

The Heritage Group would like to thank everyone for their help so far in making us the first Rugby League town to have a Heritage Centre of their own. The group would like to give special thanks to Heritage Lottery Fund for making this possible, Halton Borough Council, Widnes Vikings and Trust in Widnes.

For further information please contact the heritage group on 0151 510 2986 or 0151 424 1416 or email wrlheritagegroup@yahoo.co.uk or via the website www.wrlheritagegroup.co.uk

The Heritage Group have also received a 'better neighbourhood's grant' from B&Q



Rugby League Heritage Centre gets the go ahead with £43,200 lottery grant

Widnes Rugby League Heritage Group was given a major boost recently with the announcement that the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has awarded a £43,200 grant to create a Heritage Centre dedicated to the history of Rugby League in the Halton area.

Over the last few years, the group has been busy preparing the plans needed to secure the funding. The HLF grant will be used to transform the East Stand Concourse of Halton stadium into phase 1 of the centre.

For several years, the Heritage Group has slowly been building up a collection much of it donated by members of the public, and holding temporary displays to gauge interest in the project. The Heritage Group's aim is to hold the largest collection of Rugby League memorabilia for a local club ever to be displayed in one building.

The vision is that the centre will transport visitors into a world of memories for the older generations by wandering through the history of Widnes RLFC and Runcorn RLFC, including the impact that rugby had on the towns and people's lives while showing the younger generation the achievements made. There will also be a section of information on all the local amateur clubs.

Items to be displayed include photographs, newspaper cuttings, jerseys, treasured memorabilia along with cups and trophies some taking pride of place in glass cabinets. The Heritage Group hope to include people's memories and stories which will be displayed on a memory wall

On home match days we will be inviting the away team's Supporters Clubs to celebrate their clubs history.

Work will start on the transformation once the Group have received confirmation of the lease from Halton Borough Council, and are hoping to open the Heritage Centre at the beginning of the forthcoming Rugby League Season.

Vikings Director Peter Knowles says

"This is a fantastic achievement for a group of dedicated supporters who have spent many months putting this project together. Widnes and Runcorn have a rich history in Rugby League since the inception of the game and the Vikings are pleased to support the activities of the Heritage Group."

