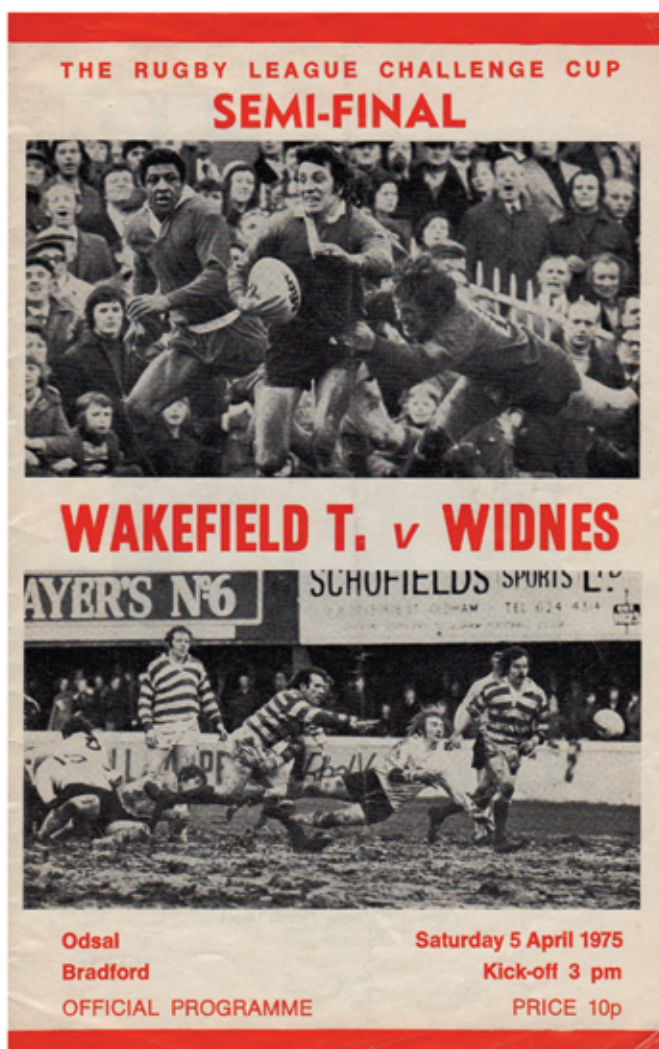
(Attendance: 9,160 at Odsal, Bradford)

The run to the 1975 Challenge Cup semi finals saw a couple of Belle Vue classics They welcomed Huyton to Belle Vue in the first round; David Topliss scoring two of the six tries in a 33-5 victory. Trinity then drew league leaders and cup favourites, St Helens in the second round, having already defeated them twice at Belle Vue already. In one of the club's best performances in years, the Saints were defeated again, 13-9. After leading 7-2 at half time, Trinity trailed 7-9 before a late second half try gained the lead again. 6,315 saw David Smith, Les Sheard and John Archer score the vital tries in front of the BBC TV *Grandstand* cameras. The quarter finals brought second division, Hull Kingston Rovers to Belle Vue but 'second division' in name only with internationals, Roger Millward, Clive Sullivan and Neil Fox in their ranks, who had already defeated Trinity in the Yorkshire Cup Final. In Belle Vue's biggest attendance since 1968, and still a ground record for the last forty eight years (14,514), Trinity won 27-10 with Terry Crook scoring two tries and kicking four goals.

The Trinity committee were a little concerned when the RFL took the Widnes semi final to Odsal, especially as Headingley was available and they were justified in their concerns with just over nine thousand lost in the 'Odsal bowl'. The scores were level 5-5 at the break after a Les Sheard goal and a Crook conversion was cancelled out by a Doug Laughton try, but a Foran try in the second half, three Dutton goals and a drop goal against another Crook penalty saw Trinity lose out on a dreary April afternoon.

Team:

Les Sheard, David Smith, Terry Crook, Barry Lumb, John Archer, David Topliss, Terry Hudson,
Les Tonks, Ray Handscombe, Roy Bratt, David Knowles, Trevor Skerrett, Mick Morgan
Subs: ? (unused), Neil Goodwin



1979

Wakefield Trinity 9 St Helens 7

(Attendance: 11,871 at Headingley, Leeds)

For any Trinity fan, around the age of fifty, who had just missed out on the 'Glory Years' this semi final, was probably the highlight of their 'Trinity supporting career'. YouTube was still twenty six years away but all the highlights can be viewed on there 24/7 now.

Wakefield Express: 13th April 1979

This was a game which today's generation will doubtless relive many times for their grandchildren. They will tell you how Wakefield Trinity pulled off one of the most dramatic semi final victories in the history of the game to earn the right to meet Widnes in the Challenge Cup Final at Wembley

Before the April 7th date, the poor winter of snow and ice had delayed many early cup rounds and Featherstone Rovers at home (10-7), Oldham, away (19-7) and Barrow at home (8-5) were eventually defeated as David Topliss led Trinity to their eighteenth semi final. Both the Featherstone and Barrow games saw last gasp finishes with Les Sheard scoring a 77th winner in the first round after the scores were locked at 7-7 and Andrew Fletcher also did the same in the 77th minute against Barrow after Alan McCurrie had been sent off and scores tied at 5-5.

The semi final had another breath-taking finish and was a game of relentless, energy-sapping rugby ... for the players and the fans.

Despite Trinity being dominant from the start, Saints took the lead on thirty minutes with a Roy Mathias try and for the next half an hour, the play flowed back and forth with Topliss and Skerrett being outstanding for Trinity. There was slight crowd trouble after an hour when the Trinity crowd spilled onto the field (*I was part of that after some stone throwing from Saints fans*) and then Harry Pinner dropped a 61st minute goal to put Saints 4-0 up. Then up-



stepped Alan McCurrie with a well-judged kick to the line, fumbled by full back, Glynn, and Andrew Fletcher scored. With a Keith Smith conversion and a drop goal, Trinity led, 6-4. With three minutes to go, there was despair when Saints tapped a scrum penalty and fanned the ball to winger, Les Jones, who beat three men to score in the corner. Pinner missed the conversion but at 7-6 it looked over.

Trinity needed a miracle ... and it duly came courtesy of David Topliss. St Helens were attacking the Trinity line and on the third tackle, Topliss intercepted an Eric Chisnall pass. With a minute to go, Graham Idle took the next drive, followed by John Burke. From the play the ball, McCurrie passed to Topliss who drifted right, dummied and shot through a gap between Liptrot and Cunningham. On being tackled he passed inside to the supporting Keith Smith who then, a few yards later, off-loaded to Fletcher who streaked the last thirty yards down the South Stand side to score in the corner. There was hysteria and delirium with a crowd invasion. There was still time for three more sets of tackles but Trinity held on and went to Wembley for the sixth time.

(The above picture shows Mike Lampkowski driving through Saints scrum half, Gwilliam, with Topliss and McDermott in support)

Team:

Les Sheard, Andrew Fletcher, Keith Smith, Steve Diamond, Steve Tinker, David Topliss, Mike Lampkowski, John Burke, Alan McCurrie, Trevor Skerrett, Keith Rayne, Graham Idle, Paul McDermott.

Subs: Trevor Midgley, Kevin Rayne

2008

Hull FC 32 Wakefield Trinity Wildcats 24
 (Attendance: 14,716 at Keepmoat Stadium, Doncaster)

Twenty nine years was the longest timespan between any of Trinity's cup semi finals. In that time we had had three relegations, three promotions, twenty first team coaches, eight further quarter final defeats, summer rugby and Super League. With modern day Super League rules, Trinity had received byes through to the fourth round where they had defeated Salford, 38-8 at the Willows. Kind draws then took them to Barrow where they won 58-8 and brought second division, Oldham, to Belle Vue for the quarter finals and a 46-4 win. Another aspect of modern day Challenge Cup ties were the dismal attendances with each of the three games seeing less than three thousand attend.

The semi final was virtually all over, though, after ten minutes when Hull ran up an eighteen point lead! After five minutes, Adam Dykes kicked to the corner, Trinity winger, Matt Peterson, fumbled and Danny Tickle scored. It was deja-vu three minutes later. A Dykes kick, a Peterson fumble and Gareth Raynor put Tickle over again. On ten minutes Danny Washbrook sent Graeme Horne over in the same corner and with

Tickle converting all three tries Trinity were 18-0 down after ten minutes.

Credit to Trinity who fought back and on twelve minutes, Ryan Atkins put Peterson over in the corner and four minutes later a Danny Brough kick found Damien Blanch who went over in the corner (18-8). Hull prop, Peter Cusack then crossed for a try, from close range and when Tevita Leo-Latu entered the fray, Trinity upped a level, scoring from close range on thirty three minutes and four minutes later another Brough kick saw Atkins barge over. Four tries each in the first half and Hull led, 24-20.

Trinity started well in the second half, only for Washbrook to score after forty three minutes (30-20). Blanch then scored from a Brad Drew kick. Blanch almost scored a hat trick but the video referee judged a foot in touch and Trinity's cup run was over. Goal kicking was a big difference with Danny Tickle kicking six from six with Danny Brough only landing two from his six.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY WILDCATS	HULL FC
1 Matthew BLAYHIRE Full-back	1 Matt TONY Full-back
2 Damien BLANCH Wing	2 Matt SING Wing
3 Tony MARTIN Centre	3 Kim YEAMAN Centre
4 Ryan ATKINS Centre	4 Craig WALL Centre
5 Paul REILLY Wing	5 Gareth RAYNOR Wing
6 Jamie ROONEY Stand-off	6 Richard HORNE Stand-off
7 Danny BROUGH Scrum-half	7 Adam DYKES Scrum-half
8 Adam WATENE Prop	8 Ewan DOWES Prop
9 Brad DREW Hooker	9 Shaun BERRIGAN Hooker
10 Danny SCULTHORPE Prop	10 Garreth CARVELL Prop
11 Brett FERRERES Second row	11 Lee RADFORD Second row
12 Duncan MacGILLIVRAY Second row	12 Danny TICKLE Second row
13 Jason DEMETRIOU Loose forward	13 Danny WASHBROOK Loose forward
14 Sam OBST Second row	14 Richard WHITING Second row
15 Matt PETERSEN Wing	15 Paul KING Prop
16 Ricky BIBBY Prop	16 Willie MANU Second row
17 Kevin HENDERSON Centre	17 Graeme HORNE Second row
18 Oliver WILKES Prop	18 Scott WHEELDON Prop
19 Sean GLEESON Wing	20 Danny HOUGHTON Hooker
20 Tevita LEO-LATU Hooker	21 Matty DALE Second row
21 Scott GREX Utility	22 Mike BURNETT Second row
22 Joe HIRST Second row	23 Tommy LEE Scrum-half
23 Jason GOLDEN Second row	24 Nathan FRIER Prop
24 Dale FERGOUSON Prop	25 Todd BYRNE Centre
25 Richard MOORE Prop	26 Peter CUSACK Prop
26 Luke GEORGE Wing	27 Tom BRISCOE Prop
27 Aaron MURPHY Centre	28 Ashley THACKERAY Full-back
28 Kyle BIBB Prop	31 Jamie THACKRAY Prop
29 Kyle WOOD Scrum-half	
30 Jay PITTS Second row	
<input type="checkbox"/> John KEAR Head coach	<input type="checkbox"/> Richard ADAR Head coach



Matt Peterson scores and Danny Sculthorpe ofloads

Team:

Paul Reilly, Damien Blanch, Jason Demetriou, Ryan Atkins, Matt Peterson, Danny Brough, Brad Drew, Danny Sculthorpe, Sam Obst, Richard Moore, Brett Ferrer, Duncan MacGillivray, Jason Golden.
 Subs: Ricky Bibbey, Kevin Henderson, Oliver Wilkes, Tevita Leo-Latu

Trinity's Challenge Cup Semi Finals ... in short

Year	Opposition	Score	Venue	Attendance
1909	Wigan	Won 14-2	The Cliff, Broughton	18,000
1912	Oldham	Lost 0-17	The Cliff, Broughton	11,061
1913	Huddersfield	Lost 2-35	Thrum Hall, Halifax	23,000
1914	Broughton Rangers	Draw 3-3	Athletic Ground, Rochdale	10,000
Replay	Broughton Rangers	Won 5-0	Fartown, Huddersfield	7,656
1927	Oldham	Lost 3-7	Central Park, Wigan	18,000
1932	Swinton	Lost 4-7	Athletic Ground, Rochdale	22,000
1937	Keighley	Draw 0-0	Headingley, Leeds	39,998
Replay	Keighley	Lost 3-5	Fartown, Huddersfield	14,440
1941 (L1)	Halifax	Lost 2-11	Thrum Hall, Halifax	7,752
1941 (L2)	Halifax	Won 10-5	Belle Vue, Wakefield	7,000
1946	Hunslet	Won 7-3	Headingley, Leeds	33,000
1947	Leeds	Lost 0-21	Fartown, Huddersfield	35,200
1960	Featherstone Rovers	Won 11-2	Odsal, Bradford	55,800
1962	Featherstone Rovers	Won 9-0	Odsal, Bradford	43,267
1963	Warrington	Won 5-2	Station Road, Swinton	15,566
1965	Hunslet	Lost 0-8	Headingley, Leeds	21,234
1968	Huddersfield	Draw 0-0	Odsal, Bradford	21,569
Replay	Huddersfield	Won 15-10	Headingley, Leeds	21,170
1969	Castleford	Lost 10-16	Headingley, Leeds	21,497
1975	Widnes	Lost 7-13	Odsal, Bradford	9,160
1979	St. Helens	Won 9-7	Headingley, Leeds	11,871
2008	Hull	Lost 24-32	Keepmoat, Doncaster	14,716

