

The Dreadnought



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

Year 3, Volume 3 ... November 2015

Welcome to the November 2015 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 at another popular era in the history of the club, the 1980s.



Trinity 1983-84

Back Row: Brian Pagdin (physio), Brian Adams, Harold Box, Lindsay Gill, Colin Maskill, Roy Bratt, Paul Geary, Billy Harris, Nigel Bell, Dean Williams
Front Row: Malcolm Swann, Andrew Fletcher, Wally Lewis, Nigel Stephenson, Paul Coventry, David Jones

Good, clear team pictures from the early 1980s are few and far between but the above is a unique photo as it is the only one, we believe, which included Wally Lewis, the Queensland and Australian test legend who played ten games with us in the 1983-84 season.

This was taken at Halifax in his last ever game, an RL Challenge Cup first round match on 12th February 1984.

Trinity won the game 19-7 with Wally signing off with two tries, Brian Adams and David Jones scoring the other two with Colin Maskill only converting one of six attempts, and Nigel Stephenson dropping a goal just after the break.

Lewis was an obvious target for the Halifax 'hitmen' with the hooker spending time in the sin bin for late fouls. Wally's 'minder' Lindsay Gill had a storming game, gaining man of the match honours in front of a 4,402 crowd.

Following this game, Lewis returned home, Trinity lost their second round cup game, 12-20 at home to York, Derek Turner resigned as coach, the remaining eight league games were all lost and Trinity were relegated!



Committee & Officials ... 35 Years Ago

TODAY'S MATCH BALL



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TRINITY



1979-1980

ST. HELENS Sun., 23 Mar.

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Programme Consultants:
J. C. Lindley, T. Roberson, R. Kaye

PROGRAMME

15p

The quality of the Trinity programmes started to fade in the 1980s, after the retirement of editor John Lindley. Gone were the informative facts, figures and match records replaced by advertisements and blurred photographs.

From 1975 to 1980, Trinity had this design with the staff and committee noted in a box in the bottom right hand corner and advertisements on the left.

The committee were well known names of the 1980s with Chairman, Trevor Woodward and Vice Chairman, David Garthwaite leading the way. The committee also included the very well respected, Les Pounder, David Barras, John Fawcett, Terry Kelly, John Sellers and Andrew Slater. Jim Walker was President and the secretary's home telephone number was still available, too, Mr Alan Pearman.

The two doctors, Dr Harry Knowles and Dr Hulme were great characters as was the players favourite physiotherapist, Ben Quansah, a gentleman who used to sing to you whilst giving you pain! The timekeeper, Roy Thackrah, still works for the club to this day.

Stats & Stuff ... the 80s

	Coach	Captain	Top Try Scorer	Top Goal Kicker	Top Points Scorer	Biggest Win
1979-80	Bill Kirkbride	David Topliss	Brian Juliff, Paul McDermott 15	Steve Diamond 115	Steve Diamond 237	30-5 v Bradford N (A,YC)
1980-81	Ray Batten	David Topliss, Allan Agar	Brian Juliff 15	Steve Diamond 112	Steve Diamond 247	43-10 v Leeds
1981-82	Bill Ashurst	Terry Day, Harold Box	John Lyons 10	John Lyons 41	John Lyons 111	23-20 v Barrow
1982-83	Ray Batten	Nigel Stephenson	Lindsay Rotherforth 18	Colin Maskill 77	Colin Maskill 181	41-9 v Doncaster
1983-84	Derek Turner, Bob Haigh	Nigel Stephenson	Nigel Stephenson 9	Colin Maskill 75	Colin Maskill 164	38-10 v Whitehaven (A)
1984-85	Geoff Wraith, David Lamming, Len Casey	Nigel Stephenson	Lindsay Rotherforth 12	Andy Sygrove 33	Andy Sygrove 82	40-20 v Keighley
1985-86	Len Casey	Tracy Lazenby	Phil Eden 16	Andy Sygrove 49	Andy Sygrove 114	54-4 v Keighley (A)
1986-87	Tony Dean, Trevor Bailey	Nigel Bell	John Lyons 15	Kevin Harcombe 33	Kevin Harcombe 79	38-20 v Widnes
1987-88	David Topliss	Keith Rayne	Mark Conway 20	Kevin Harcombe 116	Kevin Harcombe 244	62-10 v Bramley
1988-89	David Topliss	Mark Graham, Steve Ella	Andy Mason 14	Kevin Harcombe 48	Kevin Harcombe 97	46-20 v Dewsbury (YC)


The First...

Trinity's first home game of the new decade was on Sunday 13th January 1980 when second-placed, Widnes, came to town. The 'Team of the 70s', Widnes, arrived at Belle Vue as Lancashire Cup holders but had just lost the John Player Final to Bradford, 0-6, the week before. Trinity, in 8th position in the league had just defeated Leigh and were confident of victory.

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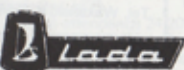
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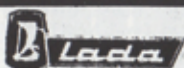
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m or the m: MIKE LAMPKOWSKI



Referee: J. McDonald (Wigan)
Touch Judges: G. Clark J. S. Reagan

19 (5)
WIDNES

(5) 1 David ECKERSLEY 3G, 10
(4) 2 Stuart WRIGHT IT
(13) 3 Mal ASPEY IT
(11) 4 Mick GEORGE IT
(3) 5 Keith BENTLEY
(11) 6 Eric HUGHES
(9) 7 Reg BOWDEN
(13) 8 Brian HOGAN
(7) 9 Keith ELWELL
(19) 10 Glyn SHAW
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W	A	R	E	H	O	U	S	E

Both teams were virtually at full strength with only Keith Rayne missing for Trinity and goal kicking full back, Mick Burke missing for the Chemics. Trinity took an early lead through an Alan McCurrie try but Widnes equalised with a Stuart Wright try and it was 5-5 at the interval. Widnes's class showed in the second half with tries to Aspey, George and Gorley and Trinity's two tries from Kirkbride and McDermott were too late, Widnes winning 19-13.

The numbers in brackets on the team sheet noted the tackle count which showed that Widnes had much more possession and the Trinity back three, led by Trevor Skerrett's forty efforts they made ninety five tackles between them, as opposed to Widnes's back three of forty five tackles.

match ball sponsors

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HULL - Alan Edwards, Magnet, Dewsbury Road
HULL KR - Ship Inn, Stanley
WARRINGTON - Cornmill Restaurant
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HUNSLET - S. Hammill, Ship Inn
BRADFORD - Wintler
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As mentioned earlier, the early 1980s programme was packed with advertisements and the local businesses of thirty five years ago make interesting reading. All players had local businesses sponsoring them (see team sheet) and the match ball had local sponsors too.

Throughout the programme ex-players were well recognised, including Jonathan Parkin & Son (Frozen Food distributors), Topliss & King Heating Engineers, Trevor Skerrett's builders and Eric Ingham's plumbing. Who also remembers the Stoneleigh Hotel, Ingham Sports, Shapers Health Studio in Unity House, Hansons DIY, The Viking Restaurant in Methley and the Admiral Duncan Inn on Thornes Lane? Happy Days!

...The Last

The last game played by Trinity in the 1980s was for the visit of Featherstone Rovers on 31st December 1989. Despite having players of the calibre of Paul Newlove, Deryck Fox, Jeff Grayshon and Peter Smith in their squad, Rovers found themselves in the relegation zone at Christmas 1989, seven points adrift of safety with only two league wins all season. One of those was at home to Trinity five days earlier, 15-8 on Boxing Day and they had reached the Yorkshire Cup Final, losing to Bradford. Trinity were in 7th and apart from Boxing Day had not played for a month.

TRINITY

Sun 31st Dec 1989, 11.30am, Stones Bitter Ground

FEATHERSTONE R

Blue & White Jerseys, White Shorts

G	T	F

<p>Chris PERRY</p> <p>Andrew WILSON</p> <p>James LEULUALI</p> <p>Andrew MASON</p> <p>Phillip FOX</p> <p>Brian JACKSON</p> <p>Mark CONWAY</p> <p>Andrew KELLY</p> <p>John THOMPSON</p> <p>John GLANCY</p> <p>Tracy LAZENBY</p> <p>Gary PRICE</p> <p>Ray PRICE</p>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<p>Chris BISS</p> <p>Barry DRUMMOND</p> <p>Alan BANKS</p> <p>Terry MANNING</p> <p>Iva ROPATI</p> <p>Ian SMALES</p> <p>Deryck FOX</p> <p>Jeff GRAYSHON</p> <p>Trevor CLARK</p> <p>Glenn BELL</p> <p>Gary PRICE</p> <p>Chris BURTON</p> <p>Andy FISHER</p>
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G	T	F

Referee: ALEX BOWMAN Touch Judges: S. Sharp Orange Flag: M. J. Robinson Green Flag

Next Home Game - Stones Bitter Championship

SALFORD

Sunday 14th January 1990
Kick-Off 3.30 pm

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Official Programme

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Sun 31 Dec 1989

Kick-off 11.30 am

Stones Bitter Championship

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The teams showed some changes to the programme after the Boxing Day clash, Fox and Jackson missing for Trinity with Zelei on the wing and Lazenby at stand off with the pack shuffling positions. Billy Conway coming in at hooker with ex-internationals, James Leuluai and Keith Rayne on the bench. Two magnificent tries in the opening nine minutes sent Trinity on their way, the first a length of the field move and the second, a Chris Perry score after an Andy Kelly offload. Ropati replied for Rovers, but just on half time a piece of Lazenby-Conway half back magic saw Andy Mason score by the posts. Ropati replied again before another piece of Lazenby magic put Eden in for his second. Trevor Clark scored late on but Trinity won in fine style, 22-14, watched by 6,794.

Wakefield Trinity – Season 1989/90

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Green, Williamson & Way Hon. Doctor: Dr. A. McGowan

Life Members: L. Pounder, B. Dale, E. Hewitt

The off field staff had changed considerably in the ten years since the start of the 80s. Stars such as Richard Harris, Adam Faith and Michael Parkinson found their names in the honorary section with a few Wakefield counsellors on the committee too.

Since promotion in 1988 the programme had returned to its previous excellence too. A special mention to club doctor at this time, Dr. Alistair McGowan, a true expert in his field.