

1958 Round 2 Saturday 12th April Kogarah Oval

St George 36 def. Western Suburbs 5

Brian GRAHAM Fullback Darcy RUSSELL Tommy RYAN Wing John THOMPSON Jack FIFIELD Centre Harry WELLS (c) **Geoff WEEKES** Centre Rees DUNCAN Eddie LUMSDEN Wing Peter DIMOND Peter CARROLL Five-eighth Darcy HENRY Bobby BUGDEN Half Keith HOLMAN **Brian CLAY** Lock **Doug JONES** Norm PROVAN Second Row **Brian SHANNON** Harry BATH (c) Second Row Jack BOWMAN **Kevin BROWN** Front Row Jack MANTLE Peter ARMSTRONG Hooker **Bede GOFF** Front Row Billy WILSON **Nev CHARLTON**

Tries Brian CLAY (2) Peter DIMOND

Eddie LUMSDEN (2)

Jack FIFIELD Kevin BROWN

Goals Harry BATH (9) Darcy RUSSELL (1)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: B Graham; three-quarters: E Lumsden, J Fifield, G Weekes, T Ryan; five-eighth: P Carroll; half: B Bugden; forwards: B Clay, N Provan, H Bath (c), K Brown, P Armstrong, B Wilson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: J Thompson, H Wells (c), R Duncan, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: D Jones, B Shannon, J Bowman, N Charlton, B Goff, J Mantle Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 12th April 1958)

The St George-West clash at Kogarah Oval, expected to be a fiery match, proved a squib. St George crashed through Wests to win 36-5, and was never extended. Western Suburbs at no stage looked like an all-star side. St George won rucks and scrums without Ken Kearney, its captain-coach, who is under suspension. Wests' display was far too bad to be true. They will look forward to the return of O'Shea and Patch. St George attacked from the outset and apart from one brief period spent the whole afternoon in Wests' 25. St George took the lead after four minutes' play when Bath kicked a penalty goal. Six minutes later Clay scored, and from then on Wests played as a beaten team. Clay played a major part in the St George win. He scored two tries and his work in defence was outstanding. For his first try he raced away on the blind-side of the scrum to touch down in the corner almost unopposed. His second try was scored by clever anticipation when he supported Ryan and Provan in a dash from half-way. St George, in contrast to Wests, set out to get the wing men running, and dashes downfield by Lumsden in particular were frequent. He scored two tries, one of which was a solo event from 60 yards out. He displayed great initiative in attack. Once when hemmed in on the wing he centred the ball at the half-way mark and Fifield, sensing the opening and following on hard, gathered the ball to score under the posts. ... Holman was the pick of the Wests' backs, doing a great amount of work both in attack and defence. Henry, however, was far below form and failed to penetrate. He took the ball back into the forwards on far too many occasions. St George's substitute captain Harry Bath Kicked nine goals out of 14 attempts, some from the sideline. At one stage he had landed five out of six. ...

Wests' handling generally was poor and they gave away too many penalties. The attendance of 11,266 and the takings of £1781/10/9 were records for the ground. (The Sun-Herald 13th April 1958)

....Wests at no stage looked like a premiership winning team. Their play was scraggy, and lacked any semblance of method. It was not a good game as the scores would indicate. The handling by both teams was shocking throughout, and dropped passes were the rule rather than the exception. The St George pack dominated play throughout, and proved beyond measure that Western Suburbs sadly miss the presence of O'Shea and Patch... It was a rugged game, half-back Bobby Bugden playing the final 20 minutes in a daze. Wests showed some determination immediately upon resumption of play after half-time, when Dimond scored a lone try for his side. The burst was short-lived when St George again took the upper hand.....Then Charlton, who had been battling hard for his team all through, picked up a loose ball and sent a long pass to Dimond, who literally barged through full-back Graham to score Wests' lone try. When Provan made the way open for Brown to score a well-deserved try in the corner for St George, Wests' burst had completely fizzled out....... (Truth 13th April 1958)

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Notes: This was a very poor performance by Wests. They were outplayed from the start in a very rough game. Nev Charlton was tireless in a losing team and Peter Dimond scored his second try in two matches. He barged right over the top of the St George full-back in a preview of many future tries. Bill Carson was a late withdrawal, replaced by Brian Shannon. St George complained bitterly that the match had been played at a suburban ground instead of the SCG.

