

WEBSTER'S



GREEN LABEL

one of

WEBSTER'S PERFECT BEERS

SAMUEL WEBSTER & SONS LIMITED

FOUNTAIN HEAD BREWERY, OVENDEN WOOD, HALIFAX

TELEPHONE HALIFAX 67215

Edgar Woffenden, Birkby, Huddersfield.

TED SLEVIN



HUDDERSFIELD
1951—1962

Souvenir Brochure
Price 1/-



TRAVEL IN COMFORT AND SAFETY WITH

HANSON

COACH

SERVICE

Our Coaches are used by

Huddersfield Rugby League Teams

Huddersfield Town A.F.C. Teams

and

Fartown Supporters' Club

Trophy Winners at the 1961 National Coach Rally



TED SLEVIN

The Football Career of Ted Slevin in words and photographs, with detailed records of his achievements in the Rugby League game for Wigan and Huddersfield

Compiled by A. N. Gaulton

in association with members
of the Huddersfield C. & A.C.
Supporters' Club Committee

Foreword by

WM. CUNNINGHAM

(Huddersfield C. & A.C.)

Published by the

Huddersfield C. & A.C. Supporters' Club

DAVIS & BROOK

(HUDD. LTD.)

Wholesale Confectioners and General Merchants

37, WESTGATE and HALF MOON STREET
HUDDERSFIELD

Telephone 2434

Local Agents for Waterhouse's Invalid Toffee

Enquiries Invited



Established 1890

Telephone Huddersfield 1126

Edgar Woffenden

(Partners: E. Woffenden and R. H. Gott.)

AT YOUR SERVICE
FOR ALL CLASSES
OF PRINTING

CLIFFE WORKS Modern Machines
BIRKBY - HUDDERSFIELD Good Quality Work

FOREWORD . . .

I welcome the opportunity to pay my tribute to one of the greatest sportsmen I have known. Ted Slevin has proved to be one of our best signings and in the ten years he has been at Fartown, has given our spectators their money's worth and at 34 years of age is playing better than ever. He is one of the best ball playing forwards of all time and his split second eye for an opening has paved the way for many brilliant tries.

It is, however, of Ted, the man, I would like to pay my respects. A great family man. He is extremely modest, seeking no limelight for himself. Here indeed is the perfect team man, cool and clean in all he does on and off the field. A great humourist who can take a joke against himself better than anyone I know, and whose popularity amongst the players has never been excelled. He is an inspiration and example to all young players and the only fault I can find is that he is getting older.

Yes, Ted! it has indeed been a pleasure to have been so closely associated with you since that day at Wigan in 1951 when I had the pleasure of seeing you sign on the dotted line to become a Fartowner of whom we are all justly proud.

May the Club, Supporters' Club and followers of the Claret and Gold rally round and make your testimonial a bumper one.

WM. CUNNINGHAM.
(Chairman, H.C. & A.C. Football Committee)

TED SLEVIN

CAN you imagine Ted Slevin as a centre three-quarter or a stand-off-half? Or as a centre forward or a wingman at the Association code? Maybe not, yet those who remember the sterling value of Ted's play as prop or a second row forward will be interested to learn that he has had experience of those other positions in his lengthy sporting career.

But most of us know Ted best for his consistent footballing skill as a Rugby League forward during the past fourteen seasons—eleven of which he has spent at Fartown. Rarely has he missed a game. Rarely has a season gone by without the warning going out that we must seek a replacement for Slevin—yet here he is still going strong. And surely even the sternest critic must admit that this season he is playing as well as he has ever done.

Ted's Rugby League career in Wigan Junior football started with Worsley Boys' Club. He was sixteen then, and this was the period when he played centre and stand-off. After a couple of years he joined the Army for his National Service, and he served in the Argyles—complete with kilt. The army turned him into a soccer player and he was the centre forward or wingman for his company team.

Army life made a difference to Ted physically. He went in as a stripling of 10st. 8lbs. and came out three years later turning the scales at 13st. 10lbs. On his return to civilian life he went back to his old job of working on lorries in the coal trade, but after a year or two of lorry driving he went down the pit.

He was 21 years old when he came out of the army, and too old for the Worsley Boys' Club Under 21 side, so he joined Pemberton Rovers as a blind-side prop. After only half-a-dozen games with the Rovers he was signed by Wigan, and wore the Wigan jersey for the first time in an "A" team game at Leigh during September, 1948.

His signing caused a spot of bother in the junior R.L. world. The Wigan club had to pay a fee to Ted's club when they signed him, and Worsley Boys' Club claimed half the fee, on the grounds that Slevin was one of their products and that he hadn't played sufficient matches for Pemberton for the Rovers to claim the full fee. The Worsley Boys' Club claim was upheld.

After a few months with the "A" team, who won the Lancashire Supplementary Shield that season, Ted won his promotion to the Wigan first team. His senior debut in the famous cherry and white colours was against Leeds at Headingley in January, 1949. Wigan won that game by 14 points to 12 before a crowd numbering 26,000.

That was the start of a first class career which has, to date, covered fourteen seasons and seen Ted win just about every honour



TED THE FAMILY MAN

At home with his wife and two sons, Bryan and Jeffrey.

and every medal open to a Rugby League Player. In his first year as a second row forward with the Wigan team it was confidently predicted that he would be a member of the 1950 Great Britain Tour Team to Australia. That, however, still remains as one of the few honours which has been denied Slevin.

He soon gained a place in the Lancashire team, playing against Yorkshire at Halifax in April, 1949, and scoring one of the tries in a 12-3 Lancashire victory. His team-mates that day included two players, Jack Brown (Salford) and Charlie Armit (Swinton), who were later to join Ted at Fartown.

Although he didn't get that place in the 1950 Tour Team further honours were soon to come his way. He was in a Rest of the League team which played the 1950 Tourists on their return from "down-under" and immediately afterwards appeared for England against Wales at Abertillery. Later, he played twice for Great Britain against France, but these latter two honours came while he was a Fartowner.

Ted started his remarkable collection of League and Cup medals early in his senior career. He is one of the few Rugby League players who have winner's medals for all the six major trophies. In seven Cup Finals he has been on the losing side on only one occasion—the 1960 Yorkshire Cup Final.

One of the early Finals was a match which Fartowners are not likely to forget—the 1950 League Championship Final at Maine Road. Ted Slevin was, from our point of view, on the wrong side—but it was the right side for Ted, as Wigan pulled off a great victory by 20 points to 2 before a crowd which topped 65,000. Wigan had eight players absent, on their way to Australia with the 1950 Tour Team, but they overcame the handicap admirably.

The teams for that memorable game were:—Wigan: E. H. Ward, N. Silcock, J. Broome, G. Roughley, B. Nordgren; C. Mountford (capt.), J. Alty; E. Slevin, H. McIntyre, F. Barton, W. Hudson, J. Large, W. Blan. Huddersfield: J. Hunter; R. Cracknell, J. Bawden, P. Devery (capt.), L. Cooper; R. Pepperell, W. Banks; J. Daly, J. Mundy, A. Wilmot, K. Morrison, R. Nicholson, I. Owens.

It may be noticed that three members of that winning Wigan team later became Fartowners.

Twice has Ted had a Wembley Cup Final winner's medal and he will be very happy if he can make it a hat-trick at some date in the future. His total of medals to date is eleven as follows:—

- Two R. L. Challenge Cup (1950-51 and 1952-53).
- Two Lancashire Challenge Cup (1949-50 and 1950-51).
- Three Yorkshire Challenge Cup (1952-53, 1957-58 and 1960-61).
- One R. L. Championship (1949-50).
- One Lancashire League (1949-50).
- One Yorkshire League (1951-52).
- One Lancashire Supplementary Shield "A" team, (1948-49).

The news of Ted's transfer to Huddersfield caused some surprise for it was a rare occurrence for a Wigan player to join a Yorkshire club at that period. In later years, of course, such well-known ex-Central Park stars as George Curran, Jack Large, George Roughley and Ernie Ashcroft were to join the Fartown playing staff.

Ted signed for Huddersfield on Tuesday, October 30th, 1951, and went straight into the first team for the following Saturday's game against Featherstone Rovers on November 3rd. Since that date very few Huddersfield teams have taken the field without the inclusion of Ted Slevin among the forwards.

His influence on the play of the side has always been a strong one and has always been a constructive one. The forward exchanges in Rugby League football sometimes tend to get a little over-heated but Ted has always retained perfect control of his own feelings and has been a splendid example to those who are more hot-headed.

The Fartown team for Ted's debut was F. Dyson; R. Cracknell, I. Clark, N. Wainwright, J. Anderson; R. Rylance (capt.), W. Banks; D. Cavanagh, J. Mundy, W. Griffin, E. Slevin, J. Bowden, I. Owens. During the remainder of that season Ted played in the second row, at the start of the 1952-53 Wembley season he moved up to prop forward.

He completed his "full set" of League and Cup medals almost within a year of joining Huddersfield, for the Yorkshire League was won during his first season and the Yorkshire Challenge Cup in his second. He also gained a second successful Wembley appearance, and



Photo by courtesy of the Universal Press.

WIGAN'S R.L. CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM, 1950

J. Sullivan (Coach), F. Barton, J. Large, E. Slevin, N. Silcock, W. Hudson, E. Ward, W. Blan, L. McIntyre, J. Broome, C. Mountford (capt.), G. Roughley, J. Alty, B. Nordgren.

at the expense of his former Wigan colleagues as Huddersfield defeated Wigan in the Cup Semi-final at Odsal.

Looking back over Ted's career of sound, consistent and constructive forward play it is surprising that, while he has had his share of medals, so few representative honours have come his way. One of the reasons for this lack of honours revolves around a Rugby League decision made some twelve months after he had joined Huddersfield.

Ted was selected as reserve to travel with the Yorkshire team to play Cumberland. Then someone recalled that he had already played for Lancashire so his name was deleted and Don Robinson's brought in instead.

The question was—which county was Slevin eligible to play for? He was born in Yorkshire, at Rossington, but his parents, who were Lancashire people, returned to their own county when Ted was only a few months old. So Ted was Yorkshire by birth and Lancashire by upbringing—which, we might add, is quite a good combination!

Now a few years earlier the ruling in the Official Guide had simply stated that "In County Matches a player is qualified to play for the County in which he was born." Subsequently, however, additions were made to cover cases such as that of Ken Traill, who was born in Northumberland but had played schools and Junior football in Leeds. It was felt, and rightly, that such players should be allowed to play in County football, despite their birthplace.

So at the time in question the rulings were as follows. "A Player shall be eligible to play for the County in which he was born. A Player who is not born in any of the Counties taking part in organised competition shall be eligible to assist the County in which he played schoolboy and junior football. No Player shall be eligible to play for more than one County."

The last sentence was the damaging one so far as Ted was concerned, for the authorities ruled that having played for Lancashire he could not now play for Yorkshire. And, presumably, since he was born in Yorkshire he couldn't play again for Lancashire! Yet surely it would have been better to judge the case on the base of the old original birth qualification, admit that a mistake had been made, and give Slevin permission to play for the County of his birth. After all, two wrongs don't make a right.

But the ruling debarring Ted from County football stood, and probably cost him quite a few County appearances. As it is, he was only the one for Lancashire to his credit, although he was one of the reserves to travel (Ernie Ashcroft was the other) when Lancashire played Yorkshire at Fartown in October, 1950.

However, Ted wasn't to miss many League games during the next few years. He only missed three during his first four seasons at Fartown and is one of the very few players who have gone through a full season for Huddersfield without missing a single match.

From September, 1953, to August, 1955, he played in 77 consecutive first team matches, a feat only bettered by Australian winger Ernie Mills who holds the club record in this respect with 122 successive games. Furthermore, after signing for Huddersfield, Ted played in each of the team's next 98 games at Fartown, his few absences being for away fixtures. From November, 1951, he didn't miss a match at Fartown until April, 1956, when a back injury prevented him from playing against Hull.

His run of 77 appearances was broken in what must, for Ted, have been a most disappointing manner. It was neither injury or illness but a missed train that caused him to end his splendid sequence and be absent from the team for a game at Rochdale.

His try-scoring efforts are few and far between nowadays although those who saw, for instance, his beauty at Rochdale earlier this season will admit they are worth waiting for. Yet though Ted is now the maker rather than the scorer of tries it is interesting to recall that he scored three tries for Wigan in the space of four days.

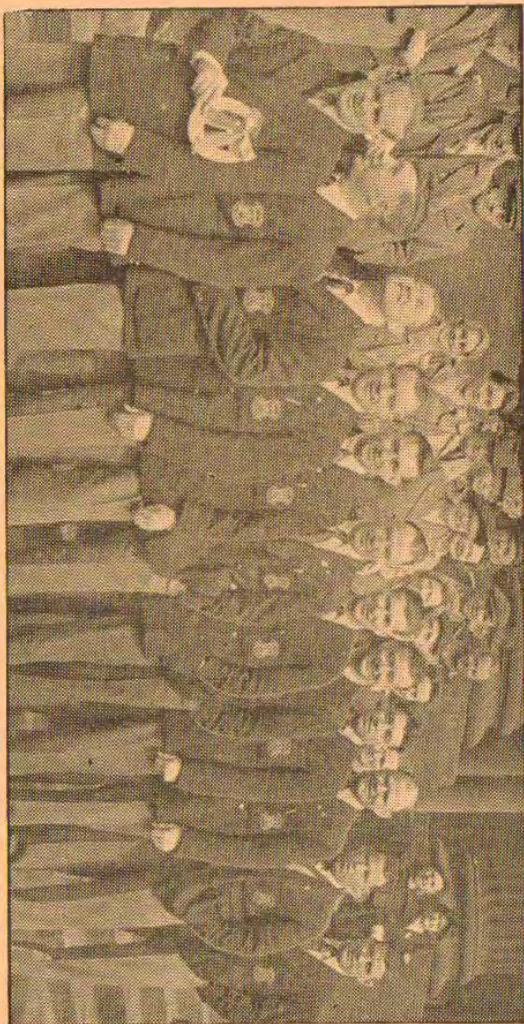
That was one Easter, when he scored on Good Friday, on the Saturday and again on Easter Monday. Those were the days, Ted!

But these are also the days, for Huddersfield are still reaping the benefits of Ted's early training with that great Wigan pack of the Gee and Egan era under the guidance of Jim Sullivan, for whose ability as a coach Ted still has a great respect.

It is a tribute to Ted's fitness and enthusiasm that he has been so regular in his appearances and consistent in his performances during the past fourteen seasons. If one has to pick out his best game for Huddersfield it was surely at Odsal in March, 1953. During that third round cup-tie on the Fartown route to Wembley, Ted towered above everyone else on the field. Curiously enough, they didn't even get his name right in the programme, for Huddersfield's No. 8 was given as "Fleming".

"Autolycus" of the Huddersfield Examiner, in his report of the match, wrote "Slevin can surely never have played a finer game with either Wigan or Huddersfield than he did at Bradford. Cool and resourceful, he was always probing for a hole in the defence. Always he was more than an ordinary handful, and his making of the opening for a try scored by Cracknell had the stylish finish of a crack centre".

That comment typifies the industrious Ted Slevin whose play, throughout the whole of his career, has emphasised the constructive side of Rugby League football. Ted can "keep it tight" with the best of them when the state of the game calls for the ball to be held in a line-clearing effort, but he is undoubtedly at his happiest when he is plaguing the opposing defence with those shrewd short passes or the longer ones which cut out one colleague and perhaps two or three opponents.



A WEMBLEY LINE-UP, 1953

From Left—W. Banks, P. Ramsden, J. Hunter, G. R. Peppercell, J. Large, G. Curran, R. Ryland, J. Cooper, R. Cracknell, J. Brown, E. Slevin, D. Valentine.

Ted has captained Huddersfield on very many occasions and few players are better equipped by nature and temperament for the job. It is, however, probably true to say that his position of front row forward is hardly the best from which to captain a team.

So far Ted has played in more than five-hundred Rugby League matches. Which means he has had nearly seven hundred hours—or a month, night and day—of actual match play! In this time he must have packed down in something like twenty to twenty-five thousand scrums, given many thousands of passes and helped in the scoring of hundreds of tries.

When Ted originally signed for Huddersfield it was thought that he might eventually come to live and work over here. But although he did change his job in 1959, when he left the mines to work in a canning factory, he has continued to live in Wigan. This has meant a great deal of travelling to training sessions and matches.

Ted estimates that, including three trips to France, he has covered close upon 100,000 miles to play and train for Rugby League Football. For more than ten years almost every game has been an away one, usually with considerable distances involved. Huddersfield's entry into the Lancashire League has meant that this season is one of the easiest Ted has had since he left Wigan, so far as travel is concerned. There are fewer trips to be made over the Pennines this time.

Whether or not this has been a factor in Ted's play this time can be a matter for argument. The fact remains that Ted Slevin is playing as well this season as ever he has done. It may be said that he has been playing with a successful team, but it can also be said that his prompting and generalship in the forwards has played no small part in that success.

In 1949, his first year as a senior player, he was rated as one of the "Discoveries of the Season" by a panel of Rugby League Review experts. In 1960 he was nominated by the Huddersfield C. & A. C. Supporters' Club for the "Fairest and most Loyal Player" Competition run by the Yorkshire Federation of Supporters' Clubs.

It was fitting that he should be awarded the trophy for Ted Slevin has, by common consent, been a skilful footballer, a loyal clubman, and a credit to the game of Rugby League football.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee of the Huddersfield C. & A.C. Supporters' Club expresses its thanks to the "Huddersfield Examiner" for the loan of blocks, the Advertisers, Mr. G. Armitage, Mr. G. Bottomley, Mr. P. Crabtree, Mr. W. Cunningham, Mr. F. Hobson, Mr. J. E. Leake, Mr. T. Matthewman, Mr. E. Sellers.

After 14 seasons and 500 matches . . .

what the Press-men have been saying about Ted this season—

It was good to see Ted Slevin back in such characteristic form. He is still a clever tactician in the ruck, and if on Saturday the forwards seemed to have more cohesion one must have felt that Slevin's presence had given the pack some extra unity and sense of purpose.

v. Hull K.R. (away) August—(Huddersfield Examiner)

When at last Huddersfield did establish an attacking position it was left to that shrewd veteran, Slevin, to demonstrate the sort of manoeuvre normally associated with a class three-quarter.

The ball was passed to the left, and Slevin, joining the move, sold the Rochdale cover a superb dummy, so much so that not a hand was laid on him as he galloped straight forward for the line.

v. Rochdale Hornets (away) September—(Huddersfield Examiner)

What a wonder is Slevin! We keep remarking that he is getting on in years, that he is now a veteran, and that it is time we looked round for his successor, but he has played remarkable football during the last few games.

He is not fast, but then he doesn't need to be the way he is playing now, for on Saturday, as last week at Widnes, he showed what can be done within a matter of a few steps—a switch in the direction of the attack, a feint that puts the defence on the wrong foot, or some other use of football intelligence which reveals that behind his phlegmatic appearance is a mind that works swiftly. It is good to see a forward showing that it is possible to force a hole in the ruck by other means than barging.

v. Whitehaven (home) October—(Huddersfield Examiner)

Top of the team for Huddersfield at Fartown was their prop-forward, Ted Slevin. Slevin's slick passing, deadly accurate and delayed until the last second was the springboard for many moves. At least three Huddersfield tries could be traced back to the ex-Wigan star

v. Whitehaven (home) October—(Sunday Pictorial)

Ask Ted Slevin how he still manages to bustle and breeze his way around so brightly after giving and taking all the punishment that goes with 13 years of mixing it with the the biggest and best in the game, and he promptly passes on the compliment to his team mates.

"It's easy with these boys," says teak-tough Ted. "They're always backing up. No one has to be ground down when football is played as it should be".

Slevin probed and found the many weaknesses in Salford's shabby defence and the enthusiastic support of his younger colleagues gave the legs to his ideas.

v. Salford (away) October—(Daily Mail)

Almost all the forwards had their moments of glory. First it was Slevin feeding Bowman with neat short passes to send him careering through narrow gaps in surging bursts that completely shattered the home defence.

It was almost like the old hunter taking out the brave new buck, calming the latter's eagerness until he had worked himself into position and then sending him off with a fatherly pat on the back.

v. Salford (away) October—(Huddersfield Examiner)

As usual, Huddersfield's "lucky mascot" was there doing the prompting . . . the chunky ex-Wigan forward, Ted Slevin, who today completes ten years with the club. Ted was turning the passes back to make the gaps for Alan Redfearn, Devereux and Bowman to gallop through.

v. Oldham (home) October—(Daily Mirror)

The close-formation passing of Ted Slevin, Don Devereux and Ken Bowman paid a lot of dividends.

v. Swinton (away) November—(Sunday Pictorial)

With veteran Ted Slevin a great leader, the Huddersfield pack just gobbled up the brittle Saints

v. St. Helens (away) March—Daily Mirror.



INVEST YOUR SAVINGS

with absolute security

and good rates of interest

HUDDERSFIELD BUILDING SOCIETY

BRITANNIA BUILDINGS, HUDDERSFIELD



HUDDERSFIELD TEAM v. CASTLEFORD at FARTOWN, AUGUST, 1955

Back Row—B. Briggs, J. Hunter, H. Bradshaw, J. Bowden, W. Banks, F. Dyson, J. Large.

Front Row—P. Henderson, E. Slevin, P. Ramsden, D. Valentine (capt.), M. Sullivan, N. Wainwright.

Ted's Playing Records

FOR WIGAN

Season	Tries
1948-49	3 (plus 1 for Lancashire)
1949-50	5
1950-51	10
1951-52	—

FOR HUDDERSFIELD

	Appearances		Tries
	Possible	Actual	
1951-52	26	26	1
1952-53	52	50	2
1953 Blackpool	2	2	0
1953-54	46	45	1
1954-55	41	41	0
1955-56	43	36	0
1956-57	46	42	1
1957-58	44	41	0
1958-59	42	36	1
1959-60	43	35	0
1960-61	43	42	0
1961-62 (to March 9th)	28	24	1
	<hr/> 456	<hr/> 420	<hr/> 7



To a man who has

ALL THE MEDALS

◆ CLUB ◆ COUNTY ◆ COUNTRY
 ◆ CUP ◆ SPORTSMANSHIP ◆ TEAM-WORK
 and ◆ **LOYALTY !!**

Best Wishes to

TED (Lion-Heart) SLEVIN
 from

WINDSORS

(SPORTING INVESTMENTS) LTD.

HEAD OFFICES

LEEDS, 1.

Fartown Player of the Season, 1960-61

Extract from the Rugby Leaguer, May 19th, 1961

Evergreen Ted Slevin—there's a name to dwell on, because I make him my *Fartown Player of the Season*.

Twelve months ago I, and a lot more people, thought that Slevin's day was done. Yet here he is with another practically full season of appearances to his name.

There are those who hold that forwards today must be young, quick and mobile; that the slow turning-pass is out-dated and the long pass is dangerous. Maybe so—but any ill-directed pass is dangerous. And watching Slevin closely you will find that his passes rarely are ill-directed.

When Huddersfield scored a try from a play-the-ball or from loose play, Ted Slevin invariably had a hand in it. From many instances I have room to quote but one.

At Odsal recently Huddersfield had launched several abortive attacks, and another looked like ending with the winger tackled into touch. Then Slevin quietly turned the ball back inside for Bowman to gallop straight through for a try.

Yes, you need the mobile youngsters, but give them a Slevin to prompt them if you want the best out of them. And what a stream of passes he has given to Noble, Bowman, Clark or Redfearn this time.

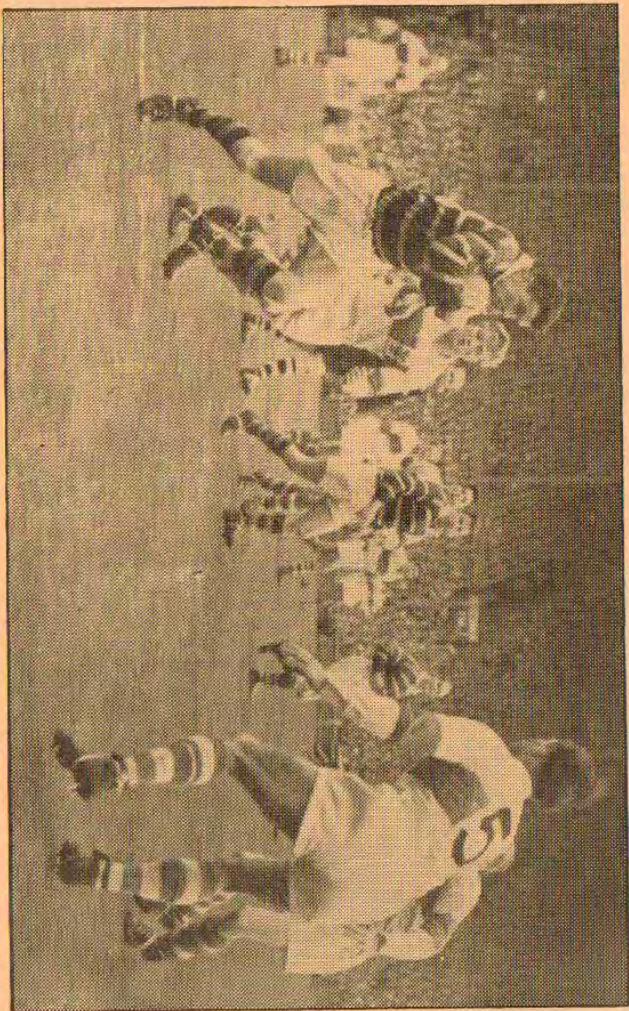
With the exception of an Australian Tour, Slevin has achieved nearly everything possible to a Rugby League player. One thing he hasn't done is to top a try-scoring list.

But if lists were issued of players who "made" the tries I don't think you'd find many names above Ted Slevin's.

Ted's Representative Honours

- Great Britain v France at Lyons, May, 1953.
- Great Britain v France at Odsal, April, 1954.
- England v Wales at Abertillery, October, 1950.
- The Rest v 1950 Tour Team at Wigan, October, 1950.
- 1954 Tour Trial at Swinton, March, 1954.
- Lancashire v Yorkshire at Halifax, April, 1949.
- Reserve to travel, Lancashire v Yorkshire at Huddersfield, October, 1950.

Dave Valentine in action in the 1953 Wembley Final. Ted Stevin and Jack Brown are also in the picture.



Personal Tributes

No-one would be more embarrassed by being described as an ornament than Ted Stevin. None-the-less he has been for ten years or more now an ornament to the Rugby League game. He has played good football in a sportsmanlike way. He has maintained his fitness longer than is given to most who play, and in all that he has done he has the admiration of everyone who has been associated with him.

"Steady Ted" he has been called with a great deal of truth. It has not been given to him to shine like a star wing threequarter, for he has accepted faithfully his role as "footballer's labourer", as forwards were once called, and in that capacity he has done as much hard grafting as the next man. Quite fearless, never shirking hard work, his steady presence has been of great value to those about him.

In a quiet and calm fashion he is also a clever tactician. He is not fast over the ground, but he has shown that he can use his head to do as much in a couple of strides to find a hole in the ruck as some other may do with a long run.

Ted has never been among the leading try scorers, and once when he did score at Fartown he seemed the most surprised and amused man on the field. His job has been to make chances for somebody else, this he does with straight forward hard work. He seldom seems ruffled, he plays with an impassive countenance—how often do we remember that his "face slipped"!

It is impossible to watch a footballer on the field for ten years without reaching some estimate of the man's personal character, and many of us I think, will believe that Ted is just the sort of man we should like to have with us if we were in a tight corner — cool and so dependable.

Though he has played with Huddersfield for ten years he has continued to live and work in the Wigan district and no-one believes that his life away from the eye of the trainer is less than the "steady Ted" of the man on the football field. He does his training and he plays hard and when he has done that he likes to get home. More than once when Huddersfield have been playing away, the players have been speeded up in the dressing room, because the driver of the coach wanted to get away so that Ted can get his train back from Huddersfield into Lancashire.

That in itself is a clue to his character. He's a steady true Ted.

Sidney H. Crowther
("Autolytus" of the Huddersfield Examiner)



THE 1953 WEMBLEY CUP WINNERS

Ted and his team-mates chair Russ Pepperell (captain) and Peter Ramsden (Lance Todd Trophy winner)

I could not let this occasion go by without having a few words about my old friend and past team mate, Ted Slevin. In the three years that I was at Huddersfield, which incidently were the happiest of my footballing career, I found Ted not only a very good brainy footballer but also a very genuine person. He took defeat in a very sporting manner and victory in his stride. Not much to say but one of the best pack leaders that I have ever come across, and I must say he was a great help to me, as Coach at Huddersfield. They don't breed them any better than "Owd Ted". So have a bumper benefit, you certainly deserve it.

Ernie Ashcroft (Manager, Warrington R.L.F.C.)

Huddersfield fans always were partial to an ex-Wiganer—it didn't take Ted Slevin to prove that. But maybe during his ten years at Fartown Ted has proved that Wigan slipped up for once by ever letting him go. Even among the top-class procession of talent which Wigan have paraded in post-war teams it seems difficult to imagine that Ted Slevin could not have found and held a regular place.

It has been Ted's misfortune to have played in a decade during which there has been a glut of five-star props. Otherwise the name "E. Slevin" must have appeared in many more international teams than it has. But lack of honours has never stopped Ted Slevin from giving a whole-hearted, non-stop show every time he stepped on to the field.

During Huddersfield's palmy post-war years Slevin and some of his pack pals were often over-shadowed by the brilliance and glory of Fartown's star-packed back division. But the chunky Wiganer was always there, always doing his whack—and frequently more—in a forward set-up which did its share towards the plaudits mainly showered on the head-line-hitting backs. And when in recent seasons the Huddersfield star waned considerably Ted Slevin was still there, uncomplainingly guiding and leading the inexperienced lads to whom Fartown had to turn.

The other week after a great show Ted told me that he was feeling as fit as ever—and his performance showed that he was still as skilful as ever even if a little slower. And maybe it's more than coincidence that at the moment of writing Huddersfield had lost only one League game this season—the one in which Ted Slevin didn't play! At 34 he seems to have taken a new lease of football life and if his colleagues around him in the pack at Fartown continue to respond to his promptings he could be there for some time to come.

The Slevin type of football is the type that all real Rugby League fans enjoy. No doubt he has lost his temper sometimes but I fail to remember having seen him get needled or nasty with an opponent. We could do with a lot more Ted Slevins in the game and I hope Fartowners are going to show their appreciation of his efforts to entertain and serve them in a bumper fashion. I trust Huddersfield can keep Ted in harness for a while yet. They had better try anyway, because I'm pretty sure Wigan are not going to slip up again and let another Ted Slevin cross the border to Central Park's loss and Fartown's gain.

Jack Bentley (Daily Express)



HUDDERSFIELD TEAM v. LEEDS AT FARTOWN, MARCH, 1956

R. Barrow, J. Fairbank, W. Griffin, B. Briggs, E. Slevin, H. Bradshaw, P. Henderson;
J. Hunter, P. Ramsden, D. Valentine (capt.), W. Banks, T. Smales, F. Dyson.

A NEW LIFE for Tired-looking Clothes

Let us give your Suits, Coats, Dresses, Sports clothes a new life of freshness and usefulness. Individual attention given to every garment, thorough workmanship, careful handling—and, of course, the well-known speedy and courteous service.

HUBERT LOCKWOOD & Co.

DRYCLEANERS

151 ST. JOHN'S ROAD, BIRKBY, HUDDERSFIELD

Also at: 45 Southgate, Elland and 18 Powell Street, Halifax

It is indeed a great pleasure to be able to contribute a few lines for the Ted Slevin Testimonial Book. As one who has always appreciated the honest-to-goodness Rugby League player I am sure that Ted is fully entitled to join the select band who come under the category of loyal club men. It is an achievement in itself to play for 14 years as he has done, but it is doubly so when at the end of that time he is still a very effective member of the side. His effectiveness has played its part in the success of the Huddersfield side this term, his contribution being the art of getting the best out of younger players. This is a job today that is more important than ever it was.

All ex-players like to look back on their own careers and I am no exception. It certainly brings back memories to me as I recall Ted's first game with Wigan's first team. It was in a game at Leeds and Ted was brought into the side in an emergency. It was soon obvious we had nothing to worry about as he fitted into the Wigan second row like a glove. The mystery to me is why he was ever allowed to leave Central Park. The loss to Wigan supporters however was the gain for Huddersfield fans and I am sure that the latter will make this year a memorable one for him.

Joe Egan (Coach, Widnes R.L.F.C.)

"We never should have let Ted go" a Wigan official said to me shortly after Ted Slevin had left Central Park for Fartown. This Wigan man couldn't have imagined then that Slevin, who already had played a number of seasons in the famous cherry and white jersey, still had 10 seasons of first team football ahead of him in the equally famed claret and gold colours.

It is quite a feat to have played fourteen seasons in first class Rugby League; but it becomes the more so when such service has been with only two clubs—and these of the calibre of Wigan and Huddersfield.

To say that Slevin has been a credit to Rugby League is to echo the opinion of countless fans well beyond the confines of Huddersfield and Wigan. Ted's conception of forward work has differed from that of so many contemporaries; his idea has always been to create play for his colleagues.

In an era when many forwards have seemed to think the crash-bang-wallop stuff is the most effective contribution a prop can make Ted Slevin has continued going about his business of slipping out the cute pass. And I venture to suggest that the code's referees have often wished more forwards were out of the Slevin mould, for he has been an eminently "clean" player at whom it has rarely been necessary to wag the admonitory finger.

In every way, then, Ted Slevin has earned his testimonial. He has been a fine clubman, he has brought a creative approach to his play, and he has been of manly bearing.

Arthur Haddock (Yorkshire Evening News)

It gives me great pleasure to be afforded the opportunity of writing a short tribute to Ted Slevin at the completion of ten years' service with the Fartown Club. During the few years I was associated with Ted I formed the opinion that he ranks with the most loyal club players I have met. Proof of this is his continued travelling from Wigan in all weather, not only for matches but for training.

Ted's play has always had a certain stability about it and I have never seen him play a bad game. He is now a great asset to younger players with his experience and leadership in the forwards. I shall always have happy memories of my association with players of Ted Slevin's calibre and the Fartown Supporters' Club. I wish Ted and Fartown every success in the future.

Pat Devery (former Fartown captain)

Consistent, courageous and composed, all those adjectives can be applied to Ted Slevin, the man who by his example on and off the field has helped Huddersfield through their time of crisis. By modern standards he looks too slow to be in top class Rugby, yet there isn't an opponent who doesn't view him with the greatest respect. With one pass he can do more damage than players 10 years younger and twice as fast.

His craftsmanship is a source of constant delight; his disciplined behaviour a model for more unruly players. But above all, he is that rarity a good club man . . . and in these money-conscious days that is perhaps the highest tribute of all.

So good luck with your benefit Ted. Few players have given me greater pleasure or rendered Huddersfield such outstanding service.

Derek Marshall (The Daily Mail).

You can't measure a player's value to a club by statistics. In less than 10 full seasons Lionel Cooper scored 432 tries for Huddersfield. In over 400 first-team appearances Ted Slevin has scored a grand total of . . . seven!

Cooper was a great player, but so is Slevin—possibly the best uncapped No. 8 the game has had. Slevin has been unlucky in that his long career has spanned those of Great Britain's two best-ever No. 8's—first Ken Gee, his erstwhile Wigan team-mate, and then the super-fast Alan Prescott.

If Slevin were five years younger he would now be a fixture in Great Britain's side. The measure of his greatness is to be found not only in his football ability. In all his career has anyone ever seen him stoop to an unworthy action on the field? If ever a player deserved a bumper benefit it is modest Ted Slevin, a credit to himself, to his club, and to the game he plays.

Alfred Drewry (The Yorkshire Post)

It gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to Ted Slevin in his Testimonial Brochure, as I was Chairman of the Football Committee when he signed for Huddersfield ten years ago. The Committee had great hopes, that he would add strength and stability to the forwards in the very successful team of the early 1950's. He certainly played a big part in our successes of that period, including a Cup triumph at Wembley, but in my opinion, his greatest contribution to Fartown has been during the past few depressing Seasons, with the Club's fortunes at a very low ebb.

Ted—almost ever-present—remained loyal to Huddersfield, giving of his best at all times, despite the frequency of "losing pay" He could no doubt have bettered himself financially, by seeking, as others did, a transfer to a more successful Club, but he was faithful to Fartown. It is fitting that in this, his Testimonial year, he should have played such a prominent part in the revival of our fortunes, that finds Huddersfield once again near the top of the League Tables.

Huddersfield supporters, and Rugby League supporters everywhere will always think of Ted with affection and high regard for his sportsmanship and wholehearted play, a worthy wearer of the "Claret and Gold" of Huddersfield, and a credit to the Rugby League.

Wilfred Stoker (Huddersfield C. & A.C.)

"TED SLEVIN"

Allow me to pick up my pen
I've several things to say
About one of the fairest men
In Rugby League today.

To Fartowners he's known as 'Ted'
And plays at number eight,
For many years the pack he's led,
They're thankful of his weight.

A sportsman of the highest class,
Most people will agree,
The art of how to time a pass
He's worked out to a 'tee'.

At acting half-back he will stand,
The tackled player heels,
A short slick pass comes out to hand,
An opening it reveals.

His name is seldom to be found
On Fartown's scoring list,
But when our 'Ted' is not around
He's very sorely missed.

And when it comes to matches 'played'
His name is to the fore,
The Fartown jersey he's arrayed
Four hundred times and more.

His try at Rochdale comes to mind,—
Those present won't forget—
It was one of the rarer kind,
The best he's scored as yet.

A "dummied" pass—the chance was lost,
Or so the "Hornets" thought,
But Slevin made a burst and crossed,
One of the "cheeky" sort!

When his career we record,
Discuss the games he played,
We'll judge not from the tries he scored
But from the ones he made.

As Fartown's fortunes we reflect,
In days that lie ahead,
One name we'll treat with much respect,
And that will be our "Ted".

Brian Donaldson.

TED SLEVIN . . .

Was born on July 15th, 1927, at Rossington (Yorks).
Married Miss Kathleen Moss, of Wigan, on August 5th, 1950.
Has two sons—Bryan (aged 10) and Jeffrey (6).
Made his debut for Wigan at Leeds in January, 1949.
Signed for Huddersfield on October 30th, 1951.
First wore the claret and gold jersey against Featherstone Rovers at Fartown on November 3rd, 1951.
Has captained Huddersfield on many occasions.
Was on the winning side in six of the seven Cup Finals in which he has played.



drink the drink that's

Fruitfullest

drink Ben Shaw's

SUNCHARM



FRESH ORANGE & BITTER LEMON DRINKS

Fruitfullest! Sparkling, bubbling, delicious SUNCHARM — it's the newest thirst thrill! All the goodness of plump, juicy fruit crushed into gay, King Size cans. There's no "bottle bother" with canned SUNCHARM — no empties to take back! Half the weight and easier to store, too! Drink tingling, thirst quenching SUNCHARM to-day!

AVAILABLE FROM ALL CHEMISTS STORES

BENJAMIN SHAW and SONS LTD., WILLOW LANE, HUDDERSFIELD, YORKSHIRE

Press Comments



The match was notable for the brilliant form of Wigan's second row forward, Ted Slevin, who was easily the best forward on view. He handled the greasy ball well, and time after time slammed the opposition with brilliant running. Both his tries were the result of his ability to be in the right place at the appropriate moment.



Slevin attacks like a bull, yet gives a pass with the ease and accuracy of a half-back.



Slevin can take a pass well, run as strongly as any man playing, swerve, turn round and hand the ball back to a better-placed colleague, or finish on death-or-glory lines if he is put on his own. In some ways he seems to be a second Jim Featherstone, but it is much more likely that he will be the first Slevin.



One of the stars of the Lancashire win over Yorkshire was Wigan's young forward Ted Slevin, who now works at the Bleach Works. Slevin was a power in the scrums and loose, and scored a try.



At a time when Wigan's in-and-out form is perplexing their followers it is galling for them to see that three of last season's Wigan "cast-offs"—Curran and the more youthful Slevin and Large—are helping Huddersfield back to their past glories.



An important part in Huddersfield's victory over Hull was played by Slevin, who was here, there and everywhere and looking all the time the leader of the pack. He imparted some of his own enthusiasm to his colleagues and they co-operated to provide the tough Hull pack with some of the liveliest opposition.



As Ted Slevin climbed wearily up the Odsal slope after the game there was a puzzled look on his fresh, farmer's boy face. "Well played Fleming", they were shouting. According to the programme they were right. Huddersfield's No. 8, was Fleming, Bradford Northern might have suspected that he was Fleming and Slevin, for if ever a forward played like two it was Ted Fl . . . — sorry, Slevin, in this grand cup-tie. He was the spearhead of a

forward power which had the powerful Northern six dizzy and distressed in the last twenty minutes.



Motorist Slevin has a sly and unsuspected wit. To an opponent who muttered "sorry" when he kicked Slevin in the stern, Ted replied, "I thought my big end had gone."



The Fartown captaincy is a match-by-match decision, and it was Ted Slevin's turn on Saturday. To my mind a team needs a settled skipper and it stuck out a mile that Slevin is Huddersfield's man. His control of operations was ideal. The responsibility did not affect his play for, if anything, this grand forward played above himself.



Slevin, the pick of the Fartown forwards, had a hand in the move which led to Ramsden's first try, as he had a hand in many things during the afternoon. He was ever on the alert to see and take an opening. He was deadly in his tackling (v. St. Helens at Wembley, 1953).

Seven Slevin "Specials"

HIS TRIES FOR FARTOWN

Ted Slevin, the mainspring of so many Fartown attacks and master of the positional play and passes that lead to tries, has only scored seven times himself in more than four hundred matches since he joined Huddersfield.

Here are the details of his seven tries.

- 1 v Wakefield Trinity at Belle Vue, April, 1952.
- 1 v Halifax at Thrum Hall, December, 1952.
- 1 v Featherstone Rovers at Fartown, February, 1953.
- 1 v Leeds at Fartown, January, 1954.
- 1 v Leeds at Fartown, August, 1956.
- 1 v Hull at the Boulevard, October, 1958.
- 1 v Rochdale Hornets at Rochdale, September, 1961.

GOOD LUCK TED!

from
all your colleagues
at Kitt Green

H. J. Heinz Co. Ltd.,
Kitt Green, Lancashire