

The Dreadnought



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

Year 4, Volume 5 ... May 2016

Welcome to the May 2016 edition of the 'Dreadnought'. The idea of the newsletter is to remember and celebrate Trinity's history and heritage in the form of articles, photos, stories and memorabilia. This edition looks the 1960s.

There have been numerous articles of these 'Glory Years', the three Challenge Cup wins, the two Championships, the legends ... this takes an alternative look at that great era



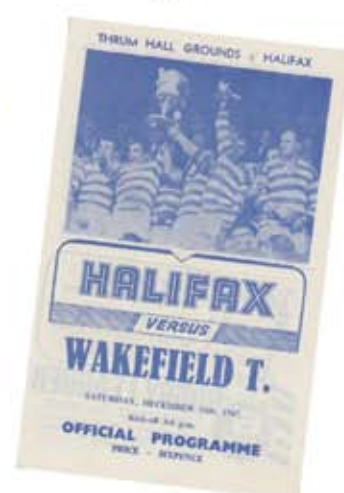
Trinity 1967-68

Back Row: Ken Batty, Geoff Oakes, Ted Campbell, John Godfrey, Bob Haigh, Geoff Clarkson, David Hawley
Front Row: Gert Coetzer, Ian Brooke, Gary Cooper, Tommy Alford, Ivan Spawforth, Geoff Wraith

The above is a first team picture from 16th December 1967 before a 9-16 defeat at Halifax. This defeat took Trinity to thirteenth in the league table before an unbeaten run of sixteen games took them to second place, Wembley and the 1968 RL Championship.

Neil Fox, Harold Poynton, Ray Owen, David Jeanes, Bernard Prior and Don Fox were all missing from the first team at Thrum Hall that day, with scrum half, Alford, making his first appearance of the season and Spawforth his second, on the wing. Mick Morgan and George Shepherd were the unused substitutes that day.


John Godfrey scored the solitary try and Spawforth kicking three goals. David Jones and Colin Dixon scored the Halifax tries with Welsh full back, Ronnie James kicking five goals. Future Welsh international, Jim Mills was in the second row of a Halifax side, coached by former Trinity scrum half, Stan Kielty, in front of a 3,960 attendance on a cold, frosty winters Saturday afternoon.



Committee & Officials ... 54 Years Ago

WAKEFIELD TRINITY R. L. F. C.

Ground :
Belle Vue, Wakefield
Att. record : 37,906
(Post-war : 28,524)



Colours :
White Jerseys with
Red & Blue circle
White shorts

Rugby League Challenge Cup 1909, 1946, 1960, 1962. Runners-up: 1914
Yorkshire League Champions: 1909-10, 1910-11, 1945-46, 1958-59, 1959-60, 1961-62
Yorkshire Challenge Cup: 1910, 1924, 1946, 1947, 1951, 1956, 1960, 1961
Runners-up: 1926, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1940, 1945, 1958.
Northern R.L. Championship: Runners-up 1959-60, 1961-62.

COMMITTEE & OFFICIALS SEASON 1962-63

President: Alderman Frank West

W. Simpson (Chairman) R. Rylance (Vice-Chairman)
D. W. Armitage, J. Atkinson, S. H. Hadfield, S. Milner,
L. Pounder, J. Ridge, E. W. Sugden.

Representative on R.L. Council — S. H. Hadfield
Representative on Yorks. County Committee — Ald. Frank West.
Representative - Yorks. Senior Comp. — L. Pounder.
Rep. Wakefield & Dist. Amateur R.L. — D. W. Armitage.

Finance Committee: Ald. F. West, S. H. Hadfield, W. Simpson, J. Atkinson,
R. Rylance.
Ground Committee: D. W. Armitage, L. Pounder, S. Milner, J. Ridge, E. Sugden
Team Selection Committee: R. Rylance, D. W. Armitage, L. Pounder, J. Ridge
Trinity Juniors Committee: D. W. Armitage, L. Pounder, R. Rylance.
Pools Committee: Ald. F. West, S. H. Hadfield, L. Pounder, J. Ridge.
Programme Committee: D. W. Armitage and J. C. Lindley (Joint Editors)
J. W. Broadbent, G. Oxley, T. Robertshaw, K. E. Robinson.
Trinity Supporters' Club delegates: S. H. Hadfield, D. W. Armitage, J. Atkinson,
L. Pounder.

Hon. Doctor: Dr. H. T. Knowles.
Hon. Auditor: Ernest Corscadden, F.C.A.
Hon. Solicitors: T. Vernon Way, G. W. Towell.
Hon. Architect: W. Massey. Advisory: J. N. Sedgwick.

Coach: K. Traill Masseur: W. Armour Trainer: J. Malpass
Secretary-Manager: E. THOMAS. Telephone 2445 (Office), 4189 (Home)

As stated in previous, similar newsletters, the Trinity programmes of the 1960s and 1970s were one of the most informative in the league and a dream for historians when researching matches, players, appearances etc.

This publication from 1962 had 22 pages, with the first page providing a list of staff.

Back in 1962, Alderman Frank West was starting his third term as Club President with Bill Simpson as Chairman and former player, Ron Rylance as Vice Chairman. There were another seven committeemen with Eddie Thomas was Secretary-Manager.

We had sub-committees for finance, ground, team selection, Trinity Juniors, pools, programme and Trinity Supporters' Club. We had auditors, solicitors, doctors, architects and advisories. Add to these the on-field staff of coach, trainer, masseur and players ... those were the days.


These were the days when the committee selected the weekend playing team and in 1962 that responsibility fell to the above committeemen, Ron Rylance, David Armitage, Les Pounder and John Ridge. They did not do a bad job, as this era was the most successful in the club's history. The club doctor was Dr. Harry Knowles who was in post for twenty four years (1962-86)

Stats & Stuff ... the 60s

	Coach	Captain	Top Try Scorer	Top Goal Kicker	Top Points Scorer	Biggest Win
1959-60	Ken Traill	Derek Turner	Fred Smith 38	Neil Fox 140	Neil Fox 370	48-9 v Bramley
1960-61	Ken Traill	Derek Turner	Neil Fox 18	Neil Fox 81	Neil Fox 216	46-10 v Bramley
1961-62	Ken Traill	Derek Turner	Jan Prinsloo 30	Neil Fox 163	Neil Fox 407	73-5 v Bradford N (YC)
1962-63	Ken Traill	Derek Turner	Gert Coetzer 14	Neil Fox 100	Neil Fox 230	45-11 v Bradford N
1963-64	Ken Traill	Derek Turner	Gert Coetzer 29	Neil Fox 105	Neil Fox 276	44-3 v Doncaster
1964-65	Ken Traill	Neil Fox	Berwyn Jones 20	Neil Fox 113	Neil Fox 262	46-5 v Keighley
1965-66	Ken Traill	Neil Fox	Jones & Coetzer 19	Neil Fox 94	Neil Fox 221	43-7 v Keighley
1966-67	Ken Traill	Neil Fox, Harold Poynton	Gert Coetzer 22	Neil Fox 132	Neil Fox 309	48-8 v Salford (Cup)
1967-68	Ken Traill	Harold Poynton	Ken Batty 28	Neil Fox 89	Neil Fox 229	78-9 v Batley
1968-69	Ken Traill	Harold Poynton	Keith Slater 22	Neil Fox 87	Neil Fox 201	50-7 v Ackworth (Cup)

The First...

Trinity's first game of the new decade was on Saturday 2nd January 1960 when Hull came to Belle Vue. Trinity were in second place in the league table having just beaten Castleford 20-2 on Christmas Day and demolished Leeds, 39-5 at Headingley on Boxing Day and had only lost three of their twenty one league games so far. Hull were in tenth place but had had a tough week with three away games in the previous nine days, a 13-2 Christmas Day victory at Hull KR, a 30-0 win at Dewsbury on Boxing Day and a midweek visit to Oldham squeezed in, too, returning with a 6-30 loss.

<p>For a good meal after the match — RING UP 4849 —</p> <p>CHOCODERO CAFE (Prop: W. E. Lumb Ltd)</p> <p>25 Little Westgate</p> <p>Open until 6 daily</p>	<p>DRINK ONLY THE BEST!</p> <p>E. P. SHAW'S Soft Drinks</p> <p>10 CITY ROAD WAKEFIELD Telephone - 2738-9</p>	<p>For SPECIAL reports and COMPLETE results . . .</p> <p>YOU MUST GET Yorkshire Sports The COMPLETE Sports Paper</p> <p>Every Saturday 2½d IT'S ALL IN THE PINK !</p>
 <p>KICK-OFF 2-30 p.m.</p>		
<p>WAKEFIELD TRINITY (Red & Blue Jerseys Blue shorts)</p> <p>Full back 1 Round</p> <p>Three-quarter backs 2 Smith F. 3 Skene 4 Fox 5 Smith S</p> <p>Half backs 6 Poynton 7 Holliday</p> <p>Front row forwards 8 Wilkinson 9 Oakes 10 Smith J.</p> <p>Second row forwards 11 Vines 12 Sampson M.</p> <p>Loose forward 14 Turner</p> <p>Referee: A. E. Durkin (Dewsbury)</p>	<p>HULL (Irregular Black & White Hooped Jerseys White shorts)</p> <p>Full back 1 Bateson</p> <p>Three-quarter backs 2 Wanklyn 3 Kershaw 4 Saville 5 Cowan</p> <p>Half backs 6 Broadhurst 7 Finn</p> <p>Front row forwards 8 Scott 9 Harris 10 Drake J.</p> <p>Second row forwards 11 Sykes 12 Drake W.</p> <p>Loose forward 13 Whiteley J.</p> <p>TOUCH JUDGES W. Scott (White Flag) J. Keegan (Red Flag)</p>	
<p>Tel. 2054 Ext. 1882</p> <p>Harry Hayley Limited</p> <p>for SPORTS GOODS TOYS & GAMES MECCANO HORNBY TRAIN SETS TRI-ANG stockists</p> <p>Corn Exchange Buildings WAKEFIELD</p>	<p>The WAKEFIELD team WEAR LITESOME SUPPORTERS & SPORTSWEAR</p> <p>From all good Sports Outfitters</p> <p>Sole Manufacturers: Fred Hurstley, & Son Ltd., Keighley, Yorks Dept. 93</p>	<p>Trinity at its best every night—</p> <p>British Oak Inn</p> <p>STANLEY - WAKEFIELD</p> <p>Tel. 4381</p> <p>The personal attention of PAT & CYRIL HALL</p>

A tough Xmas saw Trinity make two changes to the above programme sheet with Tony Thomas replacing Stan Smith on the wing and Albert Firth replacing Joe Smith in the forwards. Hull had a formidable pack with Johnny Whiteley leading from the front and Mick Scott, Cyril Sykes and the Drake brothers, Jim and Bill, adding the size and power.

On a bright, Saturday afternoon Trinity totally outplayed the Airlie Birds, 34-9 with Albert Firth (2), Fred Smith, Derek Turner, Harold Poynton and Alan Skene scoring the tries with Neil Fox kicking eight goals. The attendance was 9,839.

Trinity's unbeaten run stretched to twelve games until a defeat at the Boulevard in March followed by another eight wins in the next ten until the play offs. Hull progressed too, going on a long unbeaten run after this defeat, winning their next eighteen games before a 4-9 loss at home to St Helens at Easter, finishing third in the league table behind Trinity in second. They met at Belle Vue in the Championship semi final, Trinity winning 24-4 and a week later at Wembley, Trinity winning the Challenge Cup, 38-5.

The first programme of 1960 was packed with local interest. The adverts included the 'Griffin Hotel' and its 'free and easy nightly with the Griffinaires trio', S. Stead's Builders on Heath Common, Simpsons Shoes on Westmoreland Street, AW Winter the dairyman in Belle Vue, the British Oak Inn in Stanley, John Ridge's Painting & decorating company in Kirkgate, the Dolphin Hotel, the Chocodero Café in Little Westgate and the Duncan Inn in Thornes Lane run by ex-Trinity loose forward, Len Bratley

...The Last

The last game played by Trinity in the 1960s was for the visit of Batley on 26th December 1969; a change from the usual Boxing Day visits to Headingley. A 5,867 crowd attended to see a 20-7 Trinity victory.

The 'Glory Years' were well behind Trinity by the decade's end and the 1969-70 season saw Trinity win only one of their first thirteen games, including an 8-15 loss at Batley's Mount Pleasant in November. The 60's legends had retired, or moved on, and Ian Brooke had just relinquished the club captaincy with Bob Haigh leading the club for the first time.

<p>Telephone Wakefield 74289</p> <p>Fox & Grapes Inn STANLEY ROAD, WAKEFIELD</p> <p>All ranges of Wainey-Wilsons Bottled & Draught Also also Red Barrel</p> <p>— Snacks available on request —</p> <p>Mine Hosts: John and Kathleen Ridge</p>	<p>- HILLMAN - HUMBER - SUNBEAM - SALES - SERVICE - PETROL -</p> <p>Burdin Motors (Wakefield) Limited</p> <p>Telephones 72641/75060/75051</p> <p>NORTHGATE - WAKEFIELD</p>	<p>DRINK ONLY THE BEST</p> <p>SHAW LITTLEWOOD SOFT DRINKS BEERS — WINES — SPIRITS</p> <p>Telephone: 76806</p> <p>10 CITY ROAD - WAKEFIELD</p>	
<p>SCORE SHEET</p> <p>Goals: 4</p> <p>Tries: 4</p> <p>Points: 20</p>	<p>WAKEFIELD TRINITY (White jerseys with circles of Red & Blue. White shorts) Full back 1 Wraith</p> <p>Three-quarter backs 2 Slater T 3 Brown 4 Carlton 5 Batty</p> <p>Half backs 6 Brooke 7 Harkin K</p> <p>Front row forwards 8 McLeod 9 Hill 10 Jeanes</p> <p>Second row forwards 11 Ramsshaw 12 Haigh</p> <p>Loose forward 13 Hawley</p> <p>Substitutes: 14 Topless 15 Campbell</p> <p>Referee: E. CLAY (NORTH.)</p>	<p>BATLEY (Cherry and White jerseys. White shorts) Full back 1 Gittins</p> <p>Three-quarter backs 2 Emmings Toohy 4 Cooke 5 Marsh</p> <p>Half backs 6 Watts 7 Gorman</p> <p>Front row forwards 8 Walker 9 Smith 10 Tyson</p> <p>Second row forwards 11 Bell 12 Martyn</p> <p>Loose forward 13 Doyle</p> <p>Substitutes: 14 15</p> <p>TOUCH JUDGES: (Pink Flag) (Yellow Flag)</p>	<p>SCORE SHEET</p> <p>Goals: 2</p> <p>Tries: 1</p> <p>Points: 7</p>
<p>Telephone: 72056 Established: 1882</p> <p>Harry Hayley Ltd "SPORTS OUTFITTERS" TOYS and GAMES</p> <p>23 THE SPRINGS, WAKEFIELD</p>	<p>The WAKEFIELD Team wear LITESOME SUPPORTERS and SPORTSWEAR</p> <p>From all good Sports Outfitters</p> <p>LITESOME Sportswear</p> <p>Litesome Sportswear Ltd, Kellingley, Yorkshire</p>	<p>CASH! CASH! CASH! for your Waste Paper —</p> <p>J. H. BROADBENT IRON, STEEL & WASTE PAPER MERCHANT</p> <p>Wakefield 72044</p>	

Despite Trinity's poor season, they still had three internationals in their side with David Jeanes complementing the previous season's World Cup members, Brooke and Haigh. Matt McLeod and Tom Hill were two Cumbrians in the front row and David Hawley was a popular, hard working loose forward. New stars were starting out their careers with scrum half, Kevin Harkin playing his ninth first team game and David Topless in his second season. Former Trinity scrum half, Tommy Gorman was now in the Batley half backs. As noted above, Ian Brooke (2), Stuart Carlton and Keith Slater scored the tries with Carlton (3) and Kevin Harkin kicking the goals.

The club programme in 1969 was still as informative as previous years with statistics, records and honours for future historians. The adverts included Derek Turner's removals & haulage company, Newmillerdam Motors with Neil Fox, Duke of York Hotel in Agbrigg Road, Victoria Motors in Newton Hill and two Blackpool hotels run by former players, Chesterfields Guest House (Jack Perry) and Heatonia Guest House (Ray Jaques).

There were also full adverts for Trinity Pools and the Trinity Development Association based in Zetland Street with bingo, raffles and fruit machines. The new Trinity Supporters' tea bar was also advertised, selling sweets, pies and pasties aswell as ties, scarves, badges, pens, autograph books and teddy bears. The most expensive item were the 45 shilling teddy bears!

