

Ted Walton

..... was a prolific try scorer in junior rugby league. The selectors took note and he was selected in the St George President's Cup teams of 1968 and 1969.



St George President's Cup Team 1968



President's Cup Semi Final 7, 8 June 1969

JUNIOR CUP FINALS			
PRESIDENT'S CUP			
Sunday, June 15, 1969		2.45 p.m. SYDNEY SPORTS GROUND	
SOUTHS 5		ST. GEORGE 14	
Fullback: 1—J. MUSSELL		Fullback: 1—G TROY	
Threequarters: 2—B. McGUIRE J. WITHERS— 3 4—P. McCARTNEY J. LAWRENCE—19		Threequarters: 2—G. GEMMEL D. GREEN— 3 4—D. BELL R. MILLER—14	
Halves 6—V. SWIBEL R. BERGAN— 7		Halves 6—R. CARTER R. MOORE— 7	
Forwards 8—D. BAMPTON (C) R. BOLIN— 9 10—W. MURPHY J. BARRETT—11 12—S. VAN J. ATHERTON—13		Forwards: 8—E. WALTON G. SEYMOUR—17 10—M. DRYDEN N. COOK—11 23—G. WHITE P. MULLENS—13	

RLN 14, 16 June 1969

St George won the President's Cup competition in 1969 and as soon as Ted's commitment's with the President's Cup team concluded, he was called up to the grade ranks and finished the season in the St George Third Grade team coached by Jack Troy.

Ted made his First Grade debut in round eleven of the 1970 season when he came off the bench in a game against Canterbury at Belmore Sports ground. After playing in the Third Grade game earlier in the day, he was instructed by head coach Jack Gibson to shower and sit on the bench for First Grade.

St George's Fijian star Apisai Toga was knocked out by the fiery Neville Hornery in the first tackle of the game and Ted was sent on to replace him. Gibson had so much confidence in Ted that he promoted him to First Grade even though he had not yet played a Reserve Grade game.

Ted had to wait until round fifteen before getting another chance in First Grade. He was selected in the St George run on side that played North Sydney at Kogarah Oval on 5 July 1970.

NSWRFL 1970 ROUND 15						
St George DRAGONS			10 – 28	North Sydney BEARS		
TEAMS						
Frank RYAN	1	FB	1	Laurie MORASCHI		
Ross POPPLEWELL	31	W	2	Ken IRVINE		
Dennis BRANDLEY	3	C	3	Dave WOOD		
David BELL	47	C	4	Owen O'DONNELL		
Johnny KING	5	W	5	George AMBRUM		
Phil HAWTHORNE (c)	6	FE	6	Bob LANG		
Ross STRUDWICK	7	HB	7	Graham WILLIAMS (c)		
Peter FITZGERALD	8	L	8	John McDONELL		
Ted WALTON	9	2R	9	Noel CAVANAGH		
Keith MADDISON	10	2R	10	John PAYNE		
John WITTENBERG	11	FR	11	Dave BRIDGEWATER		
Col RASMUSSEN	12	HK	12	Ross WARNER		
Grahame BOWEN	13	FR	13	Jim SCHRODER		
		B	14	Dick HARRIS		
Jack GIBSON		HC		Roy FRANCIS		

Round Fifteen 1970 St George v North Sydney – Source: Rugby League Project

At the start of the 1971 season, Ted Walton came off the bench to play in a semi-final of the pre-season cup competition. However, in the competition rounds he was competing for the lock position with Peter Fitzgerald and then Graeme Sams, so it wasn't until the business end of the competition that he forced his way into the St George First Grade team. Ted had once again impressed coach, Jack Gibson.

St George qualified for the semi-finals and played Parramatta in the minor semi-final. With the scores locked 8-8 at full time, the game went into extra time, before a double from Ted helped the Dragons to a 19-8 win.

NSWRFL 1971 MINOR SEMI						
St George DRAGONS			19 – 8	Parramatta EELS		
SCORESHEET						
Ted WALTON	2	T				
Bob CLAPHAM						
Graeme LANGLANDS						
Graeme LANGLANDS	3	G	4	Keith CAMPBELL		
Billy SMITH		FG				
TEAMS						
Graeme LANGLANDS (c)	1	FB	1	Ken THORNETT		
Ken BATTY	2	W	2	Terry SCURFIELD		
Bob CLAPHAM	3	C	3	Ron GRAHAM		
Ken MADDISON	4	C	4	Peter LANGMACK		
Geoff CARR	5	W	5	Kevin MacFARLANE		
Tony BRANSON	6	FE	6	Graham LYE		
Billy SMITH	7	HB	7	John WILSON		
Ted WALTON	8	L	8	Keith CAMPBELL		
Barry BEATH	9	2R	9	Dick THORNETT		
Peter FITZGERALD	10	2R	10	Ron LYNCH (c)		
Keith MADDISON	11	FR	11	Denis FITZGERALD		
Col RASMUSSEN	12	HK	12	John McMARTIN		
Harry EDEN	13	FR	13	Bob O'REILLY		
Brian WOOD	35	B	18	Gary PETHYBRIDGE		
Norm HENDERSON	15	B	30	Laurie WAKEFIELD		
Jack GIBSON		HC		Ian WALSH		

Two tries by Ted Walton helped St George to a Semi-Final Win

Saints Have the New Blood

Saints provide the "new blood" in today's top grade Final at the Cricket Ground, mainly through local products, lock **Ted Walton** and bearded centre **Bob Clapham**.

RLN 11, 12 September 1971

St George defeated Manly in a Preliminary Final to set up a Grand Final appearance against South Sydney.

As was the usual practice in those times, the Grand Final program would give the players' age and weight. Ted was 11 stone 4 lbs (72 kgs) but was told by St George secretary Frank Facer to add an extra stone to his stats in the program. The Souths forward pack were much heavier than the St George six.

Souths dominated play early in the Grand Final to lead 11-0, but a determined St George team fought back to 11-10 with two converted tries in three minutes. The second try was scored by Ted Walton after being put into a gap to dive over and score wide out.



Ted Walton heading for a gap in the defence to score – 1971 Grand Final

However it wasn't to be for St George in 1971. With 10 minutes on the clock, Ron Coote found a gap and passed to Bob McCarthy who scored. The easy conversion from Eric Simms sealed a 16-10 win, and a 20th premiership for South Sydney.

ST. GEORGE		SOUTH SYDNEY	
Age	Weight	Age	Weight
Full-backs			
GRAEME LANGLANDS	29 13.0	ERIC SIMMS	26 12.7
Three-quarters			
KEN BATTY	26 12.4	KEITH EDWARDS	22 12.8
BOB CLAPHAM	23 13.7	PAUL SAIT	23 13.10
KEN MADDISON	24 14.0	BOB HONAN	25 12.7
GEOFF CARR	20 13.0	RAY BRANIGHAN	23 12.3
Five-eighths			
TONY BRANSON	24 13.9	DENIS PITTARD	24 11.6
Half-backs			
BILLY SMITH	29 11.8	BOBBY GRANT	25 10.12
Forwards			
TED WALTON	22 12.2	RON COOTE	26 14.3
BARRY BEATH	26 14.10	GARY STEVENS	25 14.0
PETER FITZGERALD	20 12.7	BOB McCARTHY	26 15.7
GRAHAME BOWEN	24 15.0	JOHN O'NEILL	27 16.0
COL RASMUSSEN	24 13.4	GEORGE PIGGINS	24 12.6
HARRY EDEN	26 13.11	JOHN SATTLER	29 14.8

COPYRIGHT—SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND Saturday, September 18, 1971—2.30 p.m.

62838 **FIRST GRADE: GRAND FINAL**

ST. GEORGE		SOUTHS	
(White, Red V)	Coach: JACK GIBSON	(Red and Green)	Coach: CLIVE CHURCHILL
10		16	
1—Graeme LANGLANDS (C)	22	222 F—Eric SIMMS	1
2—Ken BATTY		Keith EDWARDS	2
3—Bob CLAPHAM		Paul SAIT	3
4—Ken MADDISON		Bob HONAN	4
5—Geoff CARR		3—Ray BRANIGHAN	5
6—Tony BRANSON		Denis PITTARD	6
7—Billy SMITH		Bob GRANT	7
8—Ted WALTON—3		3—Ron COOTE	8
9—Barry BEATH—3		Gary STEVENS	9
10—Peter FITZGERALD Dryden		3—Bob McCARTHY	10
11—Grahame BOWEN R.C.P.		John O'NEILL	11
12—Col RASMUSSEN		George PIGGINS	12
13—Harry EDEN		John SATTLER (C)	13

Reserves:
D. Lee (16), A. Branighan (32), D. Bampton (24), K. Burke (21), S. Kosta (46), A. Heiler (17), W. Rose (64).

1971 Grand Final Player List and Player Profiles South Sydney 16 v St George 10



St George First Grade Rugby League Team - Runners Up 1971

Back: Bob Clapham, Grahame Bowen, Geoff Carr, Ken Maddison, Barry Beath, Peter Fitzgerald,
 Front: Harry Eden, Ted Walton, Ken Batty, Graeme Langlands (C), Billy Smith, Col Rasmussen, Tony Branson

After the highlight of playing in a Grand Final in 1971, Ted had a relatively quiet year with St George in 1972. He played much of the season in the lower grades but did make an appearance in two pre-season cup games and two First Grade games later in the year.

In 1973, Ted moved across to Wests. He played three of the four pre-season cup games and then was selected in First Grade for the opening competition round against North Sydney. However it was a tough year for Wests with injuries and Ted Walton was another casualty. He injured his back in this game and was out for the season. Wests Archive has recorded an account from this game;

"A number of players made their debut in this match, including Robbie Parker (ex-Manly Rugby Union), Brian Isbester (3rd Grade player of the year 1972), Shane Day (Souths) and Jim Murphy (Qld). The story of the match was the continuing injury toll. Having already lost John Elford and John O'Bryan in the pre-season, Jim Murphy broke his jaw in the second half, John Baker chipped a bone in his elbow and Ted Walton pinched a nerve in his back. Baker and Walton were replaced at half-time."

Source: westsarchives.com.au

1973 Round 1 Sunday 25th March Lidcombe Oval		
North Sydney 23	def.	Western Suburbs 6
Barry GLASGOW	<i>Fullback</i>	Tony FORD
George VARELA	<i>Wing</i>	Robbie PARKER
Mal McLACHLAN	<i>Centre</i>	Stephen KNIGHT
Terry DOUGLAS	<i>Centre</i>	John HEYWARD
George AMBRUM	<i>Wing</i>	Russell MULLINS
Keith OUTTEN	<i>Five-eighth</i>	Neville SINCLAIR
Gary PRETTI	<i>Half</i>	Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Bruce WALKER	<i>Lock</i>	Ted WALTON
Dave COOPER	<i>Second Row</i>	Barry BRYANT
Eddie HEATLEY	<i>Second Row</i>	John BAKER
Steve WINTER	<i>Front Row</i>	Jim MURPHY
Brian ANDERSON	<i>Hooker</i>	Shane DAY
Ross WARNER (c)	<i>Front Row</i>	Brian ISBESTER
	<i>Replacement</i>	Terry ROSE
	<i>Replacement</i>	Nick MOROKO

Ted Walton's First Grade Debut and Only Premiership Game with Wests



Western Suburbs First Grade Pre Season Cup Team 1973

Back: Robbie Parker, Stephen Knight, John Heyward, Russell Mullins, Jim Cody, Tony Ford, Jim Murphy

Middle: John Sheridan, Reg Hatton, Tom Raudonikis (C), Ted Walton, Shane day, Alan Ashmore

Front: Don Parish (Coach)

It has been reported that Ted Walton tried to make a comeback in 1974 but suffered a serious head injury in a trial match. He retired from rugby league as a result. It was an unfortunate time for Ted as he was still a young player with potential to go on and achieve more in rugby league. During his time at Wests he played one First Grade game and three Pre Season Cup games.

Surname	Forename	Year	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade	3 rd Grade	Pre- Season Cup	AMCO Cup	Tries	Goals	Field Goals	Total Points
Walton	Ted	1973	1								
Walton	Ted	1973				3					
Total			1			3					0

Ted Walton's Playing Record at Wests

Ted went on to have a successful career in the NSW Police Force. He is now retired and as Warren Thompson noted in his interview of Ted, he keeps in touch with old mates and enjoys attending reunions and as a member of the Family of League. He also goes to Southern Sydney fundraisers and has a wonderful man cave in his home (still in the St George area) full of memorabilia.

While injury shortened his career, he will always have the memory of playing in a Grand Final in front of more than 60,000 supporters, a feat that has evaded some of the game's greats.