

Bob Allison

..... was graded by Wests in 1935 He made his First Grade debut in round six of that year. The Sydney Morning Herald on 15 May 1935 recorded that; "R. Allison, who after showing good form in the trials, started the competition in third grade, was chosen to fill the lock forward position, vacant as a result of Jack Kingston's departure. Allison was lock man with the successful President's Cup team, Southern Districts, last season."

R. Allison, who, after showing good form in the trials, started the competition in third grade, was chosen to fill the lock forward position, vacant as a result of J. Kingston's departure. Allison was lock man with the successful President's Cup team, Southern Districts, last season. R. Eaton has been

SMH 15 May 1935

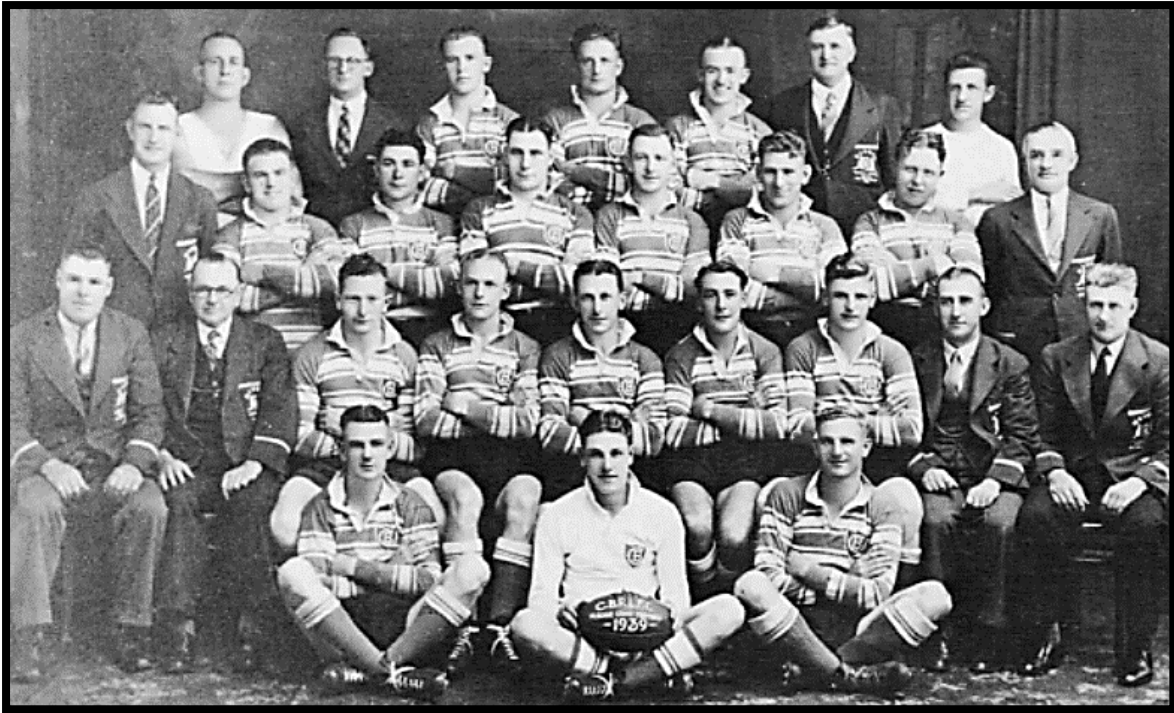


Southern Districts Winning President's Cup Squad 1934

Back: W Tighe, R Smythe, T Parkes, Jack Thompson (Coach), Unknown, A Davis, J Wonson, Middle: Phil Lake (Committee), G Hannan (Committee), A Patrick, Unknown, P Murphy, Unknown, Unknown, R Allison, H Gray (Treas), J Merrion (Committee), Front: A Glancy, Tommy Kelly, Arthur Ross (Sec), F Thorne, R Potts (Pres), W Bailey, A Jones
Unidentified Players: Max Behan, L Connel, Jack Hancock, F Noland, K O'Born, E Thorne, H White

Bob played with Wests until the 1937 season. During his time with Wests he played seven First Grade, twenty two Reserve Grade and six Third Grade games, scoring nine tries. Bob Allison had a lot more football ahead of him but due to a change of address he resided in the Canterbury Bankstown area and therefore had to play with that club. Due to the residency rules at the time, Allison missed the 1938 season before finally joining Canterbury Bankstown in 1939.

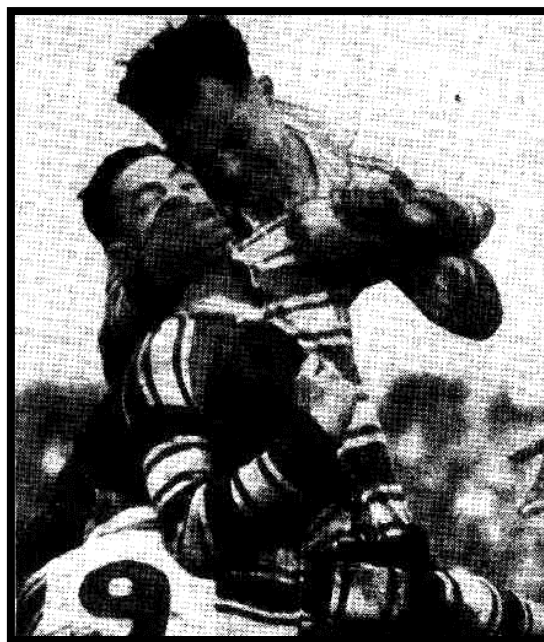
In retrospect it was a good move for Bob Allison to have gone across to Canterbury as the Club had won the 1938 premiership and they would have a number of good years ahead of them. Bob made the First Grade team mid-way through the 1939 season and played in the losing semi-final against Balmain. Bob also played four State Championship games at the end of the season including the Final against Souths in which Canterbury had a comfortable win. As Bob had played much of the season in Reserve Grade, he was recognised in the 1939 Reserve Grade "Premiers" team photo.



Canterbury Bankstown DRLFC Reserve Grade Premiers 1939

Back : M Lee (Trainer), W Cameron (Sec), L Atkins, F Worrall, A Kent, G Russell (Treas), W Sweeney (Trainer),
 3rd Row: L Sheely (Coach), J Reilly, H Davies, R Allison, L Pritchard, J McCormack, G Robinson, B Russell, (Selector)
 2nd Row: P Clay (Selector), T Johns (Pres), J Pratt, J Garner, J Duncombe (C), H Hall (VC), O Samuel, A Bray (Dist Sec),
 V Murray (Selector), Front: R Russell, H Clay (Ball Boy), G Clunas

Bob was a regular member of Canterbury's First Grade team over the next few seasons. He had another chance to play in a premiership side when Canterbury took out the honors in 1942. It was an unusual year for Bob as he only played the one First Grade game through the competition rounds. That match was against St George in round nine when Canterbury had a comfortable win. The two teams would meet again in the finals.



Bob Allison (top) and R Bailey (no.9) tackling R Hason (St George) - Round 9 1942

He was recalled to the First Grade team at the end of the season when Bob Farrar was injured and played in a semi-final playoff against Balmain and in the City Cup semi-final loss to St George. However Farrar returned and he missed out on playing the 1942 Grand Final when Canterbury were victors over St George.

Bob Allison played with Canterbury up until the end of 1945 before retiring. His last game for the club was the Reserve Grade Grand Final against South Sydney. During his time at Canterbury he played sixty five First Grade games and was reputed to have played one hundred and five games across all grades. In 2004 he was nominated for the Berries to Bulldogs 70 year Team of Champions.

He lived in Sydney, NSW for the remainder of his life and died there in November 1997.