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.

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ST. GEORGE
(White, Red V)
Fullback: I. Lane (1). Threequarters: M.
Suflivan (2), G. Hind (5), R. Clapham (4),
K. Dimon (3). Halves: P. Rugless' (6), R.
Moore (7). Forwards: E. Walton (8), N.
Langthorne (9), P. Amundsen (10), W.
Jury (13), P. Smith (11), S. Bell (12).
Reserves: S. Smith (18), J. Char.ton (16),
B. Clarke (20), M. Cassidy (19), R. Smith
(17), B. Kerr (14), W. Berg (15).
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St George President's Cup Team 1968

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Fullback: G. Troy (1). Threequarters: G. Gremmell (2), D. Green (3), D. Bell (4), R. Miller (14). Halves: R. Carter (6), R. Moore (7). Forwards: E. Walton (8), P. Fitzpatrick (9), M. Dryden (10), N. Cook (11), G.
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President's Cup Semi Final 7, 8 June 1969

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JUNIOR CUP FINALS
                             PRESIDENT'S CUP
                                                          SYDNEY SPORTS GROUND
Sunday, June 15, 1969
                                                          ST. GEORGE 14
               SOUTHS
                                                            Fullback:
—G TROY
               Fullback:
-J. MUSSELL
            Threequorters:
IRE J. WITHERS— 3
RTNEY J. LAWRENCE—19
                                                                      D. GREEN- 3
R. MILLER-14
                                                -G. GEMMEL
-D. BELL
                Halves
      SWIBEL
                        R. BERGAN-
                                                                       R. MOORE- 7
                                                R. CARTER
               Forwards
N (C)
                                                           Forwards:
N G.
      BAMPTON
                             BOLIN
                                                   WALTON
                                                                       SEYMOUR-
                      J. BARRETT
J. ATHERTON
                                                    DRYDE
                                                                       MULLENS
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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 Ross POPPLEWELL	1 31	FB W	1 2	Laurie MORASCHI Ken IRVINE					
Dennis BRANDLEY	3	c	3	Dave WOOD					
David BELL	47	c	4	Owen O'DONNELL					
Johnny KING	5	w	5	George AMBRUM					
Johnny King	2	VV	5	George AMBROW					
Phil HAWTHORNE (c)	6	FE	6	Bob LANG					
Ross STRUDWICK	7	НВ	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	НΚ	12	Ross WARNER					
Grahame BOWEN	13	FR	13	Jim SCHRODER					
		В	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 preseason 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				
Ted WALTON Bob CLAPHAM Graeme LANGLANDS	2	Т						
Graeme LANGLANDS	3	G	4	Keith CAMPBELL				
Billy SMITH		FG						
	TE	AM	S					
Graeme LANGLANDS (c)	1	FB	1	Ken THORNETT				
Ken BATTY	2	w	2	Terry SCURFIELD				
Bob CLAPHAM	3	С	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	нв	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	нк	12	John McMARTIN				
Harry EDEN	13	FR	13	Bob O'REILLY				
Brian WOOD	35	в	18	Gary PETHYBRIDGE				
Norm HENDERSON	15	В	30					
Jack GIBSON		нс		Ian WALSH				

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



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.



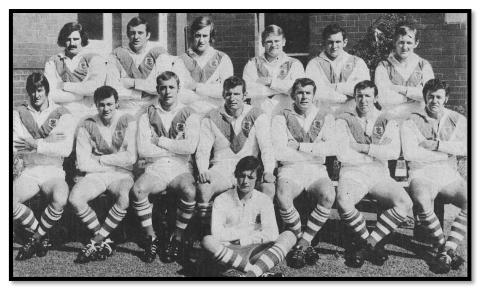
Ted Walton heading for a gap in the defence to score – 1971 Grand Final

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 SY	SOUTH SYDNEY				
Age	Weight		Age	Weight		
	Full-l	backs				
GRAEME LANGLANDS 29	13.0	ERIC SIMMS	. 26	12.7		
		quarters				
KEN BATTY26		KEITH EDWARDS	22	12.8		
BOB CLAPHAM 23		PAUL SAIT		13.10		
KEN MADDISON 24		BOB HONAN	25	12.7		
GEOFF CARR 20	13.0	RAY BRANIGHAN	23	12.3		
	Five-e	ighths				
TONY BRANSON 24		DENIS PITTARD	24	11.6		
VALUE TO SERVICE STREET		bocks				
BILLY SMITH 29	11.8	BOBBY GRANT	25	10.12		
**************************************		vards				
TED WALTON 22		The State of the S	26	14.3		
BARRY BEATH 26		THE PARTY OF THE P		14.0		
PETER FITZGERALD 20	2.2	・ 関係を行うに対している。 では、またまります。		15.7		
GRAHAME BOWEN 24		JOHN O'NEILL		16.0		
COL RASMUSSEN 24		GEORGE PIGGINS	24	12.6		
HARRY EDEN 26	13.11	JOHN SATTLER	20	14.8		



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

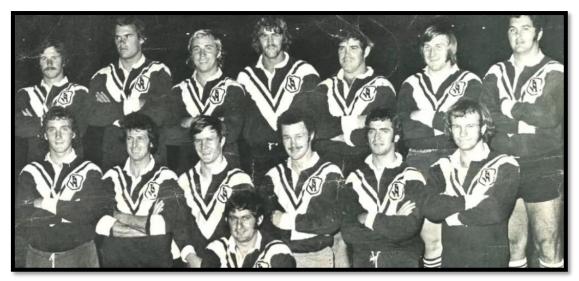
After the highlight of playing in a Grand Final in 1971, Ted had a relatively quiet year with St George in 1972. He played much of the season in the lower grades but did make an appearance in two preseason cup games and two First Grade games later in the year.

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





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	2 nd	3 rd	Pre-	AMCO	Tries	Goals	Field	Total
			Grade	Grade	Grade	Season	Cup			Goals	Points
						Cup					
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.