

The Dreadnought



The Dreadnought is the official newsletter of 'Trinity Heritage' ... all things Wakefield Trinity history

Introduction

This year sees the fiftieth anniversary of Trinity's last RL Challenge Cup success. It was 11th May 1963 when Trinity defeated Wigan, 25-10 at Wembley Stadium and this newsletter pays tribute to the 'Boys of '63'.

The thirteen men that wore the 'red, white and blue' on that warm and sunny May day fifty years ago are only part of the story and there are many more men that contributed to that day.



Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners 1963

Here and There.....

Wembley Points Scorers Wakefield Trinity 25 Wigan 10

(Half Time: 5-0)
Scorers

Trinity tries: Sampson (38m), Coetzer (50m, 78m), Poynton (68m), Brooke (80m). Goals: Fox (5)
Wigan tries: Pitchford (41m), Carlton (70m)
Goals: Ashton (2)



Trinity Committee & Officials

President: Alderman Frank West
Chairman: Stuart Hadfield
Vice Chairman: Ron Rylance,
Committee: DW Armitage, J. Atkinson, S. Milner, L. Pounder, J. Ridge, EW Sugden
Secretary-Manager: Eddie Thomas

Trinity Backroom Boys

Coach: Ken Traill
Physio / Masseur: Paddy Armour
Trainer: Johnny Malpass
Club Doctor: Dr Harry Knowles
Coaching Staff: Harry Wilkinson & Johnny Jones

Match Day Officials:

Referee: Mr DTH Davies (Manchester)
Touch Judges: Mr G. Battersby (Barrow), Mr FG Smart (Mansfield)

Presentations

Cup presented by
Field-Marshal Viscount
Montgomery of Alamein



Awards 1962-63

Lance Todd Trophy: Harold Poynton
Trinity Player of the Season: Keith Holliday
Top Try Scorer: Gert Coetzer (14)
Top Goal Kicker: Neil Fox (100)
Top Points Scorer: Neil Fox (230)
Most Appearances in Season: Gerry Round (36)

Trinity & Wigan met three times in the 1962-63 season and because of a dreadful winter when three months of the season were lost, the cup final was the first meeting of the season.

A week after Wembley the two met at Central Park, Wigan in the league with Trinity returning home with a 21-13 victory. Fred Smith, Geoff Oakes and David Blakeley replaced Greenwood, Kosanovic and Sampson in the pack, with Blakeley scoring two tries.

Another week later they met at Belle Vue in the return league fixture with Trinity completing a three-week treble, winning 21-8

Because of the snowy winter, the cup final (which was usually the last match of the season) was one of ten matches Trinity had to fit in the month of May. Wigan also played ten games throughout May 1963.

Three days after their Wembley success, Trinity were playing again, beating Bramley 32-0 with the same thirteen players

Although Trinity finished in 5th place in the First Division table, they were Yorkshire League Champions (league where all Yorkshire teams played each other).

Wigan finished in 8th position in the table. Swinton won the First Division title with Hunslet winning the Yorkshire Cup

Roger Pearman was the 'cup final bolter', being selected as loose forward after only six previous first team appearances.

An ex-QEGS schoolboy, Pearman had been signed on the previous August after completing studies at Loughborough College. He played the first three games of the season, and then did not feature again until April. He forced club captain, Derek Turner into the second row after Brian Briggs was injured and kept his place in the Wembley XIII

Wembley 1963 was also a special day for Stanley-man, Malcolm Sampson.

Sampson had missed Wembley 1960 after playing in all the previous rounds. A fractured arm in a car accident kept him out for 2½ years. He had played 14 times throughout the 1962-63 season earning him his valuable no.10 shirt at Wembley. His 38th minute cup final try is an iconic photograph in Trinity's history (see over) and he gave international forward, Brian McTigue one of his toughest days on a rugby field. Sampson sadly passed away last September (aged 72)

Wembley Teams

TRINITY:

Gerry Round
Colin Greenwood
Ian Brooke
Neil Fox
Gert Coetzer
Harold Poynton
Keith Holliday
Jack Wilkinson
Milan Kosanovic
Malcolm Sampson
Don Vines
Derek Turner ©
Roger Pearman

THE GREAT WEMBLEY CHALLENGE CUP CHAMPIONS

FINAL TIE

WAKEFIELD TRINITY
v
WIGAN

SATURDAY, MAY 11th Kick-off 3 p.m.



WEMBLEY
EMPIRE STADIUM

WIGAN

David Bolton
Billy Boston
Eric Ashton ©
Alan Davies
Frank Carlton
Stan McLeod
Frank Pritchard
John Barton
Bill Sayer
Brian McTigue
Frank Collier
Geoff Lyon
Roy Evans



In the 1960s and 1970s, Trinity's official programme was one of the best in the league. When many clubs had three or four pages Trinity published a comprehensive, compact issue with over twenty pages, packed with information.



The one pictured on the right is from the Wembley year of 1962-63 fifty years ago, and there was a programme committee of six people, headed by David Armitage and John Lindley that edited the magazine.

It was divided into varying sections, 'club notes' in the first section with anything from news, finances, signings, debuts, representative news ... basically all things Trinity news. There was a section on the visitors of the day, but the bonus was the players records that not only told you who had done what all season, but the whole of the players careers ... a valuable asset to us historians! There were also the club fixtures, results and teams and scorers from recent games.

Looking back now, the adverts are fascinating which bring back memories to anyone over the age 40! Who remembers 'Colclough the Dairyman', 'Don Holt's Footwear', 'John Ridge's Decorating & Painting', 'EP Shaw's Beers, Wines & Spirits', 'The British Oak pub in Stanley', 'Gibson's Furnishers', 'Harry Hayley's' sports shop in The Springs, 'Builders Supply' in Kirkgate, 'Buckley's Plumbing', 'Mellard's Funerals', 'Roddy & Kaye Ltd Furnishers', 'Simpsons Shoes' in Westmoreland Street or 'WL Jackson's Bedding'? There were also adverts for the businesses of Trinity players, past and present; the 'Geoff Oakes' Accident & Vehicle Consult, Derek Turner's Removal and haulage business, the 'Fox and Grapes Inn' run by Brian Briggs as well as John Lindley's printing business.

Happy days!



The Trinity team Pen Pictures from the 1963 Cup Final programme

INTRODUCING

GERALD ROUND, Full Back
A former amateur R.L. international who came to Wakefield from Halifax (before joining in January 1958). He made his debut for the club, wearing Gerry Bennett's full-back against Australia in December 1958. He has since played full-back on his only R.L. Tour of Australia and has since played in 14 internationals including four of the Test and a provincial meeting only of 14 sides. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

COLIN GREENWOOD, Right Half Three-quarter
A Wakefield Sports (South Africa) and international R.L. star signed by Wakefield in June 1962 on a three-year contract. He was named the 1962 Yorkshire League of Services Player of the Year. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

IAN BIRKBECK, Right Centre Three-quarter
One of the main products of Wakefield C.F. who has been the Trinity centre for Wakefield's regular and occasionally one of the first. Signed in 1961, he made his Test debut in April 1962. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

NEIL FOX, Left Centre Three-quarter
One of the main products of Wakefield C.F. who has been the Trinity centre for Wakefield's regular and occasionally one of the first. Signed in 1961, he made his Test debut in April 1962. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

GERT COETZER, Left Wing Three-quarter
A South African international who came to Wakefield from Johannesburg. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

HAROLD PENNINGTON, Stand-off Halfback
One of Trinity's main products who has been the Trinity stand-off halfback for Wakefield's regular and occasionally one of the first. Signed in 1961, he made his Test debut in April 1962. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

KRITH HOLLIDAY, Scrum-half
The player with the record of most appearances for Trinity since any other member of today's team. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

JACK WILKINSON, Four Five Forward
At 12 years of age he was a "natural" selection for the 1962 World Cup squad. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY

MILAN KOSANOVIC, Hooker
"Milan" is Wakefield's main scrum-half and is one of the League's most experienced players in his specialised position. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

MALCOLM SAMPSON, Four Five Forward
A Wakefield Sports (South Africa) and international R.L. star signed by Wakefield in June 1962 on a three-year contract. He was named the 1962 Yorkshire League of Services Player of the Year. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

DONALD G. VINCE, Stand-off Halfback
A Wakefield Sports (South Africa) and international R.L. star signed by Wakefield in June 1962 on a three-year contract. He was named the 1962 Yorkshire League of Services Player of the Year. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

DEREK TURNER, Stand-off Halfback
A Wakefield Sports (South Africa) and international R.L. star signed by Wakefield in June 1962 on a three-year contract. He was named the 1962 Yorkshire League of Services Player of the Year. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

BOB PHARMAN, Loose Forward
A Wakefield Sports (South Africa) and international R.L. star signed by Wakefield in June 1962 on a three-year contract. He was named the 1962 Yorkshire League of Services Player of the Year. He has since played in 14 internationals and has been named in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 World Cup squads. He is a strong and powerful player with a number of major games to his credit. He is a proven try-scoring player by his position with 10 tries. Age 28. 7'6. 10 st. 11 lb.

HOW WAKEFIELD REACHED WEMBLEY

First Round	Second Round	Third Round	Fourth Round	Final
Wakefield v. Halifax (North) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (South) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (North) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (South) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (North) 1-0
Wakefield v. Halifax (South) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (North) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (South) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (North) 1-0	Wakefield v. Halifax (South) 1-0

As well as the thirteen players on duty at Wembley in 1963, there were another twenty players that contributed to Trinity's 1962-63 season.

One of the unlucky ones was Fred Smith who played 28 games throughout the season, scoring 12 tries. Along with Ken Hirst (13 tries in 19 games), they lost out to South African, Colin Greenwood on the left wing. Gerry Mann could also be counted as unlucky after his 10 tries in 17 games on the left flank. Greenwood had only crossed for 5 tries in his 23 games. Ken Rollin was a valuable team member and contributed 9 tries from 17 games in the half back positions.

In the forwards Geoff Oakes played 16 games after Kosanovic had been signed from Halifax and David Blakeley (24 games) and Brian Briggs (17 games) had been able deputies throughout the season.

Other contributors were the supreme South African backs, Alan Skene and Jan Prinsloo before they returned home, Roy Bell, Tony Thomas, Joe Smith, Roy Hawksley, Albert Firth, Ted Campbell, Ronnie Howe, Eric Payne, Bob Haigh, Dick Bloomfield and Geoff Steel.



Photos

- Left: The 1963 Cup Winning Team and Officials
- Above: The teams enter the arena and Harold Poynton on the break
- Above left: Gert Coetzer scores
- Below: Malcolm Sampson's 38th minute try

