



# 1958 Round 18 Saturday 16th August Pratten Park



## Newtown 14

Roley SELEM  
 Laurie McMAHON  
 Terry McGOVERN  
 Tony BROWN  
 Kevin CONSIDINE  
 John RAPER  
 Bob WHITTON (c)  
 Peter RYAN  
 Barry HARRIS  
 Frank NARVO  
 Frank FARRINGTON  
 Clarrie JEFFREYS  
 Jim RICHARDS

def.

*Fullback*  
*Wing*  
*Centre*  
*Centre*  
*Wing*  
*Five-eighth*  
*Half*  
*Lock*  
*Second Row*  
*Second Row*  
*Front Row*  
*Hooker*  
*Front Row*

## Western Suburbs 11

Darcy RUSSELL (c)  
 John THOMPSON  
 Peter DIMOND  
 Don MALONE  
 Bernie KELLY  
 Pat DALEY  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Doug JONES  
 Kel O'SHEA  
 Bill CARSON  
 Mark PATCH  
 Bede GOFF  
 Nev CHARLTON



**Tries** Bob WHITTON  
 Jim RICHARDS

Kel O'SHEA (2)  
 Peter DIMOND

**Goals** Roley SELEM (4)

Darcy RUSSELL (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Russell (c); three-quarters: J Thompson, D Malone, P Dimond, B Kelly; five-eighth: P Daley; half: K Holman; forwards: D Jones, K O'Shea, W Carson, N Charlton, B Goff, M Patch

**Newtown:** Full-back: R Selem; three-quarters: L McMahon, T McGovern, T Brown, K Considine; five-eighth: J Raper; half: B Whitton; forwards: P Ryan, F Narvo, B Harris, J Richards, C Jeffreys, F Farrington **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 16th August 1958)**

Newtown Rugby League players hurled themselves desperately into tackles in the last five thrill-packed minutes to defeat Western Suburbs yesterday at Pratten Park. Weary-legged and wilting, Newtown withstood a grandstand finish from Wests to win 14-11. The win took Newtown to a play-off on Tuesday against Balmain for the last place in the semi-finals. On the bell, referee Col Pearce penalized Newtown 15 yards from Newtown's try-line. Pearce, linesmen and Wests' officials waved from the field spectators who jumped the fence. Wests' prop-forward Nev Charlton took the kick but short-kicked ahead into the arms of Newtown's Bob Whitton. Newtown's defence was tottery then and a Wests' passing burst or an up and under kick may have saved the match. Newtown's surprise win hung on the effectiveness of lock Peter Ryan, half Whitton and five-eighth John Raper. This trio blocked many Wests moves before the ball had been carried far and set up dangerous thrusts for Newtown. .... The strength of the wind forced Russell, Wests' captain, to use tap-kicks for penalties he normally would have kicked for goal. Referee Pearce's frequent penalties against half Keith Holman's feeding of the scrums also unsettled Wests. .... Only Holman, Kel O'Shea and Peter Dimond eluded Newtown's defence often enough to be dangerous. O'Shea twice sprinted 40 yards to score tries, stepping out of tackles each time. Peter Daley had an unhappy match. Substituting for injured Darcy Henry as Wests' five-eighth, Daley repeatedly was penalised. **(Sunday Telegraph 17th August 1958)**

Newtown had to defend grimly for the last 15 minutes at Pratten Park yesterday to defeat Western Suburbs 14-11 and earn the right of a play-off with Balmain for fourth place in the Rugby League competition. Newtown, who led by 9-6 at half-time, would have been most unfortunate to lose, even though Western Suburbs on the day scored three tries to two. Indeed, it was not until Peter Dimond flashed straight down the centre midway through the second half that Wests looked like being in the picture at the finish. This try, which was a fine individual effort by Dimond, and converted by Russell, stirred Wests in a determined burst which, if it had been maintained right through, no doubt would have won the game. Both teams spotted in defence in the three-quarter line and little progress was made by either side from set scrums and rucks. Wests were penalised more often by referee Pearce for these tactics. Particular offender was five-eighth Daley, who substituted for Darcy Henry. Western Suburbs' football was far too orthodox and their three tries came from individual efforts. Nevertheless, when Kel O'Shea went over in the corner early in the game, it seemed as though Wests were not going to be troubled to win. Even later in the first half when O'Shea produced a better effort for another try, Wests looked like a team holding plenty in reserve. From that time onwards, however, Newtown took charge and looked the better team, playing superior, constructive football. The best try of the game was scored by Bobby Whitton, of Newtown, who played a major part in his side's win. Wests had Newtown pegged down defending desperately on their goal line when Narvo and McMahon carried the ball downfield for over 60 yards before McMahon was grounded. From the play the ball, Whitton reversed the play and ran unopposed for over 30 yards to score wide out. With Newtown leading 14-6 at this stage, the game looked all over and Wests can only blame themselves that their major attempt to pull the game from the fire was started too late. **(Truth 17th August 1958)**

**Notes:** Wests charged the line in the last ten minutes but the Newtown defence held them out desperately. Wests were out of the match until Peter Dimond scored a brilliant charging try down the middle of the ground. Pat Daley, deputising for Henry at five-eighth, gave away many penalties, and Roley Selem's four goals was one of the determining factors. Wests would now play St George in the major semi-final.