

# Jack McGlinn

..... was living at Moree in the north west of NSW in 1926. Apart from involving himself in the local musical community, he was also playing for the Frog Hollow Rugby League team in the local Moree competition.

Jack was one of the top players in the competition but reports from the time picked up some issues in his play which may have contributed to his short time playing First Grade rugby league. It was noted that he played out of position at five-eighth, and intimated that his more natural position was in the centres. When Jack was playing at Wests he was selected at either halfback or five-eighth.

**McGlinn is one of Frogs best men, but he didn't get a good "go." He is also out of position at 5/8, and I think he, alongside Parker, will make a fine attacking combination.**

North West Champion 21 June 1926

**McGlinn is a very dangerous man on attack. He is likely to score at any time, but I would like to see him come up and "take his man" when his side loses the ball. This is "Mac's" weak point.**

North West Champion 28 June 1926

Jack played for the Moree Spicer Cup team in 1927, but in 1928 he had shifted further south and was living at Werris Creek which saw him play in the Tamworth District competition. From there Jack was selected to represent Northern Division that played and defeated the touring NSW team.

## NORTHERN DIVISION 33 – 24 NEW SOUTH WALES FIRSTS

Teams					
A LAMBERT	1	FB	1	Harry KADWELL	[Souths]
H PINKERTON	2	W	2	Cliff PEARCE	
J McGLYNN	3	C	3	Pat MAHER (c)	[Souths]
D HERBERT	4	C	4	Bill SHANKLAND	[Glebe]
C BOLER	5	W	5	Cec WILLARD	
H THOMPSON	6	FE	6	Gordon FLETCHER	[Eastern Suburbs]
W JOHNSTON	7	HB	7	Jack DEMPSEY	
C LYES	8	L	8	Norman QUINN	
D WOTTON	9	2R	9	Jack MOGRIDGE	[St George]
C MILLER	10	2R	10	Max BAILEY	
N BAKER	11	FR	11	Harry CAVANOUGH	[Souths]
H BENNETT	12	HK	12	Bob LINDFIELD	[Western Suburbs]
H QUINN	13	FR	13	Charles YORK	

Match played 24 July 1928

Jack played with the West Tamworth Club from 1928 to 1930, and represented both Tamworth and the Northern Division team on a number of occasions. Jack's team mates at Tamworth included the future Wests player Cliff Pearce and Balmain player Norman "Latchem" Robinson. Jack McGlinn was selected mainly in the centres during this period.

**liant burst by McGlynn, who played one of his best games this season. It was a day out for McGlynn, and the West Tamworth player finished off good movements with four brilliant tries. He was always dangerous and took full advantage of every opportunity offered.**

Scone Advocate 16 July 1929

Jack McGlinn was also an accomplished cricketer and played from a relatively young age in the Hunter Valley District. In 1929 while living at Tamworth, he was selected to play with a Tamworth selection against a touring NSW team. The NSW team was undertaking a promotional tour of Country NSW, and to make the game interesting, rules were modified to make the home team more competitive. In this instance Tamworth were allowed to have thirteen batsmen.

Jack McGlinn continued to play at Tamworth in 1930, but appeared to have had a stint at Narrabri as well. However by 1931 he had returned to Maitland and was back playing with the Maitland Rugby League Club where he started in the mid 1920's. He was playing well with his old Club and was soon selected in a combined Maitland team to play combined Newcastle. At this time he was playing in the five-eighth position. He was soon selected in a Country Possibles v Probables match and did well enough to be selected in the Country Firsts team that was narrowly defeated by City Firsts.

### CITY FIRSTS 17 - 15 COUNTRY FIRSTS

[Eastern Suburbs]	Billy HONG	1 FB 1	Chris SCHIEMER
[Western Suburbs]	Ray MORRIS	2 W 2	Les GRIFFIN
[Western Suburbs]	Cliff PEARCE	3 C 3	N SCHIEMER
[North Sydney]	Tom WRIGHT	4 C 4	L SMITH
[Eastern Suburbs]	Fred TOTTEY	5 W 5	Lex SMALL
[Eastern Suburbs]	Ernie NORMAN	6 FE 6	Jack McGLINN
[Eastern Suburbs]	Norm POPE (c)	7 HB 7	Billy BUTLER
[Newtown]	Stan WATERSON	8 L 8	Wally PRIGG
[Eastern Suburbs]	Joe PEARCE	9 2R 9	Jack KINGSTON (c)
[Souths]	Frank O'CONNOR	10 2R 10	E FLEMING
[Souths]	George TREWEEK	11 FR 11	Jack GIBBS
[Balmain]	George BISHOP	12 HK 12	Rees DUNCAN SR
[Western Suburbs]	Bill BROGAN	13 FR 13	F SUMMERVILLE

Match played 30 May 1931

Jack McGlinn was matched up against Ernie Norman at five-eighth and three influential Wests players were in the City team namely, Bill Brogan, Cliff Pearce and Ray Morris, so they had the opportunity at first hand to weigh up Jack McGlinn's ability.

Jack also came to the notice of others in Country rugby league. The Maitland Mercury on 24 June 1931 reported that Jack McGlinn received a "come at once" wire that morning from the Canowindra Rugby League Club which offered him a playing/coach position at the central NSW town. Jack had made an application for the position much earlier but had heard nothing until the wire arrived. Due to the Great Depression work was not easy to come by and the offer was an attractive one at the time. Jack was on the three o'clock train that afternoon for Canowindra, not having a proper opportunity to farewell his team mates.

Calamities happen at very short notice, and perhaps the greatest of them all, as far as the Maitland United Rugby League is concerned, is the departure of star player Jack McGlinn, who left for Canowindra this afternoon.

McGlenn applied for the position of playing coach to the Canowindra League some time ago, but it was not till he received a "come at once" wire early this morning that he knew he had secured the position.

Jack called at the "Mercury" office this morning, and was very sorry at not being able to find the time to make farewells to all his friends, but, considering that he left at 3 o'clock, his time was certainly limited.

"I am very sorry to be leaving the team," he said, "I have had a great time with them, and they are the best lot of sports that any man could wish to play with. I wish them all the best of luck," he concluded.

Maitland Mercury 24 June 1931

In 1932, Jack trialled with Wests and was immediately selected for First Grade. He came to Wests with great fanfare, and was touted as a potential Australian player. Jack played all seventeen games for Wests in 1932 including the Semi Finals and the Grand Final challenge which was eventually lost to South Sydney. Jack played in the half back position all season, except in the Grand Final challenge when he played five-eighth.

Les Mead has come home from the North Coast, with a recruit from Maitland in J. McGlinn, no slow-coach when it comes to going for the line.

The Truth 13 March 1932

**McGLINN A STAR**  
Western Suburbs and St. George conducted a series of trials at Earl Park yesterday. McGlinn was outstanding.

Daily Telegraph 29 March 1932

The country five-eighth, McGlinn, made a successful debut with his new side. Stockily built, McGlinn is probably the deepest-chested player of his size seen for years, and looks as if he may make a very strong bid for State or either higher honors.

Sporting Globe 28 April 1932



Alan Ridley passes the ball to Jack McGlinn backing up - The Sun 17 April 1932

It was expected that Jack McGlinn would have another successful season in 1933, however events were conspiring against him. During the trials Wests were looking at Alan Brady and Vic Hey to play in the five-eighth position. Vic Hey had played in the lower grades in 1932 but in 1933 was recognised for his great talent, and after five First Grade games was selected for the 1933-34 Kangaroo tour. Les Mead, Wests half was also a Kangaroo tourist that year.

### Wests To Try New Five-eighths

J. McGLINN, Western Suburbs first grade five-eighth, will appear in Wests' reserves only on Saturday. V. Hey and A. Brady are the five-eighths selected for the firsts. It will be Brady's first try-out in the position.

Daily Telegraph 30 March 1933

Jack McGlinn was competing for his spot in First Grade when on 10 April he received news that his father Les McGlinn, at the age of 45, had died in Maitland Hospital from a fracture of his skull after falling on a concrete footpath.

To make the situation more difficult, Jack's critics were not holding back with an article in the Sporting Globe commenting on Jack's ability to make appropriate judgements during the later part of the previous season.

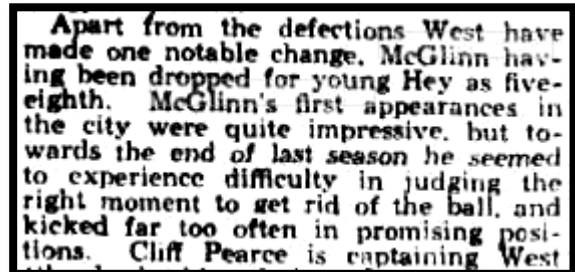
In retrospect the comment was not dissimilar to that levelled at Jack when he was playing with the Frog Hollow team at Moree in 1926. Perhaps he wasn't a natural half/five eighth, and centre was his best position. However it is hard to ignore that Jack played every game in the 1932 season and made it through to the

Vic Hey played in the first round of competition in 1933, and Jack McGlinn played in round two when Vic was unavailable. However Vic Hey was back the following week and remained at five-eighth in First Grade until he went away with the Kangaroos. Jack was selected in First grade in round seven, but was back in Reserve Grade the following week, and then remained as a reserve for the Reserve and Third Grade teams in the weeks following. Jack had lost form and in the Rugby League News on 5 August it was reported that

Jack played two First Grade and five Reserve Grade games in 1933, and there is no further record of him playing Grade rugby league. Jack had a record of changing his residential location prior to arriving in Sydney, and this was the case during his time playing with Wests and after he finished playing. Between 1932 and 1934 he lived at various locations in Ashfield and then from 1935 moved to the inner city suburb of Annandale.

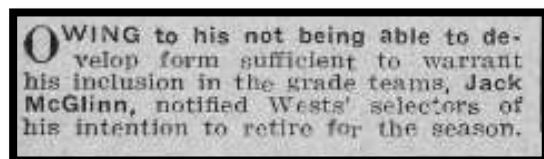
Jack McGlinn enlisted with the AIF at Paddington, NSW for service in the Second World War, and appeared to have returned to his home town of Maitland by 1941. However, he had little time to serve as he died in Maitland Hospital on 13 October 1941, at the age of 35. He is buried at Campbell's Hill Cemetery, West Maitland, Section D10.

Grand Final challenge. He must have been doing something right.



Sporting Globe 26 April 1933

he advised Wests Selectors that he intended to retire for the season. In fact Jack had retired from all Grade rugby league at the age of twenty seven.



RLN 5 August 1933



Newcastle Sun 14 October 1941

