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## Wakefield Trinity — Season 1988/89

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## The David Topliss Column

What a difference a fortnight makes! Two weeks ago we were looking to consolidate our table topping position against Salford and anticipating the prospect of a Yorkshire Cup tie at Headingley.

Both those results went against us, as did the one at Knowsley Road last Sunday, but there was honour in defeat with the performance at Leeds and, in the second half, at St. Helens illustrating the never say die spirit within our squad. We have had to endure more than our fair share of injuries so far, and a man we can ill afford to lose, Nigel Bell, is the latest victim. But I am not using that as an excuse. Every team has to overcome them. No one feels sorry for you.

But those who think that the Trinity bubble has burst will have to think again. Losing three straight games has disappointed me, and the players, but only in the Salford match did we let ourselves down. But their victory over Champions Widnes, last Sunday, offers further evidence that there are no bad teams in this competition.

Today we meet and welcome my former club Oldham, who were promoted with us last season. The two games between our clubs were outstanding examples of modern Rugby League and if this afternoon's contest follows in the same vein no one will complain — but I would like a different result to the one at Belle Vue in April.

Gaining their first League success over Hull K.R. will have lifted the men from Watersheddings and they will come to Belle Vue confident of repeating their 23-22 triumph here last season.

With your continued vocal encouragement, however, we can upset them and turn the tide of three consecutive defeats.

**DAVID TOPLISS**

**COVER SHOT:** Man of the moment John Glancy — outstanding in the narrow defeat at Leeds.  
*Picture courtesy of Wakefield Express.*

# TODAY'S VISITORS

## OLDHAM

**MICK BURKE:** Former Great Britain and Widnes full-back, touring Down Under with the 1984 Lions and totalling 15 caps at full test level. Has five Lancashire caps and five at Under 24 international level. Broke the Widnes goals (140) and points (316) records in his debut 1978-79 season and, after struggling following his January, 1987 move to Oldham, returned to his best attacking form last term, recording 7 tries in 30 appearances. One of only four players to have won both the Lance Todd Trophy and the Harry Sunderland Award.

**RICHARD IRVING:** Signed for Oldham in August, 1987 from Moldgreen ARLFC and impressed coach Eric Fitzsimons with his strong-running wing displays, scoring tries against Keighley and Rochdale. This term he scored on the opening day visit to Wigan.

**JOHN HENDERSON:** Recently signed centre from the Leigh club, this prolific try-scorer should add firepower to the Oldham back division. A try scorer against Castleford, he was sorely missed by Leigh for much of last season. Scored 31 tries in 1985-86 and another 27 in 1986-87 for Leigh and gained selection for Lancashire, scoring a try, in a 22-22 draw with Papua New Guinea in 1987. Guested for Sydney Wests in 1985.

**DES FOY:** Joined Widnes straight from schools international football, before returning to hometown Oldham. Very pacy centre/stand-off touring Down Under on the 1984 Lions tour and appearing in the No. 6 shirt in the First Test. Scored 16 tries in 38 appearances last season, including two in the Premiership Final defeat of Featherstone, when he was named Man of the Match, and a hat-trick against Rochdale. Agreed to join Newcastle Knights in Sydney for 1989. Scorer of tries against Leeds and Workington this season.

**CHARLIE McALISTER:** A sensational capture from Bradford & Bingley RUFC in February, 1988, scoring 9 tries and 15 goals in 18 appearances. Had a summer spell in Australia with the Newcastle Knights, improving his defensive abilities. Kicked four goals in last season's Premiership Final. Can play centre, wing or stand-off. New Zealander with great strength and pace.

**KEVIN MEADOWS:** One of the First Division's most under rated wingers, having previously played for St. Helens and Warrington. Scored 16 tries in 38 appearances last season. In his second spell at Oldham where he once scored 5 tries in a First Division match against Salford in 1984. Very fast and elusive.

**CHRIS O'SULLIVAN:** Comes to Watersheddings with a big reputation as stand-off for the Canberra Raiders club in Sydney. Gained representative honours for Country in Place of Origin football and is a great controller of play — a fine organiser, kicker and midfield general. Try scorer in the Lancashire Cup rout of Workington.

**MIKE FORD:** The young skipper of his hometown team, arriving at Oldham via spells with Wigan and Leigh. Did well at Central Park, winning Challenge Cup, Lancashire Cup and John Player success, also having a 1985 spell with Sydney club Easts. Very clever footballing scrum-half who toured Down Under with the Lions last summer. Scored 9 tries and 3 drop goals in 19 appearances following his January, 1988 arrival at the club following an unhappy spell at Leigh.

**IAN SHERRATT:** Former Bradford Northern prop joining Oldham in April, 1987, as part of a deal which took Great Britain forward David Hobbs to Odsal. Has enjoyed two successful spells in Australian country football. Scored two tries in 12 appearances for Oldham last season and has been drafted into the side following the transfer of tour man Hugh Waddell to Leeds.

**NEIL CLAWSON:** Son of much-travelled former Trinity and Great Britain prop forward Terry, Neil is another front-rower with lots of ability. Joined Oldham from Featherstone in May, 1986 and scored 2 tries in 26 appearances last season.

**JOHN FAIRBANK:** Former BARLA international forward signed by Leeds last November from Elland ARLFC. One of five League-playing brothers and son of former Leeds and Huddersfield forward Jack. Played 19 games in his debut season for Leeds, but was surprisingly allowed to leave Headingley in August, in the exchange deal which took test prop Hugh Waddell to Leeds. Strong, forceful 21 year-old whose best is yet to come.

**ANDY RUANE:** Former Widnes and Rochdale hooker well known to coach Eric Fitzsimons, a former coach of the Hornets. A great worker in the loose, with goalkicking skills, he scored 12 tries, 15 goals and 2 drop goals for Hornets last season. Has already made his presence felt at Watersheddings, claiming the No. 9 jersey and kicking his first goals against Workington Town in the Lancashire Cup tie.

**IAN SANDERSON:** Signed from Fireways ARLFC in September, 1983, this is another promising hooker, who scored 4 tries in 27 appearances last season. Voted one of the best up and coming players in the country a few seasons ago.

**PAUL ROUND:** Signed for £65,000 from St. Helens in August, 1987, instantly repaying Oldham with 16 tries in 26 appearances and gaining inclusion in the Lancashire teams which opposed Yorkshire (scoring a try) and Papua New Guinea in 1987.

**ASHLEY GILBERT:** Arrives with colleague Chris O'Sullivan from the Canberra club and with a reputation as a hard-working forward. Sought by a host of English clubs, he opted to join the Roughyeds. Scored tries against Workington and Castleford.

**PAUL TAYLOR:** Versatile Parramatta player enjoying his second spell with Oldham, having played for them during the 1984-85 season when scoring 10 tries and 2 drop goals in 23 appearances. Won many honours for the Eals in Sydney, where he is regarded as a phenomenal tackler. Has played half-back, full-back, loose-forward and even hooker, and won Premiership honours alongside such as Kenny, Sterling, Grothe and Ella. Seen as the answer to Oldham's loose-forward problem.

**KEITH ATKINSON:** A product of Oldham Colts football, signing professional forms for the club in August, 1984. Scored a total of 148 points in last season's Second Division championship campaign, from 6 tries and 62 goals. A versatile back with pace and

ability, but has suffered his share of ill luck down the years.

**IAN BATES:** Very promising scrum-half nephew of former Dewsbury and Great Britain half-back Alan Bates. Impressed in Alliance football to get his chance in first team football, but Oldham will nurse him along steadily. Signed from Gate Inn ARLFC in September, 1987.

**LEO CASEY:** Recruited from St. Annes ARLFC in April, 1985, this hard grafting prop forward scored 3 tries in 8 appearances for the club last season. Was a try scorer at Featherstone in September.

**TERRY FLANAGAN:** Long serving loose-forward/hooker currently enjoying a benefit season at Watersheddings. Has played for Great Britain on four occasions and toured Down Under in 1984-85. Under 24 caps, plus three Lancashire caps gained in 1980-82. Good ball distributor and a real 100 trier. One of only three survivors from the 1986 Lancashire Cup Final team.

**COLIN HAWKYARD:** Unsung workhorse of the Roughyeds pack, a frequent scorer and a tireless defensive player. 3 tries in 27 appearances last term. Played for Oldham in the 1986 Lancashire Cup Final against Wigan. Had a 3-match loan spell at Huddersfield in 1981-82.



Oldham's most recent Championship Winning Team — Back (left to right): J. Heywood, W. Mitchell, D. Vines, C. Winslade, J. Keith, G. Shaw, S. Little, D. Turner, K. Jackson, A. Jarman, J. H. Edwards, F. Navesey, J. G. Jenkins. Front (left to right): R. Cracknell, A. Davies, F. Daley, W. B. Ganley, F. Stirrup, F. Pitchford, D. Ayres, J. W. Etty.

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# All Our Yesterdays

## Trinity v Oldham

### 1980 — TRINITY 24 OLDHAM 15

Trinity bounced back from a John Player Trophy reverse at Widnes to defeat Oldham at Belle Vue on 30 November, 1980. The stars of their six-try success were former Rugby Union men Adrian Barwood, Steve Diamond and Mike Lampkowski, while Oldham's team also contained ex-Union stars Mordell, Owen and Parrish. The teams were:-

**TRINITY:** Diamond (3 goals), Fletcher, Day, Morrell, Barwood (2 tries), Topliss, Agar (try), Bratt, McCurrie (try), Forsyth, Kelly, Thompson, Lampkowski (2 tries). *Sub:* Clarkson.

**OLDHAM:** Murphy, Munro, McEwan (try), Parrish (3 goals), Caffrey, Francis, Gwilliam, Owen, Handforth, Lockwood, Mordell, Hawkyard (try), Flanagan (try). *Sub:* Herbert.

### 1975 — TRINITY 18 OLDHAM 23

After a difficult start on their return to the First division, Oldham gained one of their most crucial victories at Belle Vue. Their thrilling five-points success on 26 October, 1975 helped stabilise them in the top flight and the Roughyeds ultimately held on to their new found status, narrowly. Phil Larder, with a try and four goals, was a key figure for the Lancastrians. Teams:

**TRINITY:** Crook (3 goals), Stephens (try), Sheard, Sutcliffe (try), D Smith, Topliss (try), Hudson, Tonks, Handscombe (try), Evans, Ellis, Skerrett, Morgan. *Subs:* H. Oulton, Kevin Rayne.

**OLDHAM:** Murphy, Elliot (try), Larder (try, 4 goals), Bottom (try) O'Brien, Treasure (try), McCone, Hughes, Taylor, Welding, Hall, Kear, Peters (try).

### 1970 — TRINITY 38 OLDHAM 2

David Topliss and Neil Fox were at the heart of a tremendous Wakefield display against the men from Watershedding on 14 November, 1970 exactly a fortnight after gaining a 15-15 draw at Oldham. It was the start of a seven match unbeaten spell for a young, developing Trinity side, while Oldham were unable to win in four. Teams:

**TRINITY:** Wraith, Slater (try), Marston (2 tries), N. Fox (try, 7 goals), McDonagh, Topliss (2 tries), Bonnar, Jeanes, Hill, Kelley, Ramshaw (try), Valentine (try), Hawley. *Subs:* Batty, Spencer.

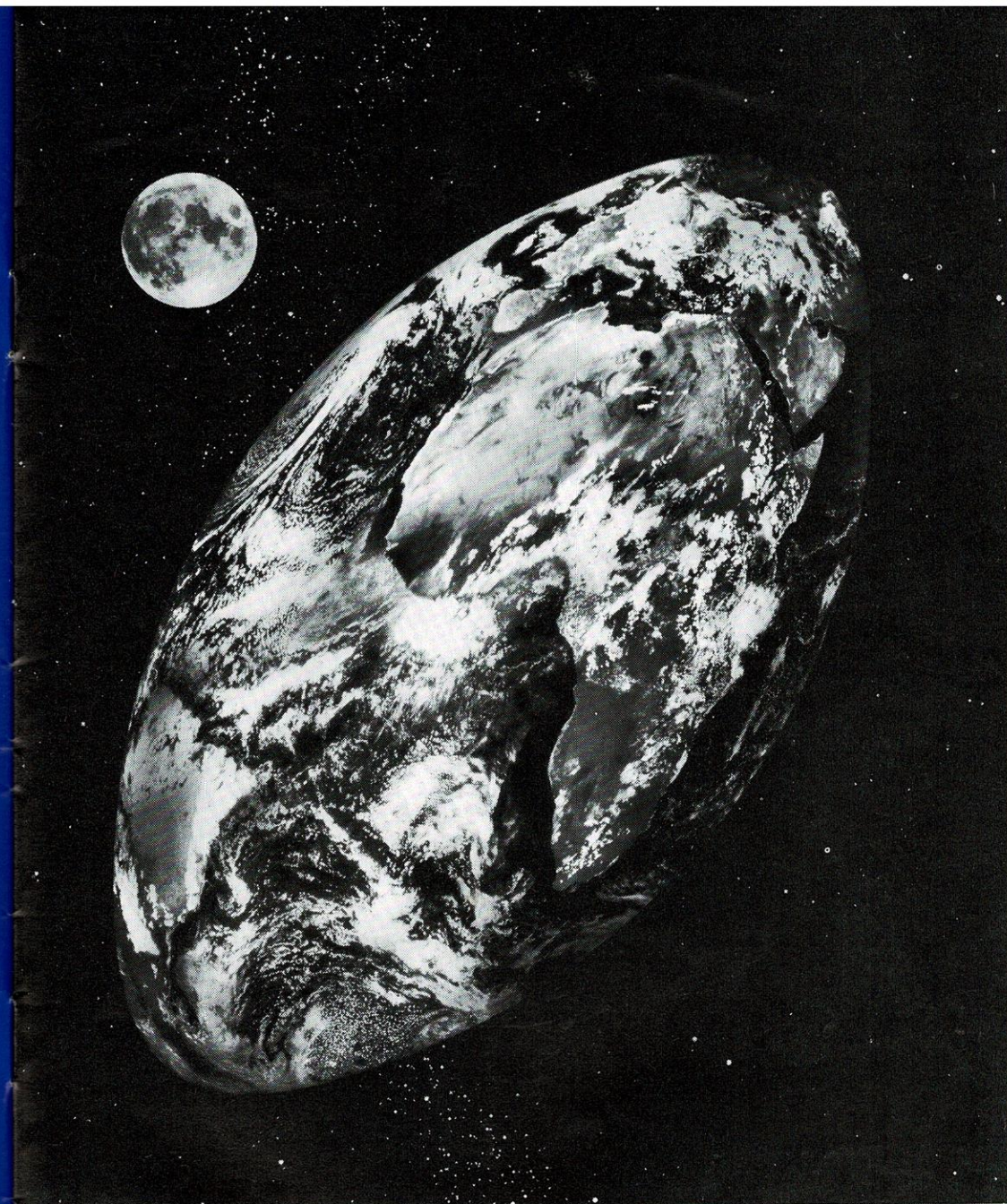
**OLDHAM:** Murphy, R. Clark, Garrett (goal), Buckley, Larder, Davies, Smith, Wilson, Taylor, Ashcroft, Irving, Ogden, Reynolds. *Sub:* Hicks.

### 1958 — TRINITY 23 OLDHAM 7

A developing Wakefield Trinity side, inspired by three-try Kenny Rollin, began the 1958-59 season in style with a home defeat of a great Oldham side coming to the end of it's reign in British League. Later in the campaign Trinity signed their great loose-forward Derek Turner, and the Great Britain international helped Trinity attain the success which Oldham had enjoyed in the late 50's. On 23 August, 1958 Wakefield gave an indication of the force they were about to become. Teams:

**TRINITY:** Lockwood, F. Smith (try), Holliday, N. Fox (4 goals), Houlden (try), Poynton, Rollin (3 tries), Evans, Shaw, Kelly, Chamberlain, Firth, Traill.

**OLDHAM:** Ganley (2 goals), Cracknell, Edwards, Ayres, Sims, Kellett, Stirrup, Rowbottom, Keith, Vines, Winslade, McKeown (try), Turner.



## GREAT BRITAIN v THE WORLD

THE WHITBREAD TROPHY CHALLENGE HEADINGLEY 29TH OCT 1988



# MATCH REPORTS

## STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

**TRINITY 18**      **Sunday, 25 September, 1988**      **SALFORD 36**

The brilliance of new Salford stand-off Paul Shaw more than played its part in Trinity's first defeat of the season. The diminutive Aborigine from the Manly club had a hand in the opening try which put the Reds in the driving seat and was the victim of a high tackle (did he duck into it?) which cost Mark Graham ten minutes in the sin-bin, allowing the Mancunians an opportunity to build an impregnable 26-12 advantage.

A below-strength Trinity side never got into the contest, going 6-0 down after halves Shaw and Cairns combined to send full-back Gibson over, and then conceding a silly try to former test winger Keith Bentley. 12-0 down before they had got their hands on the ball, the home side tried hard to rectify the situation — Kelly and Graham making in-roads and it was this duo who sent John Glancy through for a morale-boosting try. Steve Ella converted but missed a penalty in the 25th minute.

With Graham in the sin-bin, Salford opened out admirably, in the style of old, for Bentley to score twice to complete a hat-trick. Andy Wilson

had replied for Trinity, but their 100% record was beyond retrieving. Shaw was still the danger man, almost sending Gormley over, before the first glimpse of Adrian Hadley brought a try for Steve Gibson. Worrall added a sixth Salford try, goaled by Ken Jones, and Trinity's only retort was a consolation effort by Steve Ella, who converted to make it 18-36.

John Glancy, hard-working Nigel Bell and Wilson, still on trial, showed up well for depleted Trinity, but revitalised Salford were full value for their victory. It was one of those days for David Topliss' men — and if they hope to remain in the Stones Bitter Championship they cannot afford too many of them.

**TRINITY:** Russell, Rotherforth, Wilson (try), Mason, Fox, Ella (try, 3 goals), M. Conway, Rayne (Mallinder), Sheldon, Glancy (try), Graham, Kelly, Bell (Price).

**SALFORD:** Gibson (2 tries), Evans, Bentley (3 tries), Jones (6 goals), Hadley, Shaw (try) (Bloor), Cairns, Herbert, Moran, Major, Gormley, Worrall (try), Blease (McTigue).

## JOHN SMITH'S YORKSHIRE CUP — QUARTER-FINAL

**LEEDS 15**      **Wednesday, 28 September, 1988**      **TRINITY 10**

There was real honour in this defeat for injury-ravaged Trinity at Headingley. Lacking some eight or nine first-team squad members, David Topliss was forced to include former Normanton juniors Richard Slater and Jason Timmins, in addition to Gary Price, Ian Jowitt and Andy Wilson. John Thompson was given his first, eagerly-awaited appearance of the season and Paul Mallinder stepped magnificently into the breach.

Every Trinity player was a hero. To single players out would be unfair — yet John Glancy and Keith Rayne were especially outstanding. The former Sheffield man opened the scoring with an unstoppable 6th minute try from close range and Rayne led his young charges magnificently, scoring the fiercely determined late try which kept the tie in the balance.

It was fitting that Glancy's barnstorming try should open the scoring, for he had looked the finest forward on view, and Ella's coolly struck conversion gave Topliss' men all the encouragement they needed. Now Bell,

Mallinder, Thompson, Glancy and Price defended the lead as though their lives depended upon it. Ella's deep kicks repeatedly cleared the lines, as Leeds threw everything at Trinity in a bid to satisfy 11,000 demanding supporters.

Andy Wilson produced two or three great tackles on Gibson and Schofield throughout the 80 minutes, but there was little he could do about the 21st minute equaliser as Crooks drove through a big gap and sent Gibson speeding round by the uprights to allow Schofield's conversion to square matters for half-time. The Wakefield faithful gave their heroes a standing ovation.

The strength of the Leeds squad was mirrored by the presence of internationals Medley and Backo on the bench. Medley was to alter the course of the tie. Schofield had given them an 8-6 advantage when Bell and Mallinder were penalised in a tackle — and Medley replaced Brooke-Cowden. Within minutes the Lions tourist had scored an opportunist try from

# MATCH REPORTS

40 yards, pouncing on a lost ball to fly kick to the line and dive for a touchdown which the Trinity players disputed. At 14-6 the contest seemed all over.

But the fierce spirit which had taken Trinity, against all odds, to the top of the First Division, drove them on and 13 minutes from time Rayne crashed through for a superb score. Unaccountably, Ella sliced his conversion wide and the scoreline remained 14-10. Ray Ashton edged Leeds further ahead at 15-10 and it stayed that way until the end, despite another frantic Trinity rally. There had been nothing between the sides. A draw would have been a fairer result.

Dejection hung over the Trinity dressing room afterwards. But there was honour in defeat for this was a performance to dismiss the Salford effort as a one-off, off-day.

"The boys were magnificent and with a bit of luck we could have won it", said Topliss, "but at least we restored our pride after the Salford display."

**LEEDS:** Spencer; G. Lord, Schofield (3 goals), Gibson (try), Basnett, C. Lyons, Ashton (drop goal), Crooks, Maskill, Waddell, Powell, Brooke-Cowden, Heron. *Subs:* Medley (try, for Cowden), Backo (for Waddell).

**TRINITY:** Ella (goal), Jowitt, Wilson, Mason, Slater, M. Conway, Bell, Rayne (try), Thompson, Mallinder, Glancy, (try), Kelly, Price. *Subs:* Timmins (for Slater), Sheldon (for Price).



Leeds v Trinity — Keith Rayne leads Trinity onto his former home ground.

## STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

**ST. HELENS 30**      **Sunday, 2 October, 1988**      **TRINITY 14**

Following their drubbing at Headingley the previous week St. Helens, with a bare minimum of players but inspired by new signing Darren Bloor, swept aside an equally-depleted Trinity team with a blistering first-half purple patch which reaped three tries in 10 minutes and sent them in with a match-winning 24-6 advantage.

The £75,000 Bloor scored a 34th minute try and engineered two others for Bernard Dwyer and Les Quirk, to follow an earlier effort by Paul Doherty as Saints took charge. Trinity's solitary reply was a Lindsay Rotherforth try, after Mark Conway had broken clear and expertly judged his kick to the line for his winger. Glancy was again the pick of the pack and Mark Conway had his moments on attack for Wakefield.

By switching Ella back to stand-off for the second half Trinity looked much livelier on attack and gave Saints some anxious moments after a Glancy break led to a high kick being 'lost' by

Tanner, for Jowitt to get the touch for a try which reduced the deficit to 24-14. But Saints sealed victory when Phil Veivers' reverse pass sent Forber crashing through for Tanner's fifth goal to ensure the two points for Murphy's men.

With such a depleted squad and a 24-6 half-time deficit, Trinity did well to reduce the margin of defeat to respectable proportions. But the squad is being stretched to its limit at present and they can be thankful that those early league points were gathered.

**ST. HELENS:** Veivers, Tanner (5 goals), Allen, Haggerty, Quirk (try), Doherty (try), Bloor (try), Burke, Groves, Evans, Forber (try), Fieldhouse, Dwyer (try).

**WAKEFIELD:** Ella (3 goals), Rotherforth (try), Wilson, Mason, Jowitt (try), M. Conway, Bell, Rayne, Thompson, Mallinder, Kelly, Glancy, Douglas.

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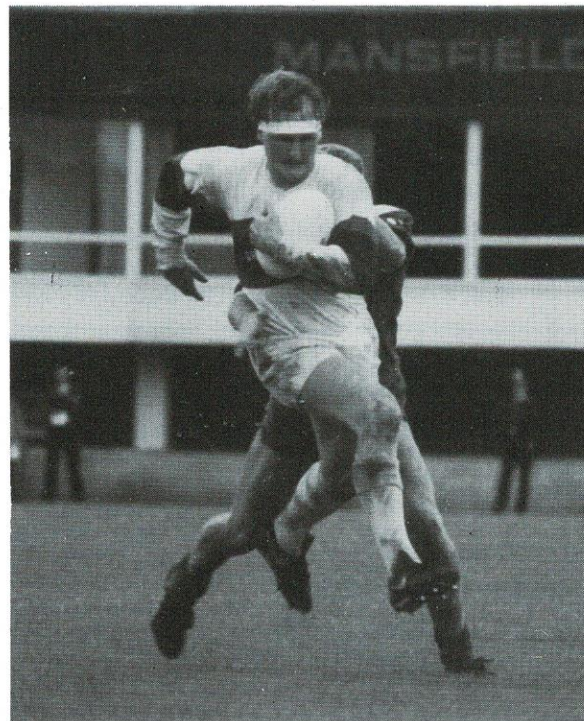
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**Trinity  
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**PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
BRIAN ROBINSON**

*Left: Action-Man — Livewire Nigel Bell pictured in the defeat of Warrington.*

*Below: Mark Conway splits the Salford defence in our last home fixture.*



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# Honours and Records



## CHAMPIONSHIP:

Winners: 1966-67; 1967-68. Runners-up 1959-60; 1961-62

## DIVISION TWO:

Champions: 1903-04

## CHALLENGE CUP:

Winners: 1908-09; 1945-46; 1959-60; 1961-62; 1962-63 Runners-up: 1913-14; 1967-68; 1978-79

## YORKSHIRE CUP:

Winners: 1910-11; 1924-25; 1946-47; 1947-48; 1951-52; 1956-57; 1960-61; 1961-62; 1964-65  
Runners-up: 1926-27; 1932-33; 1934-35; 1936-37; 1939-40; 1945-46; 1958-59; 1973-74; 1974-75

## YORKSHIRE LEAGUE:

Champions: 1909-10; 1910-11, 1945-46; 1958-59; 1959-60; 1961-62; 1965-66

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY: Runners-up: 1971-72

## CLUB RECORDS

Attendance: 1936 — 37,906 Cup Semi-Final — Leeds v. Huddersfield (Home);  
28,736 v. Wigan (Cup), 24 March 1962

Biggest Victory: 78-9 v. Batley, August 1967 Heaviest Defeat: 6-72 v. Wigan, March 1987

## MOST TRIES:

Match: 7 — F. Smith v. Keighley, 1959; K. Slater v. Hunslet, 1971  
Season: 38 — F. Smith (1959-60); D. Smith (1973-74)  
Career: 272 — N. Fox, 1956-74

## MOST GOALS:

Match: 12 — N. Fox v. Batley (1967); v. Workington Town (1970) B. Ward v. Hunslet (1971)  
Season: 163 — N. Fox (1961-62) Career: 1,836 — N. Fox (1956-74)

## MOST POINTS:

Match: 33 — N. Fox v. Batley (1967) Season: 407 — N. Fox (1961-62)  
Career: 4,488 — N. Fox (1956-74)

Most Appearances: 605 — H. Wilkinson (1930-49)

Most Consecutive Appearances: 95 — H. Wilkinson, October 1939-October 1942

Most International Appearances: 30 — N. Fox (1959-69)

Most International Tries: 15 — J. Parkin (1920-29) Most International Goals: 96 — N. Fox (1959-69)

Most International Points: 237 — N. Fox (1959-69)

## GREAT BRITAIN INTERNATIONALS (22)

I. Brooke (8); N. Fox (29); R. Haigh (2); W. Horton (14); D. Jeanes (5); B. Jones (3); H. Kershaw (2); F. Mortimer (2);  
H. Murphy (1); H. Newbound (1); J. Parkin (17); C. Pollard (1); E. Pollard (2); H. Poynton (3); D. Robinson (5);  
G. Round (8); T. Skerrett (4); S. Smith (1); D. Topliss (3); D. Turner (13); D. Vines (3); J. Wilkinson (7)

## POST-WAR ENGLAND INTERNATIONALS (16)

L. Bratley (1); C. Cliff (1); D. Froggett (1); N. Fox (1); R. Haigh (3); H. Murphy (3); L. Marson (1); M. Morgan (6);  
R. Rylance (1); D. Robinson (3); Keith Rayne (2); L. Sheard (1); K. Smith (1); D. Turner (1); D. Topliss (1);  
H. Wilkinson (1)

## POST-WAR WALES INTERNATIONALS (5)

S. Diamond (3); W. Howes (5); B. Juliff (6); T. Skerrett (4); D. Vines (2)

## POST-WAR CUMBRIAN COUNTY PLAYERS (2)

J. Bonnar; A. McCurrie

## POST-WAR YORKSHIRE COUNTY PLAYERS (35)

L. Bratley; D. Baddeley; J. Booth; B. Briggs; G. Ballantyne; G. Clarkson; T. Crook; J. Duggan; A. Fletcher (1947);  
A. Fletcher (1979); N. Fox; A. Firth; H. Goodfellow; K. Holliday; R. Haigh; J. Jones; D. Jeanes; S. Lyons; L. Marson;  
H. Murphy; F. Mortimer; M. Morgan; J. Perry; H. Poynton; R. Rylance; D. Robinson; Kevin Rayne; J. Shaw;  
F. Smith; D. Smith; L. Sheard; K. Slater; D. Topliss; H. Wilkinson; J. Wilkinson



# CHAIRMAN'S PRIDE

## Honour in defeat for Trinity's 'babes'

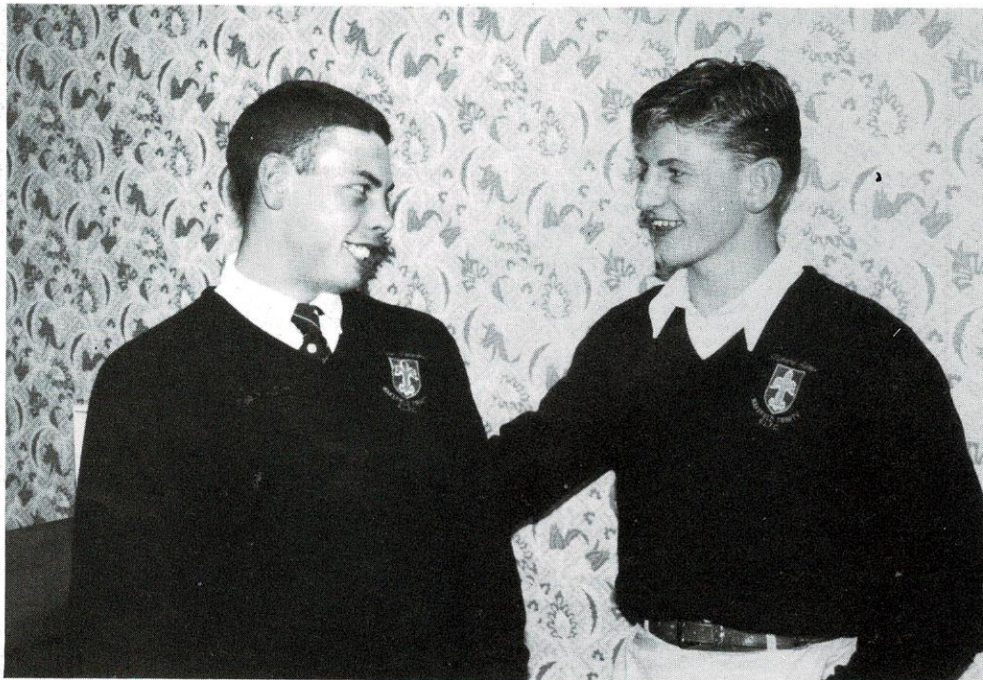
Trinity Football Chairman Stuart Farrar left a demoralised Headingley dressing-room feeling for his players. A makeshift team had performed above and beyond the call of duty to take free-spending Leeds all the way in an absorbing John Smiths Yorkshire Cup quarter-final. But on this occasion fortune did not favour the brave.

A 15-10 defeat failed to do justice to the efforts of fifteen magnificent players, bouncing back from a heavy reverse at home to Salford four days previously.

Lacking Mark Graham, on World Cup duty, and also without Phil Fox, Brent Todd, Billy Conway, Julian Russell, Kevin Harcombe, Phil Eden and Lindsay Rotherforth, Trinity, on paper, did not have a prayer against a team which could afford to leave internationals Paul Medley and Sam Backo on the sub's bench.

David Topliss knew that his team would either come of age or get a good hiding. After a 36-18 home defeat at the hands of the revitalised Red Devils he asked his men for a show of pride in the red, white and blue colours. He got that, alright.

With no option, Topliss threw into the cauldron trialist Andy Wilson, winger Slater, youngster Gary Price, Ian Jowitt and Jason Timmins. He asked for a lead from experienced campaigners Keith Rayne, Mark Conway, Nigel Bell, Steve Ella and beneficiary John Thompson, given the chance he so desperately wanted in his tenth season at the club.



Those players surpassed themselves.

Rayne was majestic against the club which discarded him as over-the-hill 16 months previously, scoring a great try to keep the tie in the balance, and driving his men on throughout.

Bell covered every blade of grass, several times over, and never gave an inch in a performance which mocked the representative selectors who continually overlook his talents.

Ella slotted effortlessly to full-back and worried Leeds each time he chimed into the line. Sadly two kickable shots at goal marred an otherwise brilliant display.

Thompson covered himself in glory with a great display as stand-in hooker, taking the scrums but doing much more besides.

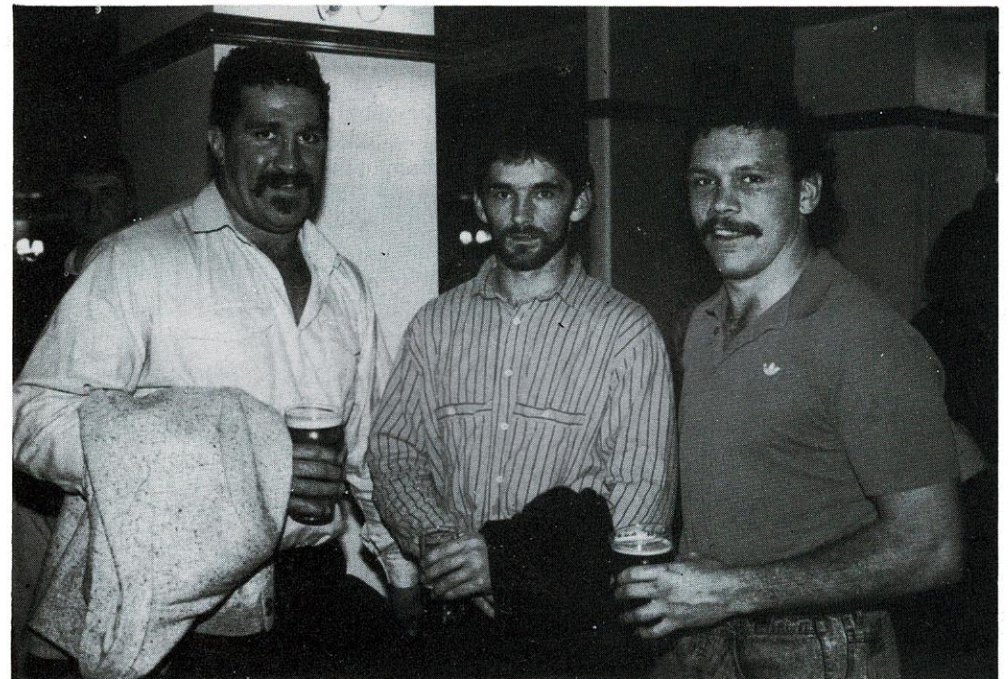
Young Wilson lost nothing in comparison with four centres Scholfield and Gibson, tackling heroically on countless occasions.

But best of all was John Glancy, underlining his claims to be the bargain of the season. He took the fight to the big names in the Leeds pack, scored the morale-boosting first try and never took a backward step all evening. Glancy came of age — in front of the current Great Britain coach.

"They're all in there sick as parrots", said Farrar coming out of the dressing rooms, "and while the result doesn't do them justice, we're all extremely proud of them. There's nothing to be ashamed of in losing. We didn't get the bounce of the ball, the rub of the green, otherwise I think we'd be in the last four now."

"But there was a pride, the like of which we haven't seen from a Trinity team for many years. And I am proud of them. Every one of them was magnificent."

The walking wounded, and those merely with heavy hearts, filed silently into the chilling night air. They had lost a cup-tie, but, more importantly, they had emphasised that Wakefield Trinity will be nobody's push-overs in 1988-89... no matter what odds they face.



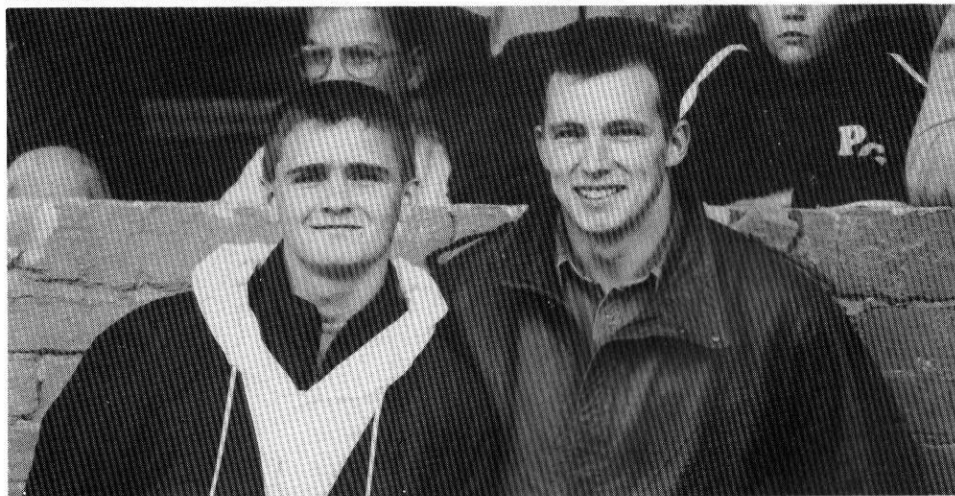
# PLAYER PROFILE

There is an old saying that good players are only fully appreciated when they are absent. That has proved to be the case in the past fortnight as Wakefield Trinity have been forced to do battle without the services of hard-working, consistent hooker Billy Conway in Stones Bitter Championship matches against Salford and St. Helens, and in the John Smiths Yorkshire Cup quarter-final against Leeds at Headingley.

Conway's lively, all action style has been a major feature of the side for the past two seasons, during which he has established himself as one of the best hooker prospects in the country. While Ian Sheldon and John Thompson have deputised wholeheartedly for the former Colts products, there is no substitute for a genuine hooker. It is possibly the most specialised role on the field.

The ankle injury which sidelined Billy following the 46-20 Yorkshire Cup defeat of Dewsbury could not have come at a more frustrating time for the diminutive No. 9. He is approaching his 80th appearance for the club, is hoping to reach his century this season, and was enjoying the most exciting period of his four years at Belle Vue.

"The five-match winning run and the considerable increase in attendances brought an atmosphere to the club that we could only dream about a couple of seasons ago", said the quietly spoken hooker, "And it has been great just to be a part of this team. Success was always something that happened to other clubs, we didn't know what real success meant."



Billy... and Fan!

"The injuries, not just to me, but to several other key men, could not have come at a more inappropriate time. We were getting nicely into a rhythm and home defeats of Warrington and Wigan illustrated how far we have come inside a few months."

"Getting promotion last season was great, but being at the top of the First Division, even for a couple of weeks, gave the club it's highest profile for years. The people in the town believed in the club once again. We all want more of that kind of success and when we're all at full fitness again I think we'll trouble the best. The one thing about the injury crisis is that it's given some younger players the chance to stake a claim for the future."

Conway is in a better position than most to appreciate the problems which accompany a youngster's entry into a first team bedevilled with injury problems. He, more than most, can sympathise with the plight of such as Richard Slater, Jason Timmins and Gary Price, thrown in at the deep end due to mounting injury worries. It happened to Conway, following the briefest of apprenticeships in Colts and A team football, and he benefitted from an early baptism given to him by caretaker coach Dave Lamming in 1984.

Signing professional forms for the club in August, 1984, he made his debut two months later in a 28-2 home defeat of Doncaster, retaining his place for a John Player Trophy defeat at Sheffield the following week.

As a youngster Billy Conway was an outstanding member of Trevor Bailey's

# BILLY CONWAY

impressive Trinity Colts team of that 1984-85 season and excelled in the 1985 Colts Challenge Cup Final. As Wakefield gained an impressive 23-10 defeat of Bradford Northern at Headingley, the small frame of the Trinity No. 9 stood out from the rest of a glittering array of junior talent.

He was named Man of the Match and claimed the coveted Jim Challinor Memorial Trophy, following in the footsteps of such exalted company as Steve Crooks (Hull K.R.), Gary Peacham (then Hull, later of Carlisle), Lee Crooks (Hull), Tracey Lazenby (Hull K.R. and later at Trinity) and Dean Mountain (Castleford).

That young Wakefield side included contemporaries such as Gary Spencer, Robert Moules, Steve Potts, Steve Rollin, Richard Kelly and Stephen Green. In the beaten Northern ranks were current first-teamers Roger Simpson, Martin Potts, Gary Sidebottom, Heath Godfrey, Jon Hamer and Paul Grayshon.

Conway's eye-catching Colts Final effort, followed by another lively display in defeat in the Colts Premiership Final defeat at the hands of Hull K.R. later that season, earned him inclusion in a Yorkshire Colts team which trounced Lancashire twice, by 40-6 at Dewsbury and 44-22 at Castleford. He more than matched Wigan hooker Martin Dermott, later skipper of Great Britain's Under 21 team, as he and Trinity colleagues Spencer, Moules, Green and Potts helped to take the Red Rose apart.

Just three further first team opportunities came his way in that disappointing 1984-85 season for Trinity, and the following season Billy added just three further first-team appearances, plus another as substitute. But the release of Alan Shaw to Dewsbury, following on from Colin Maskill's sale to Leeds, left the way clear for Conway, the obvious successor when Trinity re-entered the First Division in 1986-87.

Conway was outstanding in a team which failed to win any of its opening 22 league matches and scored 5 tries in 31 full appearances. It was a traumatic year for everyone at the club, yet he was one of the few successes of a disastrous season.

If Trinity were to regain their top flight place at the first attempt, they needed a top form Billy Conway to do it, and he responded to the challenge, being consistently effective as David Topliss' side trailed Oldham and Featherstone throughout a long, arduous season, to take the third promotion spot.

No one trained harder than the 22 year-old in preparation for another crack at the First

Division. In a pack containing new faces Mark Graham and John Glancy, the eager, always enthusiastic Conway revelled in the club's flying start.

"There is a spirit the like of which I've never known before at the club", he said, "and that's always the sign of a good team. Bringing class players to the club has put everyone on their toes and there isn't a player who hasn't responded to the challenge of fighting for a place."

"Now I've been out injured for a couple of weeks I've got to get back into the side. We may have lost three on the trot, but there has been no lack of effort from anyone in those games and the team spirit is still remarkably high. No team can afford to lose the number of quality players we have and hope to get away with it. We'll bounce back."

"The mood in the camp is such that Trinity are sure to overcome their current problems — and when they do it is certain that livewire Billy Conway will be out there in the thick of the action."

## PLAYING CAREER FOR TRINITY

	App.	Tries	Points
1984-85	3(1)		
1985-86	3(1)		
1986-87	31(1)	5	20
1987-88	30	3	12
1988-89	5		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72(3)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>



Conway tackles Kiwi Adrian Shelford in the 25-20 defeat of Wigan.

# WAKEFIELD TRINITY

# A History in Facts and Figures

## PART FIVE — 1983—84

### DIVISION ONE RESULTS

	Home	Away
BRADFORD N. ....	L 0-12	L 15-20
CASTLEFORD ....	L 12-42	L 8-24
FEATHERSTONE R. ....	W 8-1	W 12-8
FULHAM ....	W 18-14	L 14-16
HULL ....	L 16-32	L 12-66
HULL K.R. ....	L 11-46	L 0-38
LEEDS ....	L 19-20	L 16-26
LEIGH ....	W 20-18	L 12-14
OLDHAM ....	W 28-22	L 4-54
SALFORD ....	L 5-16	L 26-27
ST. HELENS ....	W 31-22	L 12-50
WARRINGTON ....	L 9-17	L 12-16
WHITEHAVEN ....	L 12-32	W 38-10
WIDNES ....	L 20-23	L 14-42
WIGAN ....	L 11-18	L 0-34

### YORKSHIRE CUP:

Round 1 — Halifax (h) 18-10; Round 2 — Doncaster (h) 32-14; Semi-Final — Castleford (h) 12-34.

### JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY:

Round 1 — Warrington (h) 18-32.

### SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP:

Round 1 — Halifax (a) 19-7; Round 2 — York (h) 12-20.

### APPEARANCES (including Subs):

Adams 11; Ashurst 1; Bell 13; Box 28; Bratt 20; Burns 9; Cocks 9; Coventry 28; Eden 17; Fletcher 20; Gearey 31; Gill 5; Hampson 4; Harris 20; Harrison 9; Hendry 7; Hopkinson 12; Hughes 21; D. Jones 33; R. Kelly 9; S. Lewis 6; W. Lewis 10; Lyons 4; Maskill 27; McDermott 5; Moore 1; Muscroft 1; Norton 9; Oglethorpe 4; Pickerill 17; Rollin 5; Ross 1; Rotherforth 3; Stephenson 30; Stringer 11; J. Sutcliffe 1; Swann 15; Thompson 18; Waugh 8; Wilkinson 6; Williams 14; Worne 11; Trialists (4 players) 6 = 46 PLAYERS.

**TRIES:** Stephenson 9; Fletcher 8; D. Jones 7; W. Lewis 6; S. Lewis 6; Gearey 6; Box 5; Bell 5; Norton 3; Hughes 3; Maskill 3; Adams 2; Cocks 2; Harrison 2; Hendry 2; Hopkinson 2; Williams 2; Bratt 1; Box 1; Eden 1; Harris 1; R. Kelly 1; McDermott 1; Pickerill 1; Trialist 1 = 85 TRIES.

**GOALS:** Maskill 75; Hendry 3; Norton 2; Trialist 2; Box 1; Stephenson 1; Sutcliffe 1 = 86 GOALS.

**DROP GOALS:** Stephenson 7; Maskill 2; Pickerill 2; Ashurst 1; McDermott 1; Norton 1.

**REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:** Colin Maskill (Great Britain Under 24's).

**MOST TRIES IN A MATCH:** 3 — W. Lewis v St. Helens (h).

**MOST GOALS IN A MATCH:** 6 — C. Maskill.

### DIVISION ONE LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	For	A	Points
1. HULL K.R. ....	30	22	2	6	795	421	46
2. HULL ....	30	22	1	7	831	401	45
3. WARRINGTON ....	30	19	2	9	622	528	40
4. CASTLEFORD ....	30	18	3	9	686	438	39
5. WIDNES ....	30	19	1	10	656	457	39
6. ST. HELENS ....	30	18	1	11	649	507	27
7. BRADFORD N. ....	30	17	2	11	519	379	36
8. LEEDS ....	30	15	3	12	553	514	33
9. WIGAN ....	30	16	0	14	533	465	32
10. OLDHAM ....	30	15	2	13	544	480	32
11. LEIGH ....	30	14	0	16	623	599	28
12. FEATHERSTONE ....	30	11	2	17	464	562	24
13. FULHAM ....	30	9	1	20	401	694	19
14. TRINITY ....	30	7	0	23	415	780	14
15. SALFORD ....	30	5	0	25	352	787	10
16. WHITEHAVEN ....	30	3	0	27	325	956	6

### LEADING SCORERS

Tries		Goals	
1. G. SCHOFIELD (Hull) .....	38	1. S. HESFORD (Warrington) .....	142
2. J. LYDON (Widnes) .....	28	R. BEARDMORE (Castleford) ..	142
G. KING (Hunslet) .....	28	3. L. HALLETT (Cardiff) .....	140
4. J. WOODS (Leigh) .....	27	4. E. FITSIMONS (Hunslet) ...	131
5. J. BASNETT (Widnes) .....	26	5. J. WOODS (Leigh) .....	124
C. GIBSON (Batley) .....	26	6. C. WHITFIELD (Wigan) .....	122
7. S. HERBERT (Barrow) .....	25	7. I. BALL (Barrow) .....	104
G. STEADMAN (York) .....	25	8. M. PARRISH (Oldham) .....	101
G. PROHM (Hull K.R.) .....	25	9. M. AGAR (Halifax) .....	94
10. G. CLARK (Hull K.R.) .....	24	10. S. TICKLE (Barrow) .....	91

## Trinity Supporter's Club Souvenir Price List

**On sale match days or contact: Les Knowles 378539**

Trinity Ties .....	£5.00	Tee-shirts S/M .....	£4.50
Trinity Scarves .....	£2.50	Tee-shirts L/XL .....	£5.00
Large Rosettes .....	£0.50	Sports Shirts .....	£10.50
Bob Caps .....	£1.50	<b>Rugby Shirts</b>	
Panel Hats .....	£1.50	26"/28" .....	£13.00
Car Stickers .....	£0.50	30"/32" .....	£13.50
Lapel Badges .....	£1.00	34"/36" .....	£15.00
Key Rings .....	£0.50	38"/40" .....	£15.50
Pens .....	£0.20	42"/44" .....	£16.50
Pennants .....	£1.00	<b>Pullovers</b>	
Gloves .....	£1.50	26"/28" .....	£8.00
Notebooks .....	£1.00	30"/32" .....	£8.50
Sun Visors .....	£1.50	34"/36" .....	£10.00
New Trinity Stickers .....	£0.35	38"/40" .....	£11.00
Ski Hats .....	£2.00	42"/44" .....	£11.50
Coats .....	£20.00	46"/XL .....	£12.50

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**PIRANHA**

# THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

At the outset of this important season, Trinity coach David Topliss and Football committee chairman Stuart Farrar spelled out the importance of a successful youth policy. Of the vital importance of the club's promising youngsters coming through to show their worth in the First Division.

They knew that Steve Ella and Mark Graham, and whoever else they brought from Down Under, would do the business. They had been well vetted. Their pedigree was beyond doubt. They were sure-fire winners.

But the \$64,000 question was: would Trinity's kids handle the pressure? Could they cope in the top flight? Would they respond to the encouraging promptings of their more exalted team-mates?

To the delight of everyone at Belle Vue, but particularly the hard-working coaching staff, those kids have surpassed all expectations, coming of age in a marvellous collective effort in the Yorkshire Cup quarter-final at Headingley. In such circumstances they were magnificent, refusing to be overawed.

In the opening games against Warrington and Wigan it was Phil Eden who took the eye. Since then Topliss has blooded Gary Price successfully. The broken shoulder sustained at Headingley was a savage blow to a likeable character and a brilliant prospect. Price will bounce back.

Andy Wilson, playing as "A. N. Other", has surpassed all high hopes — his signing last week was a mere formality. He proved his point where it matters most — on the field.

Recently signed Normanton juniors Richard Slater and Jason Timmins were introduced against Leeds — with Timmins, ironically, substituting for his good friend Slater after only five minutes. Both are vital to Trinity's future and their rapid progress will encourage others.

Julian Russell has shown that he will be a tremendous player for the club. Billy Conway looks to be at ease in the First Division. Ian Jowitt has performed well on the wing and up front for Trinity.

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. The signs are good, the future looks rosy... the kids are alright.



Julian Russell



Gary Price



Andy Wilson



Phil Eden

# TRINITY GREATS

## BOB HAIGH

Bob Haigh became a try-scoring record-breaker, following his 1970 transfer from Trinity to Leeds, yet he was equally lauded for the defensive qualities which made him the near-perfect, all-round second-row forward.

When Haigh began his Rugby League career, joining Trinity from Wakefield & District amateur football in 1962, the unlimited tackle law was still in operation. But the introduction of the four-tackle, and, later, the six-tackle ruling was perfect for his fast-supporting, strong-running style and he was to profit from the magnificent handling skills of two superb play-making forwards — Don Fox, at Belle Vue, and Ray Batten, at Leeds.

Haigh had learned his early football at Crigglestone school, playing also for the city school team and for Trinity's intermediate team. He was regarded by the Wakefield hierarchy as the ideal successor to Wakefield's loose-forward skipper Derek Turner and played his early first-team football alongside the former Oldham and Hull K.R. test forward.

His debut came in an eleven try romp against Bradford Northern at Belle Vue, in September,

1962, in the back-row company of Turner and Brian Briggs — a couple of useful 'minders' for any youngster.

As Trinity embarked upon their defence of their Challenge Cup, in 1963, the youngster with the copybook defensive action and eye for an opening found himself scoring his first try for the club in a First Round defeat of Bradford and then helping Turner and company to repel a brave challenge from lowly Liverpool City in the second round.

But for a fractured wrist sustained in a league match at Wilderspool, seven days before the quarter-final with York, Haigh may well have ended a dream debut season with a Cup winners medal. Instead he watched from the stands. They told him his turn would come, yet, while he made three appearances at the stadium, they were all to earn runners-up medals.

His first winners medal came in 1964, when he was a member of the Trinity side which easily defeated Leeds in the Yorkshire Cup Final at Fartown. Haigh's second round try in a tough contest at Post Office Road had more than played its part in the club's ninth (and most recent) County Cup triumph.



Bob Haigh pictured in Trinity's first-ever championship winning side of 1966-67. Back (left to right): G. Coetzer, J. Bath, N. Fox, G. Clarkson, E. Campbell, R. Haigh, G. Sheperd, D. Fox, K. Batty. Front: (left to right) B. Prior, R. Owen, H. Poynton, G. Cooper, I Brooke, K. Hirst.

Now noted as one of the game's finest, fastest cover defending back-rowers, having swapped his original loose-forward jersey for one in the second-row, Bob Haigh was being monitored closely by the international selectors. His consistency throughout the Yorkshire League championship winning season of 1965-66 persuaded the Under 24 selectors that his talents were worthy of an international appearance and, after beginning the 1966-67 campaign on Trinity's sub's bench, he was named for the junior international with France at Bayonne in 1966.

His dream season was completed when he helped Trinity defeat St. Helens 21-9 in a replayed Championship Final. It was the first title in the club's long history.

While the talents of Neil Fox, Ian Brooke, Ray Owen, Harold Poynton, Gary Cooper and Don Fox were obvious to all, the quiet, unassuming Haigh played an equally vital role as the Trinity pack outplayed the much-vaunted Saints six over 160 minutes, firstly at Headingley and then at Station Road. Belle Vue fans were convinced that there was no second-row forward in the business to compare with all-action Bob Haigh.

Haigh followed with another highly consistent season in 1967-68, helping Trinity to retain their crown and also getting his first, unforgettable, taste of the Wembley atmosphere in the 'Watersplash Final'. Additionally, and long overdue, his all-round ability had been finally noted by the Great Britain selectors.

With the 1968 World Cup tournament looming in Australia, the selectors included Haigh in the 19-man playing squad — fellow Trinity man Ian Brooke made his second tour inside two years, while Neil Fox was forced to decline the captaincy due to injury.

His test debut came in dramatic circumstances against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the opening tie of the series. He retained his place for the defeat at the hands of France, but was then left in the Great Britain wilderness for over two years, missing the 1970 Lions tour and most of the 1970 World Cup series.

Haigh made a Yorkshire debut against Cumberland at Hull K.R.'s ground, in 1969, and played for England in the Triangular Tournament against France and Wales. But somehow he was omitted from the Lions tour.

His Trinity career came to a conclusion, too, when Derek Turner signed him for Leeds in April, 1970. Haigh's 250th, and final, appearance for the club came in a 5-15 home defeat at the hands of Dewsbury. Amazingly, only one other member of the Championship-winning side (Brooke) from two years previously remained.

Haigh's 58 tries placed him in Trinity's leading quartet of try-scoring forwards, with only Len Bratley (94 tries), Don Robinson (72) and Albert Firth (70) standing ahead of him.

Big spending Leeds had to pay a Trinity record of £7,000 to take Haigh to Headingley, but the fee was made to look the bargain of all time as his combination with Batten yielded a world-record 40 tries in his debut 1970-71 season. No other forward in the game's history had reached such a total — it was a staggering achievement, given all the more credibility by the fact that Leeds had initially bought him for his defensive qualities. Nor had he neglected such duties.

His brilliant form won him a Great Britain recall for the World Cup series and he faced France in 1971. He wore his old loose-forward jersey for the Second Test against the Kiwis in the autumn of 1971, but a broken arm ended his international career. At Leeds he won a string of domestic honours, but was in consecutive beaten Wembley sides, in 1971 and 1972.

Haigh served Leeds until 1976, before going on to skipper Peter Fox's Bradford Northern to a 1978 Premiership defeat of Champions Widnes and a Yorkshire Cup defeat of York. Typically, he scored tries in both Finals and claimed the Harry Sunderland Award and the White Rose Trophy. Sixteen years after his entry to the professional game, Bob Haigh was still at the top of the tree.

His playing career was brought to a close in Dewsbury's colours and Haigh scored a try on his final appearance in a home defeat of Doncaster, in September, 1980. As a coach he assumed control at Trinity following Derek Turner's departure in February, 1984. Haigh stayed in charge only until the end of that season.

## BOB HAIGH

### PLAYING CAREER FOR TRINITY

	App.	Tries	Points
1962-63	8	1	3
1963-64	29	8	24
1964-65	36	6	18
1965-66	34	6	18
1966-67	40	8	24
1967-68	36	12	36
1968-69	33	4	12
1969-70	34	13	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>174</b>

# Peter Hutton — Radio Aire

## Interview with Oldham's Eric Fitzsimons

Oldham coach Eric Fitzsimons started this season with one thought etched in his mind, the number of promoted sides who go straight back down to the second division. Eighty percent was the figure he then quoted and his main task this season has been to avoid the drop. It's clearly not been easy but with boardroom moves to stabilise Oldham's finances the club are clearly trying to move in the right direction.

There are also positive signs on the field, last Sunday's 30-16 win over Hull Kingston Rovers brought first division points for the first time this season after four straight defeats. To see their league position, however, ignores a point scoring record that is only one point behind that of leaders Castleford, 104 to 103.

There is also great strength in the Oldham forwards, recently they sold Great Britain prop Hugh Waddell to Leeds for £50,000 and the highly rated John Fairbank in exchange. Yet such is the strength of the Oldham pack that Fairbank is having to work hard for a regular place, with the likes of Neil Clawson, Terry Flanagan and the Australian Ashley Gilbert in contention.

The loss of a player of Waddell's calibre might dishearten many a rugby league coach but Fitzsimons was quick to say that he thought Oldham had the best of the bargain. The parting appeared amicable, however, with Waddell careful to praise Oldham when he made his round of interviews after joining the Headingley outfit. He clearly still held some affection for Oldham and wasn't going to forget his time there.

One odd point about the Oldham set up is that it is being run by 2 former goalkickers who are both teachers. Fitzsimons's assistant at the club is the former Workington favourite Iain McCorquodale, another Manchester teacher.

Oldham may not have had the eye catching start that Wakefield Trinity made but few will doubt their determination to avoid a return to the second division. With Wakefield today anxious to recapture their momentum after the last few games this match may have the feel of an end of season battle.



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RADIO AIRE

# Supporters Club News...



**WEMBLEY:** Bookings are being taken for the Supporters Club Day Trip to Wembley leaving from Borough Road, Wakefield at approximately 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, 29 April and returning straight after the match to Wakefield. Prices for seats on the bus will remain the same as last year — £9.00 Adults, £6.00 Juniors and OAPs. Tickets can also be obtained for the match through the Supporters Club, although please book, with a deposit, before the end of January. Tickets are the same price as last year — Standing £7.00; Seating £12.00, £18.00 and £25.00. Please book early, and check on the exact number of tickets required, to avoid disappointment later. An order will be sent in after today's match for Wembley tickets.

**BUSES FOR AWAY MATCHES:** Sunday 16 October v Wigan. Depart 12.30 p.m. for kick-off at 3.00 p.m. Would all supporters wishing to travel on the buses please book early, if possible by the evening of Friday 14 October.

Sunday 6 November v Hull K.R. Depart from Borough Road at 1.15 for kick-off at 3.00 p.m.

Please book at the Supporter's Club Hut on match days or ring N. Vause on 93 723845 or D. Teasdale on 97 611441.

**SOUVENIRS:** There seems to be an interest in the purchase of souvenir mugs and samples should be available for viewing at the next home match. Would anyone wishing to have a personalised mug please order from the Tea Hut on match days. Any request or orders please contact Les on 378539.

Novelty souvenirs (ducks, nuts and spuds) are available in a variety of strip.

Rock will soon be available in red, white and blue, and with the letters Wakefield Trinity — price 50p per stick.

Also available for order are engraved pint glasses, please ask at the Supporter's Club Hut.

**MISS TRINITY:** The election of a new 'Miss Wakefield Trinity' will be staged at Rooftop Gardens as part of a Promotional Party Night on November 9 with a 1st prize of £100, 2nd prize of £60 and 3rd prize of £40. A general knowledge of rugby league would be an advantage to all applicants. Please ask at the Supporter's Club Hut for further information.

MARGE NOBLE



The outstanding contest of today's Stones Bitter Championship programme sees Leeds facing Wigan at Headingley. There should be another bumper crowd (Leeds are averaging 11,000 this season) to see whether Mal Reilly's men can take advantage of Wigan's loss of Kiwis Kevin and Tony Iro, Adrian Shelford and Dean Bell, all on World Cup Final duty earlier today. The teams shared the spoils 18-18 in a classic confrontation almost exactly a year ago, but Leeds will be hoping to go one better this time, with Australians Backo, Lyons and Ettingshausen now settled into the side, and Paul Medley back to his brilliant best. Wigan's strength in depth has been re-emphasised in recent weeks with youngsters Betts, Gildart, Tyrer and Preston doing sterling work at a trying time for coach Graham Lowe.

Champions Widnes get an early opportunity to avenge their only setback so far when Halifax travel to Naughton Park. The Chemics surprisingly went down 26-20 on the opening day of the season at Thrum Hall and will be keen to rectify matters against a side which had a tough Yorkshire Cup semi-final against Castleford in midweek and have still to win on their travels. With such as Currier, Offiah and Myler in brilliant form, Widnes should not feel the loss of Kurt Sorensen too much. Ross Strudwick will have the services of Brisbane's Peter Coyne, a man regarded as one of the finest line kickers in the Australian game. He must be good for Halifax to discard Graham Eadie to make way for him! It was 28-6 to Widnes last season.

After their heavy reverse at home to Salford a fortnight ago, followed by a desperately unlucky Yorkshire Cup defeat at Headingley, Wakefield Trinity will be determined to bounce back strongly against struggling Oldham this weekend. The Roughyeds won a glorious contest 23-22 at the tail-end of their Second Division championship-winning season, last April, but Trinity won 28-10 at the Watersheddings. If Trinity's youngsters repeat their Headingley showing they should account for Eric Fitzsimons' men. Certainly David Topliss will be stressing the importance of gaining two points against his former club.

The cracks are beginning to show for Featherstone Rovers, after a fine start to their First Division campaign, and they face another daunting prospect against Warrington at Wilderspool this afternoon. The Wires have been struggling themselves, scraping victories over Hull and Carlisle (Lancashire Cup) only on the strength of Phil Blake's remarkable opportunism. The Davidson-Roach front-row is not bossing things as expected and Warrington have been a disappointment to their fans. Rovers have sorely missed Graham Steadman's match-winning qualities and now injuries are beginning to mount, with Peter Smith (dislocated shoulder) the latest serious casualty. They have too little depth to be able to withstand such hammer blows, though they will welcome versatile Aussie Phil Carey and fit-again Trevor Clark. When they last visited Wilderspool, in March 1987, Rovers lost 15-32.

High-flying Castleford meet revived Salford in a potentially outstanding clash at Wheldon Road. The Reds are bubbling at the moment, and contested their Lancashire Cup semi-final with Warrington in midweek, while Darryl Van de Velde's side also played a semi-final in midweek. Both sides are playing good football, and there is competition for places in both camps. Only home advantage makes Cas' slight favourites to repeat last season's hard-earned 14-0 win.

If Hull do not start winning soon their fate will be sealed before Brian Smith has got to know his players. They have found typical cup form in the Yorkshire Cup, but need league points. A trip to Odsal would not seem to offer much hope of improving their league position but Northern have been something of a disappointment themselves in the early weeks of the season. They have still to find their rhythm, but with new signing Errol Johnson at stand-off and David Hobbs outstanding in their pack, they should avenge Hull's 5-2 Odsal success of last season.

David Bishop silenced some of his critics with an outstanding home debut for Hull K.R. a fortnight ago, and the return of dynamic Gavin Miller has had the desired effect on the Robins' pack. Wayne Parker has continued from where he left off last term and the home meeting with struggling St. Helens offers the Robins an opportunity of two points. How ironic if Bishop (who was turned down at the eleventh hour by Saints last year) was to be a match-winner in this one. Paul Vautin should be in the Saints pack as they seek to improve on last season's effort — a 16-25 reverse.

The pick of the Second Division programme is the Barrow-Keighley meeting at Craven Park, while high-riding Doncaster face an awkward trip to Carlisle.

# Rothmans Rugby League Yearbook 1988-89

ROTHMANS RUGBY LEAGUE YEARBOOK is priced at £10.95, available from all good Bookshops or by post (plus £1.25 postage and packing) from the Public Relations Department, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

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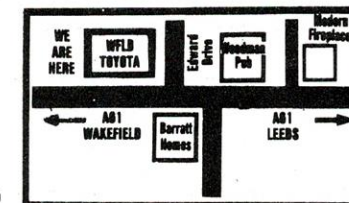
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# WAKEFIELD TRINITY —

# Fixtures ... Results ... Scorers

		Result		1 2 3 4					
		F-A	Att.						
<b>AUGUST</b>									
Sun.	28	WARRINGTON	H 3.30	14-10	4,400	Russell	Rotherforth	Eden	Mason
Wed.	31	Sheffield (Yorks. Cup Round 1)	A 7.30	28-8	1,200	Russell	Rotherforth	Eden	Mason
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>									
Sun.	4	WIGAN	H 3.30	25-20	8,114	Russell	Rotherforth	Eden	Mason
Sun.	11	Hull	A 3.00	16-10	6,117	Russell	Jowitt	A. N. Other	Mason
Sun.	18	DEWSBURY (Yorks. Cup Round 2)	H 3.30	46-20	3,733	Russell	Rotherforth	A. N. Other	Mason
Sun.	25	SALFORD	H 3.30	18-36	4,276	Russell	Rotherforth	A. N. Other	Mason
Wed.	28	Leeds (Yorkshire Cup Q.F.)	A 7.30	10-15	11,150	Ella	Jowitt	A. N. Other	Mason
<b>OCTOBER</b>									
Sun.	2	St. Helens	A 3.00	14-30	7,306	Ella	Rotherforth	A. N. Other	Mason
Sun.	9	OLDHAM	H 3.30						
Sun.	16	Wigan	A 3.00						
Sun.	23	WIDNES	H 3.30						
Sun.	30	JPS Preliminary Round							
<b>NOVEMBER</b>									
Sun.	6	Hull K.R.	A 3.00						
Sun.	13	JPS Round 1							
Sun.	20	BRADFORD NORTHERN	H 3.30						
Sun.	27	JPS Round 2							
<b>DECEMBER</b>									
Sun.	4	Widnes	A 3.00						
Sun.	11	HULL K.R.	H 3.30						
Sun.	18								
Mon.	26	Featherstone Rovers	A 11.30						
<b>JANUARY</b>									
Sun.	1	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	H 3.30						
Sun.	8	Salford	A 3.00						
Sun.	15	HULL	H 3.30						
Sun.	22	Castleford	A 3.30						
Sun.	29	Silk Cut Challenge Cup Round 1							
<b>FEBRUARY</b>									
Sun.	5	LEEDS	H 3.30						
Sun.	12	Silk Cut Challenge Cup Round 2							
Sun.	19	Warrington	A 3.00						
Sun.	26	CASTLEFORD	H 3.30						
<b>MARCH</b>									
Sun.	5	Leeds	A 3.00						
Sun.	12								
Sun.	19	Oldham	A 3.00						
Fri.	24	HALIFAX	H 7.30						
Tues.	28	Bradford Northern	A 7.30						
<b>APRIL</b>									
Sun.	2	ST. HELENS	H 3.30						
Sun.	9	Halifax	A 3.00						
Sun.	16								

## Trinity Tit-Bits

### JOHN THOMPSON BENEFIT NEWS:

There will be a darts, dominoes and auction night in aid of the benefit of this popular, loyal forward at the Weavers Arms in Ossett on Tuesday, 18 October, 1988, commencing at 8.30 p.m. Be there, enjoy a good night, and contribute to a player who gives 100% at all times for the club!

**UNLUCKY PRICE:** Brilliant loose-forward prospect Gary Price will be sidelined for at least five weeks after sustaining a broken collar bone in the Yorkshire Cup quarter-final at Headingley on September 28. Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Gary.

**HARCOMBE SETBACK:** Last season's goal centurion Kevin Harcombe has had a further setback with a further reaction to his knee injury in the Slalom Lager Alliance home meeting with Trafford Borough on September 23. The former Rochdale and Doncaster marksman had a knee operation before the start of the season.

**HOOKING CRISIS:** Injury to Billy Conway, coupled with a setback to young Alliance hooker Paul Haigh has caused David Topliss headaches. Ian Sheldon wore No. 9 against Salford and John Thompson stepped into the breach against Leeds, repeating his fine effort in the win at Carlisle last season. Haigh should be recovered from a leg injury shortly.

**STILL ON THE LOOK OUT:** Football committee chairman Stuart Farrar confirms that the club are still seeking another Australian back. Top class internationals Garry Jack and Mark McGaw are the latest to be linked with Trinity. Farrar is keeping mum.

**AWAY SUPPORT:** Away support lifts the team more than anyone could imagine. If you want to travel away with Trinity's Supporters Club you can always get in touch with N. Vause (0226 723845) or D. Teasdale (97 611441) to book a place. You will be welcomed aboard.

	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Fox	Ella	M.Conway	Rayne	B.Conway	Glancy	Kelly	Graham	Bell	Sheldon	Mallinder	
Fox IT	Ella 6G	M.Conway IT	Van Bellen	B.Conway	Glancy	Graham	Kelly	Douglas	Sheldon	Rayne	
Fox IT	Ella 2T 2G 1DG	M.Conway	Rayne	B.Conway	Glancy	Graham	Kelly	Bell	Sheldon	Mallinder	
Fox	Ella IT 2G	M.Conway	Todd	B.Conway	Rayne	Graham	Kelly IT	Bell	Sheldon	Mallinder	
Fox 3T	Ella IT 7G	M.Conway IT	Hughes IT	B.Conway	Mallinder	Graham IT	Kelly	Bell	Sheldon	Price	
Fox	Ella IT 3G	M.Conway	Rayne	Sheldon	Glancy IT	Graham	Kelly	Bell	Price	Mallinder	
Slater	M.Conway	Bell	Rayne IT	Thompson	Mallinder	Kelly	Glancy IT	Price	Timmins	Sheldon	
Jowitt IT	M.Conway	Bell	Rayne	Thompson	Mallinder	Kelly	Glancy	Douglas	Slater	Sheldon	

## Clubcall Bulletin

by Steve McIlwham

What a great day it should be at Headingley on the 29th October when Great Britain take on a Rest of the World side to celebrate the opening of the Whitbread Hall of Fame.

The Rugby League have spared no expense in bringing the top players over for the match. The Rest of the World side will be led by former Trinity player Wally Lewis and includes such names as Noel Cleal, Wayne Pearce and John Ferguson.

Making up the rest of the side are players currently over here, and coach Don Furner has an embarrassment of riches to choose from — our own Mark Graham and Steve Ella, Sam Backo and Andrew Ettingshausen from Leeds, Dean Bell, Tony and Kevin Iro and Adrian Shelford representing Wigan. Shane Cooper from St. Helens, Hull K.R.'s Gavin Miller along with Kurt Sorensen, Stephen Roach, Les Davidson and Phil Blake from Widnes and Warrington.

What a team you can pick from that little lot!, and the list really is too long to continue. A week later nine of those stars will be in action at Central Park in a World side that will contest the British Coal Nines alongside the top English teams.

Incidentally the draw for the first round of the John Player trophy takes place tomorrow and you can see how Trinity fare here on Club Call. Enjoy today's game.

## TUNE IN TO TRINITY CLUBCALL — 0898 12-16-59

