

VODAFONE



# Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017

# Newsletter #184



**We pay tribute to a great New Zealander**  
**Rest in Peace**  
**Sir Colin Meads**

Colin Meads playing with 3 year old Wayne Cooke taken on 13 March 1972



Colin Meads in action for King Country against East Coast at Otorohanga on 28 September 1972.



Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand dubs Sir Colin Piney Meads in 2009.



Colin Meads during a All Blacks v Wales test in June of 2010

# Rest in Peace, Sir Colin Meads

By Sir Peter Leitch



**I**T WAS with great sadness on Sunday morning that I got a phone call from Sir Colin Meads' family to say that he had passed away.

We all know Sir Colin (Pine Tree) was a famous All Black - number 583 - who made 55 test appearances for the All Blacks, and went on to be captain.

He also played 139 games for King Country, and who knows how many for his beloved local team Waitete.

We all also know what a great man he was, but what a lot of people don't know, is the great charity work he has done over many years.

We had been mates for more years than I care to remember, and I witnessed many charity events he did, some of them even alongside me. He did some TV commercials too, and donated the money to charity.

One example of a charity he supported was IHC, where he was involved for more than 40 years.

There is nothing I can add to everything that is being said, and I don't want to, because I am feeling the great loss of a close and dear friend. Above all the charity, all the sporting greatness, he was my mate, and I am immensely proud of that.

Former All Blacks coach Sir Graham Henry and I will be going down to the funeral service and I am sure I will witness enormous affection and love for a truly great man.

Paul Mulvaney was one of the many who has been in touch this week about Sir Colin Meads, and this is some of what he wrote:

I had the privilege via the disability sector to firstly communicate with, then meet Colin, in Wellington. He was raising funds for IHC, an organisation he gave more than 30 years service to.

We shared dialogue about how badly disability carers and parents were treated. Collectively we asked what was the point in having courts and a Human Rights Commission if the government undermined respect of our fellow human beings?

Last night a ZB radio interview host asked me what stood out for me?

The reply was easy, his integrity and humility.

Sir Colin reinforced what Nelson Mandela said in Ireland in 2003 at the World Special Olympic Games, that regardless of race, creed or colour, we are human beings.

**RIP Colin.**





*By Miles Davis*

# Sir Colin Meads

Sir Colin Meads in 2012 at the Mad Butcher Presents, "Final Word: A Tribute to Sir Graham Henry". [www.photosport.nz](http://www.photosport.nz)

**T**HERE ARE certain individuals who transcend their field of renown and become national icons and Sir Colin Earl Meads was undoubtedly one of those.

Although his fame was built on a phenomenal rugby career it was his humanity and warmth that endeared him to all of New Zealand. The uncompromising beast of a man he was on the rugby field belied the caring, accessible individual he was off it.

Unlike the well-paid and pampered rugby players of today, Sir Colin grew up in an era where one had to make sacrifices, both personal and financial, to be able to represent one's country. You could reasonably expect that he would then squeeze every penny out of commercial opportunities open to him in retirement to compensate for those sacrifices. However whilst he undertook several commercial ventures he also freely gave of his time to help others.

One such event was a fund-raiser that he and I did for the family of a young Auckland rugby player who had collapsed and passed away at the tender age of 26. Sir Colin was meant to be attending the King Country club rugby final involving his beloved Waitete club but instead drove up to Auckland from Te Kuiti to give his support. He was offered accommodation in a top hotel but turned it down saying he would happily spend the night in a rather tired motel because it was just over the road from the clubrooms where the function was being held and would save the event money. He did the event for nothing.

I often wondered why he had not been Knighted earlier than he eventually was. After all Sir Brian Lochore and Sir Wilson Whineray were so honoured well before he was. My personal belief was that whilst Lochore and Whineray had the demeanour of International Statesmen, Meads was always a man of the people. That's not to say that Whineray and Lochore were not grounded individuals, just that they had a statesman-like aura that probably elevated them in the minds of those who handed out the honours.

In other parts of the world an encounter with a sporting superstar such as Meads would be a rarity but in New Zealand such personalities are more accessible and none more so than Pinetree.

He would readily give his time to anyone who wanted to have a chat and I have no doubt that there are thousands of Kiwis who fondly remember their encounters with him.

My favourite memory of the great man was in Mt Maunganui a few years back when we were both attending a charity function run by the Bay of Plenty CIB. On the eve of the function a group of us were to meet at a local watering hole. As I walked toward the pub with a friend (Martin Devlin) Sir Colin was approaching from the other direction. As he put his giant hand on the pub door he looked at us and bellowed out "What are you two clowns doing here?" He then greeted us warmly and entertained us in the pub for the next couple of hours. You have no idea how honoured I felt to have been mocked so warmly by a man who made me feel humbled and privileged every time I was in his presence.

New Zealand has lost not just their greatest ever rugby player they have lost one of their greatest citizens.



# Only a Fortnight to Endure

By David Kemeys

Former Sunday Star-Times Editor, Former Editor-in-Chief Suburban Newspapers, Long Suffering Warriors Fan



**YOU TELL** yourself it can not get any worse, but those of us committed Warriors fans know it can – and does get worse.

We have a roster that is barely capable of getting a side out on the park, and now Jacob Lillyman has joined the casualty list.

It looks like his part in the 36-18 loss to South Sydney will be his final NRL game for us.

I for one am sad about that.

Jacob is a guy who seems to divide the fans, half thinking he never seems to do much, and the other half who think his honest work rate and hard yards are worth every penny he is getting paid.

He has never been the flash Harry type of prop, but he is held in great regard by his team-mates, and certainly in all those games when we have been terrible, and perhaps players have been accused of not putting a shift in, Lillyman was often exempt from criticism.

His no nonsense approach might not set the stands alight, but I would happily take a few more like him.

The man they call Bull left the game on Friday with a suspected torn bicep and if there was one thing we really did not need is was another name to put on the injury list.

He is not contracted next year but certainly wants another season in the NRL, but I suspect we have seen the last of a man you kind of thing has been around for a few years, when it is actually nine seasons.

We already know Kieran Foran is Canterbury-bound, and there is a lot of doubt around his participation against Manly this weekend too. Talk about limping to the finish line.

It can not come soon enough, with assistant coach Andrew McFadden admitting: “We are at the bare bones of our roster at the moment.”

The fans and the staff at the club have all been moaning about a lack of effort, but McFadden blamed the poor second half showing against the Bunnies on a lack of first choice forwards.

“We are very disappointed. I thought we started with plenty of enthusiasm but in the end our forwards lacked a bit of experience and that is where we got found out.”

That was our seventh successive loss, like anyone needs reminding, so it was a little surprising to read at the weekend a clear out of the roster is unlikely.

I’m an armchair expert and can name a few we could survive without.

Stephen Kearney has admitted his available squad isn't up to NRL standards.

“We've just got some individuals that aren't quite ready, that's the reality of where we're at.”

You have to admire his honesty – which, incidentally, I do - given he has never hidden from our difficulties.

The other thing to remember is that it's all very well to bang on about blowing the place up and dumping everyone and starting again, but Erin Clark, Manu Vatuvei, and Tuimoala Lolohea went during the year, Charlie Gubb, Kieran Foran and Ben Matulino announced their departures long ago, and Ryan Hoffman, Toafofoa Siple, Ben Matulino and Jacob Lillyman are all likely to exit.

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There's probably a good few more in the wider squad I can't think of off the top of my head.

Pray for a season when we do not endure the famed Warriors injury curse.

Sure all sides cop injuries, but ours seem to go deeper, be more persistent, and uncover a general lack of depth to fill the holes created.

All in all the lack of depth has to be a concern, and I'm not sure Tohu Harris and Adam Blair are going to sort that.

Back in 2015 when we also had a horror injury list we lost eight games in a row, the team pretty obviously out of its depth.

So as I say, with Manly this weekend, and the Tigers to finish, we can set a new record for consecutive losses at least....things can get worse.

### **Salary Cap Gets Knocked Back**

The saga that is waiting for a salary cap to be agreed drags on endlessly.

Everyone thought a deal had been done last Friday when the NRL informed clubs to budget for \$9.2 million (Aussie dollars) for next season – with another \$200,000 for development, so \$9.4m all up.

The Bulldogs anticipated the cap would be much higher and budgeted accordingly, and kicked up a stink, to be proud of, with the Players' Association happily weighing in.

Any sensible Warriors fan will be hoping the cap is low, because other clubs that have banked on it being high – by which I mean the Dogs – will have to dump players to get inside the cap.

The clubs with room under the cap might swoop for some good talent.

That's the theory anyway, although it works a lot better for other Aussie clubs, particularly Sydney ones, because we have always struggled to get players to cross the ditch, and have generally had to pay over the odds.

Apparently the Players' Association could still require days of meetings with the NRL to finalise the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and hundreds of players were expected to meet this week to hear all the details.

It's a never-ending feud between the league and its players.

The \$9.4 million salary cap is only one issue, with the players also concerned about stuff like injury compensation and retirement benefits.

### **Sale Fail**

I can't find that many among my, admittedly ever diminishing circle of friends who call themselves fans, who actually care who owns the Warriors.

News at the weekend that it would be months before the Warriors got a new owner came as little surprise.

But then again, didn't Auckland businessman Paul Davys bluster about giving current owner Eric Watson a deadline to agree a sale?

Apparently we are at the due diligence stage.

One thing we do know is that it won't be the fans buying the club, with former skipper Monty Betham dropping his idea of a crowd-funding buyout.

Monty floated the idea of us fans buying a stake in the club, and I'd have to say I have heard worse ideas, but big cheese Jim Doyle told poor Monty it would never fly with negotiations ongoing.

"I talk to Warriors fans every day, so I thought I would give them a chance to truly back their team. I was astounded by how much passion was shown and how many people got behind it, people from all over the world wanting to put their \$100 in."

Think back to when Watson came on board. Hard to remember isn't it?

Now recall Sir Owen Glenn joining up and his walk around Eden Prk at the NRL Nines, waving and grinning.

Made a big difference didn't it?

He did, if you remember, make a big song and dance about how he was going to give his shares in the club to the fans.

He sold them back to Watson.

Piss and wind.

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Potential saviour Davys has already made it clear there will be no place on the board for a fans' representative if he does get his hands on the club, but – what a surprise – he understands the frustration we all feel.

“That’s why I want to buy it, I’m a fan.”

I will confess to pissing myself with laughter when I read David Long’s excellent story with Davys, in which he said some fans saw Davys as a knight in shining armour, but that Davys did not see himself that way.

“Until I do something with the club and prove myself I think the jury is still out on me. I don’t want to be seen as some sort of messiah.”

Don’t worry mate, there’s zero chance of that.

### Hoff To The Storm

Just like Jacob Lillyman, Ryan Hoffman has his detractors, and that’s understandable given he has been with us at a time when we have failed to set the world alight.

So I do hope he gets another year in the NRL, and at his old club the Storm.

I can’t find it within myself to criticise a bloke who as told at the start of the year there was no chance of a contract beyond that.

The 33-year-old played 245 games for Melbourne between 2003 and 2014, and won three grand finals there.

He has played in England before, doing a season in 2011, and there is no guarantee he’ll go back to Melbourne, with the player himself revealing he has had other offers.

“It would be great to finish my career there,” he said. “I’ve got some good options that I’m working through. I’m definitely going to be playing next year, it’s just a matter of where.”

### Help For Kidwell

Kiwis World Cup coach David Kidwell has gone with experienced coach Brian Smith as technical advisor, and Penrith Panthers NSW Cup coach Garth Brennan as assistant.

Brennan had a strong 2017, taking one of the youngest teams in the comp to third on the table after 24

rounds, while Smith has 675 first grade games under his belt, and is one of only three people to have coached more than 600 NRL games.

“Garth and Brian have the skills and depth of experience to be a good fit for us. They also share my approach to standards and values – and they are really fizzing to be part of our setup,” Kidwell said.

And in addition to current selectors, Kidwell (24 tests), Tawera Nikau (19), and Tony Iro (25), the Kiwis have added Hugh McGahan (32).

We kick off at Mt Smart on October 28 against Samoa before heading to Christchurch to face Scotland on November 4), and Hamilton to play Tonga on November 11.

There are quarter-finals in Wellington and Christchurch on November 18, a semi at Mt Smart on November 25 and the final in Brisbane on December 2.

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# Johnson back for last home game

*by Richard Becht*

**VODAFONE WARRIORS v MANLY SEA EAGLES**  
**Mount Smart Stadium, Auckland**  
**4.00pm, Sunday, August 27**

**H**ALFBACK SHAUN Johnson will return from his knee injury in the Vodafone Warriors' last home game of the season against Manly at Mount Smart Stadium on Sunday (4.00pm kick-off).

The 26-year-old has been sidelined with a posterior cruciate ligament complaint since the club's 19th-round encounter with Penrith at home on July 14.

The Vodafone Warriors were leading 22-18 when Johnson was helped off the field after 62 minutes. They went on to lose the match 22-34 and have been beaten in their five matches since by North Queensland, Cronulla, Newcastle, Canberra and South Sydney.

Partnering Johnson in the halves again is Kieran Foran, who left the field in last Friday's loss to South Sydney but has been named to face his former club in his last home game for the Vodafone Warriors.

With Issac Luke named at hooker following Nathaniel Roache's season-ending injury the starting halves-hooker combination boasts 543 NRL appearances.

In their last home game against Canberra, the Vodafone Warriors, missing both Foran and Johnson, started with Ata Hingano, Mason Lino and Roache, who had

never played together at NRL level before and had only 12 starts among their combined tally of 36 first-grade appearances. Hingano and Lino are both included on the extended bench this week.

As well as welcoming Johnson, head coach Stephen Kearney has Ben Matulino back on deck after he served a one-match suspension last week. However, his return is offset by veteran Jacob Lillyman's season-ending bicep injury, which he picked up 36 minutes into his 250th milestone match against the Rabbitohs (after he'd made 108 metres from 11 carries).

As well as the Foran, Matulino, second rower Ryan Hoffman and interchange prop Charlie Gubb are set for their farewell appearances in front of the home crowd at Mount Smart Stadium on Sunday.

Matulino had hit his best form of the season before the South Sydney contest. In his previous four matches he had made 134 metres against North Queensland, 143 against Cronulla, 199 against Newcastle and 153 against Canberra.

Wing David Fusitu'a, the side's top try scorer with 10 – one ahead of Roger Tuivasa-Sheck – makes his 23rd appearance of the season on Sunday, the only player who hasn't missed a game this year.

After making it five wins on end when they beat the Vodafone Warriors 26-22 in Perth on July 1, the Sea Eagles have lost five of their last seven matches, mixing home wins over Wests Tigers and the Sydney Roosters with losses to Penrith, St George Illawarra, Melbourne, Wests Tigers and Canterbury-Bankstown.

They have a 22-8 winning edge in 30 encounters against the Vodafone Warriors since 1995, making them the Mount Smart club's second toughest opponents behind only the Dragons. In Auckland, their record is the best of all opponents with only three losses in 14 meetings while they have won 12 of the last 13 matches at all venues.

The Vodafone Warriors last beat the Sea Eagles 18-16 in Auckland in 2013.

## Vodafone Warriors

- 1 Roger Tuivasa-Sheck
- 2 David Fusitu'a
- 3 Blake Ayshford
- 4 Solomon Kata
- 5 Ken Maumalo
- 6 Kieran Foran
- 7 Shaun Johnson
- 8 Ben Matulino
- 9 Issac Luke
- 10 Sam Lisone
- 11 Bunty Afoa
- 12 Ryan Hoffman
- 13 Simon Mannering

- Interchange:
- 14 Mafoa'aeata Hingano
- 15 Charlie Gubb
- 16 Isaiah Papali'i
- 17 Jazz Tevaga
- 18 Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad
- 20 Chris Satae
- 21 James Bell
- 22 Mason Lino





By Barry Ross



Matt Johns Interviewing Brett Kimmorley

# Tribute

**I WAS AMONG** more than 700 people at Sydney's Star City last Tuesday night (15 August), at the Tribute Dinner to Sharnie Kimmorley. Sharnie was the wife of former Australian halfback, Brett Kimmorley and she passed away earlier this year at 38 years of age, after a courageous battle against brain cancer. With four daughters, Brett has a tough road ahead of him, but he will handle it. The organisers of the event deserve congratulations and it was a huge success, as the Rugby League community showed its support for the Kimmorley family. There was plenty of sadness and emotion throughout the night, as well as friendship, pride and humility.

NRL Commission Chairman, John Grant, was kind enough to invite me to sit on his table and like everyone at the dinner, I was humbled by the poise and strength displayed by Brett and his family and friends. I sat next to Megan Davis, who along with former Queensland Premier, Peter Beattie, is one of the two new Independent NRL Commissioners. Queensland-born Megan, who grew up in the North Burnett area around 400 kilometres north of Brisbane and follows the Cowboys, has an impressive CV and a strong Rugby League background with her father, brothers, nephews and grandfather all playing the game. A Professor of Law and an Acting Commissioner of the NSW Land and Environment Court, Megan is also a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law and a member of the NSW Sentencing Council. As well as this, she was elected at New York in April 2015, as the chair of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.



From left, mc for the night, Jim Wilson from channel 7 Sydney, Brett Kimmorley and Todd Greenberg NRL CEO.

This Sunday afternoon in Sydney, at Allianz Stadium, next door to the Sydney Cricket Ground, an American College Gridiron game will be played. The Stanford University Cardinals will take on Rice University in the opening match of the NCAA College football season. Stanford is located about 65 kilometres south of San Francisco and has a rich history over the years from 1892, of star NRL players and Super Bowl winners. Among these big names are John Elway, Jim Plunkett, Gene Washington and James Lofton. Rice University began in 1914 and while they haven't as many star alumni as Stanford, they do some well known NFL men, including Don Maynard and OJ Brigance who won a Super Bowl ring with the Baltimore Ravens in Super Bowl XXXV. Last year, Stanford won 10 of their 13 games, including a 41-17 victory over Rice, while Rice could only manage three wins from 12 games.

Plenty has already been said about the Wallabies last Saturday and all I can say is the All Blacks are just too good for them. The Wallabies missed 48 tackles and the crowd of 54,846 was the smallest crowd for a Wallabies-All Blacks Test at ANZ Stadium, which is the 2000 Olympic Games venue.

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If the Lions, which comprises players from four countries, cannot beat the All Blacks, what hope have the Wallabies, who represent a country where rugby is the fourth sport behind, Rugby League, Aussie Rules and soccer. The Wallabies travel to Dunedin this Saturday and while the same result is expected, I would not write them off when they play their remaining Tests this year against the South Africans, Argentina, Japan, England, Wales and Scotland. On a positive note for Australian sports fan, we defeated New Zealand 106-79 in a semi final of the Asian Cup Basketball in Beirut on Saturday and then won the tournament the next day with a 79-56 win in the final against Iran.

Congratulations to the Melbourne Storm on repeating last season's success and winning this year's minor premiership. They are playing well in the run-in to the playoffs and are looking good for the 2017 Premiership. Following the Panthers good 26-22 win over the Raiders on Sunday, St. George/Illawarra is the only team that can upset the current top eight teams and sneak into the playoffs. The Dragons are two competition points behind Manly and the Cowboys and all three of these teams still have danger matches to play. To finish in the eight, the Dragons have to beat Penrith (away) and the Bulldogs (home), while hoping the Cowboys and/or Manly lose one of both of their remaining two games. The Cowboys meet the Tigers (away) and the Broncos (home), while Manly play the Warriors (away) and the Panthers (home). One big positive for the Dragons is their much better for and against, compared to the Cowboys and Manly. The Dragons is +87, while the Cowboys is +26 and Manly +23. There is a mathematical possibility that the 10th placed Raiders could win a place in the playoffs, but as they are four competition points behind eighth place at the moment, this is unlikely.

The Toronto Wolfpack thrashed the Newcastle Thunder 50-0 at Lamport Stadium in Toronto on Saturday. Before a home crowd of 7,522, Wolfpack winger Liam Kay scored three of his team's nine tries. This match was the fourth of seven Super 8 games and the Wolfpack's remaining three are all in Toronto. They should win promotion to the next division in the 2018 English season and this will be confirmed after the Super 8s are completed. Rumours are strong that the Canberra Raiders big forward, Dave Taylor, 29, will take up a million dollar, three year deal and join the Wolfpack, along with St. George/Illawarra half, Josh McCrone, for next season.

**Go the Vodafone Warriors! Final home game this Sunday. Good luck!**

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The advertisement features a group of five people (three men and two women) dressed in blue, some wearing blue wigs or headbands, standing against a blue background. The text is in blue and white, with the website URL at the bottom.

# 20 Years Ago: Tests The Aussies Don't Count

By John Coffey QSM

Author of ten rugby league books, Christchurch Press sports writer (44 years), NZ correspondent for Rugby League Week (Australia) and Open Rugby (England)



**W**HEN AUSTRALIA beat New Zealand in this year's Anzac Test we were told by their media it was the Kangaroos' one hundredth win over the Kiwis (as opposed to 32 losses and three draws). By our count it was actually our 101st defeat (against 33 wins and three draws). The Australian authorities have never included the two Super League Tests played in 1997, when Australia won what was the inaugural Anzac Test in Sydney and New Zealand triumphed at North Harbour a few months later. Their statisticians usually list them with an asterisk. While the ARL did not recognise them as Tests, the NZRL gave them full international status.

The split between the ARL and Super League organisations was never greater than during that season, when the warring groups ran separate club competitions. Super League enjoyed an international advantage, with Australia meeting New Zealand twice before playing a three-match series in Britain. It also held a World Club Championship involving every team in the Australian and British Super League competitions, a World Nines tournament (won by New Zealand), a tri-series between Queensland, NSW and New Zealand, and trans-Tasman Tests between the women and juniors. The ARL, in comparison, was isolated, and angry.

In mid-season Kiwis coach Frank Endacott had also become coach of the Auckland Warriors when John Monie was sacked. Endacott's promotion from reserve grade coach occurred between the two contrasting Super League Tests. Australia dominated the Anzac match at the Football Stadium more than the 34-22 score-line suggested, having scored 20 unanswered points in the first half. In September Endacott and his Kiwis stunned their rivals with a 30-12 thrashing at North Harbour Stadium. They had waited four years to play the Aussies on home soil and did not waste the opportunity.

Captained by Laurie Daley, the Australians fielded a stronger line-up at North Harbour with Darren Lockyer, Steve Renouf, Bradley Clyde and Shane Webcke recovered from the injuries which kept them out of the Anzac Test. Matthew Ridge was fit again to captain the Kiwis but Ruben Wiki (broken arm), Tea Ropati (knee) and Tawera Nikau were not available. Richie Blackmore returned, Kevin Iro came out of retirement and John Lomax was recalled. The team was: Matthew Ridge, Sean Hoppe, Richie Blackmore, Kevin Iro, Richard Barnett, Gene Ngamu, Stacey Jones, John Lomax, Syd Eru, Quentin Pongia, Tony Iro, Stephen Kearney, Logan Swann and (interchange) John Timu, Joe Vagana, Robbie Paul, Tyran Smith.

Jones (two), Eru (two), Ridge and Tony Iro scored New Zealand's tries and Ridge kicked three goals in the 30-12 hammering of an Australian side which had little more to show than two Lockyer tries and two Ryan Girdler goals. Australia trailed 10-6 at halftime but there was only one side in it during the second spell. Swann came up with the best line in the jubilant Kiwis dressing room when he quipped, "I don't know what all the fuss is about, I've never lost a Test." The young loose forward had made his debut off the bench during the 3-0 whitewash of Great Britain in 1996, and was in the starting line-up for the first time.

Powerful centres Blackmore and Kevin Iro were dominant figures, Blackmore being especially intimidating with his forceful front-on defence. Kearney enjoyed one of his finest matches, leading the forwards by example and laying on two tries for the eager Jones. Eru proved just how slippery he could be out of dummy half for his two tries. Tony Iro was an outstanding all-rounder and a deserved try-scorer. Uncompromising props Pongia and Vagana provided the required muscle from the front-row. Ridge was invariably safe under the high ball and was eager to join the line to take his share of the hit-ups.

For vice-captain Kearney it was his first win in six attempts against the green-and-golds. "This is pretty special, the big moment in my career," he said. "We've had chances in the past but we've not been able to keep our foot on the pedal. The game has taken a hiding in the last couple of years so the greatest thing about this win is the boost it will give the game in New Zealand." Asked about Blackmore's defence, Kearney said it was "Awesome. They didn't want to come down his side of the field after a while. He was cutting them in half." Gracious Aussie skipper Daley admitted, "They were too good for us. Every set of six felt like two sets."

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The beaten Australian team at North Harbour comprised Darren Lockyer, Ken Nagas, Ryan Girdler, Steve Renouf, Wendell Sailor, Laurie Daley (captain), Paul Green, Jason Stevens, Craig Gower, Brad Thorn, Matt Adamson, Bradley Clyde, Darren Smith, and (interchange) Brett Mullins, Craig Greenhill, Shane Webcke, Luke Priddis. The coach was John Lang. England's Russell Smith was the referee. The Super League Kangaroos went on to beat Great Britain two Tests to one in England. In 1998 an uneasy peace was restored, the NRL was formed, there was a united club competition and international rugby league returned to normality.



**NORTHERN SWORDS  
WAIKATO DEVELOPMENT**

**SUNDAY 27 AUGUST / TRIGG ARENA, WHANGAREI / KICK-OFF 2PM**

**CURTAIN RAISER - GRAND FINAL**  
HIKURANGI VS. PORTLAND [17 YEAR OLDS]  
KICK-OFF AT 12:30PM

**RUN**  
RUGBY LEAGUE NORTHLAND  
PREMIERSHIP

**Gates open: 11.30am**

**NYC kick-off: 11.45am - Vodafone Junior Warriors v Sea Eagles**

**ISP kick-off: 1.45pm - Vodafone Warriors v Wests Tigers**

**NRL kick-off: 4.00pm - Vodafone Warriors v Sea Eagles**

**THIS  
SUNDAY**

## Coming to the Game at Mt Smart this Sunday?



### Want a free tour of Mt Smart?



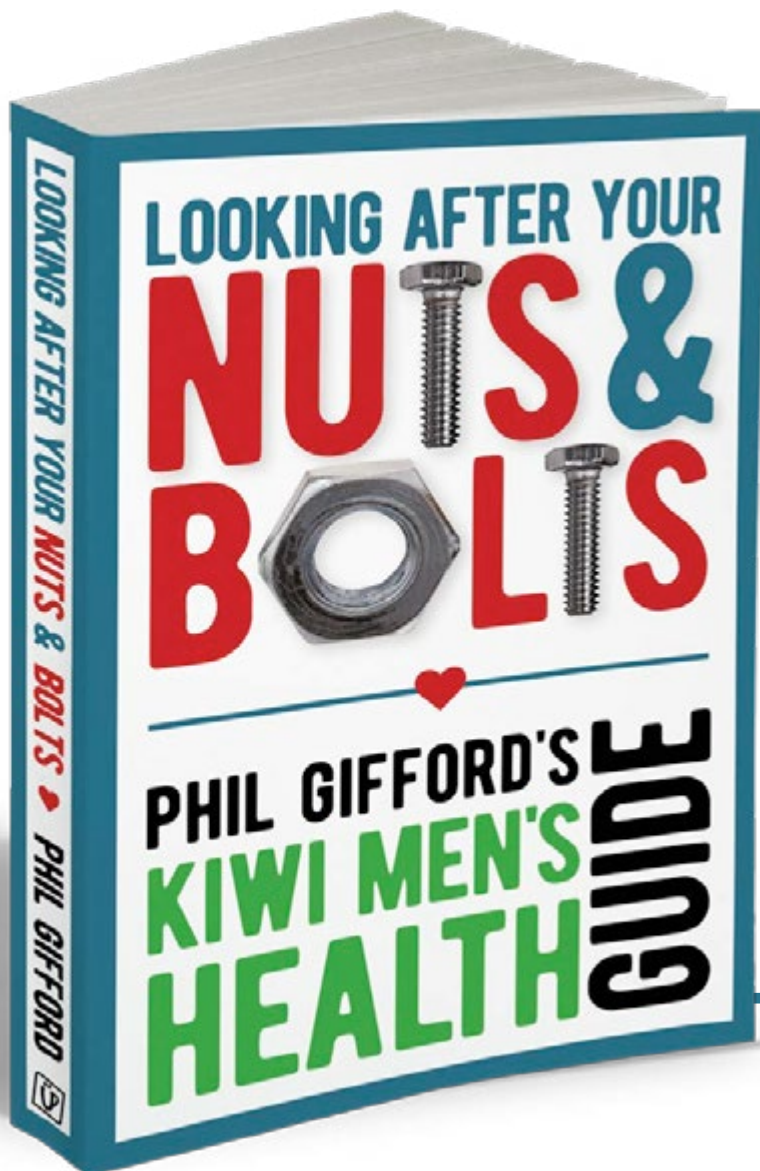
Join Dexter on a free tour of Mt Smart, stopping at all the places not usually seen by the public.

Meet in the back of the West Stand by the elevator at 2pm sharp!



This happy group did the tour of MT Smart with Dexter at the Panthers game. Remember anyone is welcome to join Dexter's tour!

**FATHER'S DAY IS COMING UP FAST,**  
ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, AND IF YOU LOVE YOUR DAD,  
WHAT BETTER GIFT COULD YOU GIVE HIM THAN MAKING  
SURE HE STAYS HEALTHY FOR MANY, MANY MORE?



My mate Phil Gifford has spent two years writing a great book *Looking After Your Nuts And Bolts* which would make a perfect gift for your Dad. Us Kiwi blokes aren't always great at looking after our health, but here's one easy-to-read way to get Dad on board with how he can stay well, and live longer and better.

Your Mate  
The Mad Butcher  
It's a bloody good book!



**IF YOU LOVE YOUR DAD**  
**BUY HIM THIS BOOK FOR FATHER'S DAY!**

**FIND IT IN ALL GOOD BOOKSTORES!**



By Miles Davis

# Tony Kemp

Kiwis prop Tony Kemp in action during the 2nd international rugby league test between New Zealand and Great Britain at Ericsson Stadium, Auckland, 1992 [www.photosport.nz](http://www.photosport.nz)

**A**NTHONY EDWARD Ellis Kemp was born in Whangarei but grew up in the Northern Taranaki town of Waitara.

Essentially a centre but also adept at stand-off he cut his teeth in the game in Waitara but his first step to a globe-trotting career was arguably made with Wellington club Randwick Kingfishers. It was while with the Kingfishers that he made the Junior Kiwis in 1987.

He spent a season in the UK with Doncaster in 1986/7 scoring an impressive 26 tries in his 30 games (He was also to play for the Dons again in 1990/91 and scored a club record 32 points in a game against Nottingham).. This form got him an opportunity in the NRL and in 1988 he was signed by the Newcastle Knights.

In a tough season for the Knights he made 18 appearances scoring 5 tries and a field goal. He also appeared in a game against the touring Great Britain side, scoring a try in a 28-12 loss. Over 5 seasons he was to make 87 appearances for the Knights scoring 20 tries.

In 1994 he moved back to the UK signing for Yorkshire club Castleford Tigers. In his first season the Tigers won the League Cup (Regal Trophy) with a dominant 33-2 win over Wigan (he contributed a drop goal to the scoreline) Later in the season the Tigers made it to the semi-final of the Challenge Cup where Wigan gained revenge as Kemp scored his team's only try in a 20-6 loss.

After 63 games and 27 tries for Castleford he headed back down-under in 1995 and played 8 games for the South Queensland Crushers in the ARL competition at the time of the Super League wars.

1996 saw him return once again to England, this time joining Leeds Rhinos. After 47 games and 10 tries in 1999 he moved to his 3rd Yorkshire club, Wakefield Trinity. He was made captain of the club and played 22 games that season before hanging up his playing boots and taking over as coach of the side in 2000. Despite helping save the club from relegation a financial crisis meant that all players over 24 had their contracts terminated so Kemp resigned in protest. Kemp said at the time "After a lot of thought and discussion with my family and advisors, I wish to tender my resignation from Wakefield Trinity Wildcats, effective at the end of the 2000 campaign. This has not been an easy decision to arrive at. However, given the current unstable situation at the club and its inability to give any assurances and direction with regard to my future, I believe, in fairness to my family, that I need to move on. I'd like to thank the management and playing personnel for the opportunities and camaraderie they have given to me over the last two years. After a long, successful football career, I will miss many aspects of the game but it is my intention to continue my involvement at some level in a coaching capacity in the future."

Yorkshire's loss was New Zealand's gain as Kemp returned to his homeland and became an assistant coach to Daniel Anderson at the Vodafone Warriors. When Anderson was sacked mid-way through the 2004 season, Kemp was appointed as his replacement.

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He coached them for a season and a half before he suffered the same fate as his predecessor.

Tony also played 25 tests for the Kiwis over a 6 year period including the 1995 Rugby League World Cup.

After retirement he has held various administrative positions in rugby league, including Team Manager for the Kiwis, and has been heavily involved in media both for league and other sports.

He was named in both Taranaki and Wellington's Team of the Century.

I will remember him for two things – scoring a try against my beloved Great Britain in Palmerston North during a 15-14 win for the Kiwis (Bill Harrigan was man of the match for the Kiwis) and being on the losing opposition team in a Game of Two Halves.

Kiwis v Great Britain 1992 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2jxDbYUcWs>

Tony Kemp as Kiwi Team Manager after their 16-12 Four Nations victory over Australia in 2010  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PoTbObQ3oXs>

Tony Kemp drops a goal in the 1994 League Cup Final for Castleford v Wigan  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDZ2YKXHBLc>

Tony Kemp scores v Wigan in Regal Trophy semi-final 1995  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESv3kI1G0Kg>

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**Good Luck to the Black Ferns  
playing in the Women's Rugby  
World Cup final at 6.45 NZ time on  
Sunday.**



For the members in the Stacey Jones lounge we have a special treat this weekend, a top comedian entertaining us before the game!

His Bio:

Paul Douglas has quickly become one of the most regular performers on New Zealand's Stand-up circuit. Performing here and abroad supporting some of the industry's biggest names, including Warriors favorites Dai Henwood and Ben Hurley. He has gained a reputation as a force to be reckoned with on any stand-up stage.

Winner of Breakthrough Comedian 2014, 2015 (He broke through twice! who even does that!) - New Zealand Comedy Guild Awards

"Great storyteller, great stories, ripping comedy" - The Classic Comedy Club

**Paul Douglas in the  
Lounge this Weekend**





# Mt Albert Lions is turning 90

*90th Celebration*

1927 - 2017

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*A weekends Celebration 25th,26th,27th August.  
A fantastic reason to get together and  
Celebrate the Clubs Successes over the Last 90 Years.*

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## *26th August - Dinner*

Alexandra Park : 3 Course Dinner, Cash Bar,  
Formal Dress, 6pm – 12.00am

## *25th August - Golf*

Chamberlain Park 18 holes, Shot Gun Start 12pm, BBQ & Beers  
Back to Mt Albert Clubrooms

---

*Dinner only \$ 55.00*

*Dinner and Golf \$ 110.00*

**Tickets can be purchased on [facebook.com/MARL.Lions/](https://www.facebook.com/MARL.Lions/)  
or direct debit BNZ 02-0192-0027012-06**

**Particulars: 90th Code: Your full name**

**Register via email & pay online or register at the Bar & pay Cash or Eftpos.**



By Shane Hurdell  
Hawke's Bay Today  
Sports Reporter

## Omahu Bounce Back In Style

**MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR:** Ioane Ioane scored 28 points for Omahu Huia at the weekend. PHOTO/HAWKE'S BAY TODAY

**T**ALK ABOUT a dramatic turn around and give the “Big Improvers” tag in Hawke’s Bay’s premier rugby league competition to Omahu Huia.

A week after being walloped 58-14 by defending champions Bridge Pa, Omahu Huia, pipped Dannevirke Tigers 52-48 at the Hawke’s Bay Regional Sports Park in Hastings on Saturday after trailing 30-10 at half-time. Omahu co-coaches Henry Heke and Aki Renata realised after the Bridge Pa defeat their side had to be strengthened and among their newcomers last weekend was former Cook Islands and Hastings Rugby and Sports union player Ioane Ioane who was the player-of-the-match.

The fullback scored 28 points with three tries and eight conversions from 10 attempts at goal. Heke pointed out there was an extra incentive for the Fernhill-based club to deliver at the weekend.

“We dedicated the match to Nan [Omahu club stalwart Nan Nuku] who passed away on Friday. We’ve had some big losses in recent months with Maurice [former New Zealand Maori rep Cook] and another stalwart Tom Tuhi also passing and we reminded the boys how much people like them have done for the club in the past.”

“At the same time I must thank god that rugby league is a game of two halves. At halftime I told the boys not to panic, be patient and respect the ball when we are on attack. I also emphasised the need to tie up the ball and stop their second phase play when we were on defence,” former New Zealand Universities rep Heke said.

Props Richard Gillies and 18-year-old Henry Tapiata and centre David Noho joined Ioane as the pick of the Omahu players. Ioane’s brothers, Kvana and Tahi, captain John-Harley Wong, Clark Lipani, Debdon Keil and Petera Kahui-Ariki also scored tries for Omahu.

Other premier games saw Bridge Pa beat Kahuranaki 40-24 and Tamatea pip Napier Panthers 38-36. Bridge Pa and Tamatea are the only teams on two wins after two rounds, Omahu and Dannevirke have a win and a loss while Panthers and Kahuranaki have recorded two losses.

Bridge Pa and Tamatea remain unbeaten in the women’s competition after respective 38-26 and 44-18 wins over Hastings Rugby and Sports and Omahu Huia.

The Waka Leonard-coached Maraenui team enhanced their favourite’s tag in the reserve grade with an 80-4 thrashing of Omahu Huia. Other games in the grade saw Bridge Pa beat Clive 42-40 and Flaxmere beat MAC 50-22.

The Hawke’s Bay Magpies rugby team produced a similar effort to the Omahu Huia premiers at the weekend recovering from a 13-3 halftime deficit to beat the Southland Stags 24-16 in their first round Mitre 10 Cup Championship clash at Napier’s McLean Park.



# Fourth Draw of the Year for Warriors ISP Side

By Tony Dosen

**A** **DRAMATIC LAST-GASP** try and touchline conversion after the full-time siren from centre Junior Pauga earned the Vodafone Warriors a 26-26 draw with the Wyong Roos in a cracking Intrust Super Premiership top-of-the-table showdown at Morry Breen Oval today.

In a high-quality contest that see-sawed all day, the one point secured by the Roos was enough to clinch the minor premiership as some consolation for being run down at the death, while the draw almost secures the Vodafone Warriors a top-two finish ahead of the finals campaign.

Astonishingly it was their fourth draw this season, taking them to 34 points ahead of their final regular season clash against the bottom-placed Wests Tigers at Mount Smart Stadium next Sunday (August 27).

Today's match certainly lived up to the billing of a clash between the top two sides on the ladder although the Vodafone Warriors got off to a dreadful start when hooker Manaia Cherrington was concussed attempting to tackle Wyong prop Lindsay Collins in the opening set of the match.

Cherrington was helped off the field and took no further part in the match. Vodafone Warriors skipper James Bell took over as the predominant dummy half for the majority of the match with his side down to 16 players almost before the match had started (the Vodafone Warriors also had three players backing up from last night's NRL clash against South Sydney - Charlie Gubb, Ata Hingano and Chris Satae).

After Cherrington's premature departure, both sides then settled into the early arm wrestle with chances at a premium.

After using the stiff southerly breeze at their backs to force field position, Wyong converted it into points in the 19th minute when a Joseph Manu grubber from the right edge evaded the last line of Vodafone Warriors cover, allowing Roos five-eighth Jayden Nikorima to pounce on the ball for the opening try. Mitch Cornish converted for a 6-0 Wyong lead.

The Vodafone Warriors then came back hard superbly into the breeze in the back end of the first half with Cook Islands international fullback Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad making a 50-metre break from broken play 15 minutes from halftime to get field position back for the visitors.

After the Vodafone Warriors earned a repeat set from a penalty on the back of the long break, Nicoll-Klokstad finished the movement off when he stepped through static Wyong goal-line defence in the 28th minute. Pauga hooked the conversion into the southerly breeze and Wyong led 6-4.

The Vodafone Warriors then took full advantage of a Johnny Tuivasa-Sheck error inside Wyong's 20 metre zone five minutes later. From the ensuing scrum set Bell burrowed over from dummy half near the posts to give the Warriors the lead. Pauga converted to put the visitors up 10-6.

They then scored the best try of the match on the stroke of half-time.

Standoff Sam Cook linked up with second rower Isaiah Papali'i on the right edge before he got a lovely pass away to halfback Zac Santo to burst into the clear and outpace the cover defence to score.

Pauga landed a super conversion into the teeth of the southerly breeze after the halftime siren to give the Vodafone Warriors a well-earned 16-6 lead at the break.

Wyong, fired up by a blast from coach Rip Taylor, launched a second half comeback.

From their first attacking set inside the Vodafone Warriors' 20-metre zone, the Roos struck with a clever short ball from Cornsiah sending second rower Brock Gray over wide out. Cornish missed the conversion into the breeze, and the Vodafone Warriors' lead was down to 16-10.

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Wyang then secured more good field position on the back of a penalty for a tackle on Roos loose forward Nat Butcher which saw referee Adam Cassidy place Vodafone Warriors forwards Papali'i and King Vuniyayawa on report.

From the penalty set, Cornish turned an inside pass back to prop Eloni Vunakece who barged over through three defenders to score. Cornish converted to level the scores at 16-all.

After the Roos were awarded another penalty seven minutes later for a high shot by Gubb, they worked a slick left side backline movement through the hands late in the tackle count for winger Chris Centrone to score his 14th try for the season in the corner.

Cornish again missed the conversion into the stiff breeze but the Roos were back in front 20-16.

The key play appeared to come with 10 minutes left when Nikorima sparked a left-side shift on the blind for Brock Gray to put in a deft centre kick for Collins to follow through back up the middle to score untouched. Cornish converted to extend the Wyong lead to 26-16.

However, Centrone then made a meal of the restart to gift the Vodafone Warriors possession from the ensuing scrum. A follow-up penalty saw Santo put up a crossfield kick for centre Matt Allwood to leap above Centrone to score in the corner.

Pauga missed the touchline conversion but the Vodafone Warriors still were in the match at 20-26 down with five minutes left.

After receiving a couple of penalties for ruck infringements in the closing stages to set up field position (the second penalty seeing Wyong bench prop Jake Lewis sin binned for a professional foul), the Vodafone Warriors then played hot potato football before the ball found Cook as the final siren sounded. The standoff put in a superb crossfield kick for Pauga to gather and score in the right corner.

The centre then nailed the touch-line conversion to complete the thrilling draw – with a mouth-watering promise of a return bout at some stage in the upcoming finals series.

The Warriors tune up for the finals with their last-round match against bottom-placed Wests Tigers at Mt Smart Stadium next Sunday.

Wyang Roos 26 (J Nikorima, B Gray, E Vunakece, C Centrone, L Collins tries; M Cornish 3 goals) drew with Warriors 26 (C Nicoll-Klokstad, J Bell, Z Santo, M Allwood, J Pauga tries; J Pauga 3 goals).



Intrust Super Premiership NSW. Warriors v Knights. Mt Smart Stadium, Auckland, New Zealand. Sunday 5 March 2017. © Copyright Photo: Andrew Cornaga / www.Photosport.nz

# Mango Hawks Need Your Help!

**O**N THURSDAY August 10th the Mangakino Rugby League Club Inc. club rooms were gutted by a fire. As a result the team have lost almost all of their gear/uniforms and the like. It is believed the fire was the result of an electrical fault. Unfortunately the team were uninsured for the loss of their gear.

The Mango-Hawks are a small, proud, whanau oriented club who are devastated by this loss. We have set up a Givealittle page to raise money to help us replace what we have lost. Your support is appreciated.

Check out the give a little page here: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/helpmango-hawksreplacefiredamagedgear>



Building on fire.



Burned gear.



Team.

*I don't usually do give a little links, but this one touched my heart. I've even arranged with the club for them to be invited, as guests, to watch the Vodafone Warriors play this weekend. - Sir Peter Leitch*



**THIS SUNDAY  
MT SMART STADIUM**

Kick off 4pm. Adults from \$15; Children from \$10

Buy now at [Ticketek.co.nz/vodafonewarriors](http://Ticketek.co.nz/vodafonewarriors). Ticket terms and conditions, purchase conditions and transaction fees apply.



# GOLDEN HOMES BLACK SOX CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION DINNER



You are cordially invited to celebrate the success of the Golden Homes Black Sox and their 7th World Championship Title.

Date: Saturday, 16th September, 2017

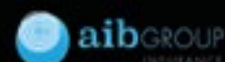
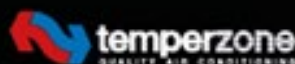
Time: 6pm to Midnight

Venue: Top of the Park, Alexandra Park, Auckland

Dress: Formal/Business Casual MC: Mark Watson

Seat: \$65 Table of 10: \$600

NZ Softball Bank Acc: 010517 0316876-00





# Glenora Secure Grand Final Spot In SAS Fox Memorial Premiership

*By Talei Anderson*

**T**HE GLENORA Bears have secured a spot in the 2017 SAS Fox Memorial Premiership grand final, upsetting minor premiers' Pt Chevalier 30-6 at Mt Smart Stadium #2 last Saturday.

It took 15 minutes before points were scored, with Glenora halfback Phil Kingi grounding the ball off a chip and chase. He converted his own for a 6-0 lead.

It wasn't long before they crossed for another with a slicing run from fullback Polima Siaki on the left edge. The conversion went wide, and the Bears held a 10-0 lead 20 minutes in.

Once the scoreboard had opened, Glenora displayed control and confidence in their play.

The Pirates looked robbed with a simple pass out wide which saw centre Stanley Takalua add another four to lead 14-0 at the break.

There was no stopping the Glenora Bears who came out firing in the second stanza as prop Kurt Bernard made a break to boost 50 metres down field.

Hot on attack and 10 metres from their line, the Bears shuffled the ball to the left before second rower Daniel Reuelu-Buchanan stormed over the line to get up 18-0 just a minute and a half in.

The Pirates hit back to reduce the deficit 6-20, but further tries to centre To'oto'o Alo and winger James Tautamata secured a 30-6 victory and a spot in the 2017 grand final.

"We're lucky enough to have come out with the win today," said Phil Kingi, captain of the Glenora Bears.

"Our big boys dominated the game and for us, that's our go forward, that's our game.

"It feels pretty good at the moment but the jobs not done yet."

"We'll come up against them [Pt Chevalier] or Howick in a couple of weeks – that's the big one for us. We've got to stay in the grind and come ready grand final day."

Pt Chevalier player/coach Dylan Moses said the Bears were more dominant in the middle.

"I think we just got beaten up in the middle of the park," said Moses.

"We let their middle pack control the pace of the game and that's probably why the score is what it is."

*Continued on next page...*

“We’ve got a lot to work on during the week and that’s the beauty of finishing at the top. We live to fight another day and we’ll get it next week,” he said.

Pt Chevalier will play Howick – who edged past Mt Albert 36-20 in the game prior – this Saturday August 26 at the Trusts Arena, Henderson (2.40pm kick-off). The winning team will advance through to play Glenora in the 2017 SAS Fox Memorial Premiership grand final on September 2.

The Bay Roskill Vikings have booked their place in the 2017 Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup grand final winning 20-16 over Otahuhu in their preliminary final at Bert Henham Park last Saturday.

Otahuhu’s loss coupled with Ponsonby’s two-point victory over Otara will see the Leopards and Ponies go head-to-head in the opening game of the day at the Trusts Arena this Saturday August 26 (11.00am kick-off). The winning team will advance through to play Bay Roskill in the 2017 Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup Premiership grand final on September 2.

Meanwhile in the Women’s division, the Manurewa Marlins Wahine have advanced through to play grand final footy after taking down the Papakura Sisters 22-10 in the first round of semi-finals last Sunday.

The Sisters have a second chance to defend their title when they go up against the Richmond Roses in their major semi-final this Sunday at Prince Edward Park (2.00pm kick-off).

Rugby league fans can catch all the action this weekend at the Trusts Arena in west Auckland from 11am with entry for kids under 16 just \$2 and adults \$8, (gates open at 10.30am).

In addition to the Sharman Cup Premiership and Fox Memorial major semi-finals being played this Saturday, the Women’s plate, Sharman Cup plate and Sharman Cup Premier 1st plate grand finals will also be played on the day.

All five games will be streamed live online from the Auckland Rugby League website ([www.aucklandleague.co.nz](http://www.aucklandleague.co.nz)).

The OAR, Premier 2 Pennant and Premier 2 Championship grand finals will be played on Sunday.

#### KEY INFORMATION FOR SATURDAY AUGUST 26

What: ARL grand finals

When: Saturday August 26, 2017

Time: 11.00am – 8.30pm (Gates open at 10.30am)

Where: The Trusts Arena (65-67 Central Park Dr, Henderson) Auckland

Cost: Adults \$8 Children \$2 (16 and under - student ID required)

4.30pm – Sharman Cup Premier 1st Plate grand final

*Hibiscus Coast v Waitemata*

Live stream link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgJ\\_0eHy0S8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgJ_0eHy0S8)

6.25pm – Sharman Cup Plate grand final

Live stream link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsrQGK8tq08>

#### GAME DETAILS/ LIVE STREAM LINKS

11.00am – Sharman Cup Premiership major semi-final

*Otahuhu Leopards v Ponsonby Ponies*

Live stream link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTNTBA\\_juNA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTNTBA_juNA)

12.45pm – Women’s Pennant grand final *Te Atatu v*

*Pt Chevalier*

Live stream link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cbwr7qD\\_9bg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cbwr7qD_9bg)

2.40pm – SAS Fox Memorial major semi-final

*Pt Chevalier v Howick*

Live stream link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDP7ilJQNTQ>

#### KEY INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY AUGUST 27

What: ARL grand finals

When: Saturday August 27, 2017

Time: 11.00am – 4.30pm (Gates open at 10.30am)

Where: The Trusts Arena (65-67 Central Park Dr, Henderson) Auckland

Cost: Adults \$8 Children \$2 (16 and under - student ID required)

#### GAME DETAILS

11.00am – OAR grand final Papakura v Mangere East

12.45pm – Premier 2 Pennant grand final Waitemata v Otahuhu

2.35pm – Premier 2 Championship grand final Richmond Tokes V Richmond Bulldogs



# AUCKLAND RUGBY LEAGUE

# FINALS FEVER

## SATURDAY 26 AUG

**Sharman Cup Major Semi-Final**

Curtain Raiser at 11:00am

**Sharman Plate Premier 1st Grand Final**

kicks off at 4:30pm

**Sharman Cup Plate Grand Final**

kicks off 6:25pm

NO ALCOHOL - FULL BAG CHECKS ON THE DAY



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the league  
action at the  
FINALS  
FEVER 2017



**LIVE  
STREAMING  
VIDEO**

**5 BIG GAMES 1 MASSIVE DAY CATCH ALL THE ACTION**

**TE ATATU V PT CHEVALIER 12:45PM**

**PT CHEVALIER V HOWICK 2:40PM**



**TICKETS ON SALE  
AT THE GATE  
FROM 10:30AM**

TRUST ARENA,  
65/67 CENTRAL PARK  
DRIVE, HENDERSON.  
EFTPOS AVAILABLE

**\$2 ENTRY  
KIDS U16**

**\$8 ENTRY  
ADULTS**



For more information [www.aucklandleague.co.nz](http://www.aucklandleague.co.nz)

# Rugby League World Cup aka The Paul Barriere Trophy On A Trip Around New Zealand

*By Daniel Fraser  
New Zealand Media &  
PR Manager RLWC 2017*



**T**HE RUGBY League World Cup trophy, known as the Paul Barriere Trophy, has been on tour around the Waikato and Bay of Plenty, with children and the public getting the chance to touch international rugby league's greatest prize.

The trophy, which the Kiwis won in 2008 after beating the Kangaroos in the World Cup final, has one of the most interesting histories of any major international sporting trophy.

France donated the trophy in 1954 for the inaugural tournament that they hosted, with the silverware worth eight million francs. It is named after the FFRXIII president who commissioned it, Paul Barriere.

After being awarded to the winners of the first four Rugby League World Cup tournaments, the trophy went missing for 20 years after it was stolen from a Bradford hotel where reigning champions Australia had put it on display six days before the 1970 final.

With the whereabouts of the trophy not known until 1990, alternative trophies were presented to the world champions between 1970 and 1995.

The trophy itself was discovered in 1990 by Bradford resident Stephen Uttley and his wife Elizabeth dumped amongst rubbish in a ditch.

After finding the trophy, Uttley made enquiries about his find with local rugby clubs including Bradford Bulls but no one claimed ownership of the trophy.

Finally, after an article was published in a local newspaper about the mystery trophy, a local rugby league historian identified that the trophy was the Rugby League World Cup and told the authorities.

The trophy was back in action for the 2000 Rugby League World Cup, with Kiwis captain Nathan Cayless lifting it in 2008 when New Zealand won the Rugby League World Cup for the first time.

Take a look at photos of the Paul Barriere trophy touring in schools across the North Island.

For those in the Wellington region wanting to see the Paul Barriere Trophy, it'll be at Porirua Market this Saturday, August 26 from 7.30 to 10.30am.

It will also be at the Wellington Grand Final day at Petone Recreation Ground on Saturday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm.





# Rams Redeemed

By Dave Loudon - Southern Rugby League, Invercargill

**T**HE OCEAN Ranch / ILT Senior Southland Rams showed the winning way on Saturday August 19th at the SDRL Elles Road ground at Invercargill when they played the West Coast Chargers in a home game in the South Island provincial Rugby League competition.

West coast opened the scorebook by scoring a try just 4 minutes into the game played in ideal conditions before an audience of staunch Southland Rugby League supporters. West Coast failed to convert the try. The Rams opened their score ledger 10 minutes in to the game. The game was evenly played right through until half time with both teams exhibiting good defence and consistent play.

At the half time whistle the Coasters led by 14 points against the Rams 12.

The second half saw the Rams run in 4 more tries likewise with West Coast. It was an evenly balanced, clean fast flowing game. Had the Coasters converted all of their tries the game would have been a draw. The Southland Rams took the win with 34 points against West Coast's 32. The Southland Rams are showing good development under a new coach this season and are yet to play against Aoraki (South / Mid Canterbury) and Tasman (Nelson) in in the South Island Competition.

The Ocean Ranch / ILT Senior Southland Rams play Aoraki on Saturday August 26th at the SDRL ground, Elles Road, Invercargill – Kick off is at 2 pm.

Try Scorers in the game :

Southland Rams : Josh Gough , Moopi Bulla , Carlos Morrison , Silvanus Raimona all scored a try each , Dylan Lovett scored two trys . Conversions : Tane Puki 5 .

West Coast Chargers : Luke Negri one try , Navare Jacobs , Harley Vui and Phillip Thompson each scored two trys.





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# Pike 29 Remembrance Rugby League Fund Raiser

By Paul

**J**ELLYMAN PARK provided the perfect surface for Saturday's Pike 29 Remembrance rugby league fund raiser between the West Coast Green and Canterbury Blue teams wearing remembrance jerseys modified in the colours of the New Castle Knights NRL and the South Sydney sides..

Played in four quarters and restricted to players 35 years of age plus, both teams turned on a competitive display of rugby league with no quarter given in the 80 minute encounter

West Coast players Dean McGrath, Brad Houston, Shane O'Dea, Shannon Hopkins and Jade McDermott had solid games while Lance Savage, Tony Williams, Vince Whare , Dean Rockhouse and Johnny Maxwell stood out in the Canterbury team.

Organiser Dean Rockhouse who played full back for his Canterbury side, says the game went right down to the wire and was keenly contested and physical but played in good spirit..

" I took a couple of big hits during the game but I'm pretty sure it ended up in a 12 all draw," he smiled.

A special Pike River Remembrance jersey was available for sale and all money raised on the day is to go toward the Pike River Recovery fund.



West Coast players Tyrell Green and Brad Houston prevent Canterbury player Jimmy Bird from grounding the ball and scoring in the Pike 29 Remembrance match played at Jellyman Park, Cobden on Saturday afternoon.



West Coast player Nathan Williamson is hit by heavy defence from Canterbury's Lance Savage and Johnny Maxwell.



Canterbury' Vince Whare keeps and eye on the midfield clash as both teams fight for possession.



Canterbury flyer Tony Williams is cut down short of the try line by West Coast player Alan Monk.

# Otumoetai Eels RL Premier Reserves Champions!

By Stan Nicholas

**O**TUMOETAI EELS RL Premier Reserves won the BOP/Coastline combined premier reserve grade championship at Rotorua's Puketawhero Park in front of a huge crowd on sat 12th August dominating the match against Tokoroa's Pacific Sharks to win 30-14

The team coached for the second year in row by Karl McNeil went one better after being eliminated in the semi final the previous year with a good but simple game plan that had the forwards providing the good go forward before unleashing the ball to their speedy backline along to to the finishing. Young 18 yr old half Liam Jones with pin point kicking game helped the Sharks to stay on the backfoot all day. When the Sharks tried keeping the ball alive Liam was there to snare two well envisioned intercept tries to help put the result beyond doubt well before the final hooter.

For the forwards loosie Tremaine Pompey was dynamite on attack and defence to also score a brilliant solo effort from 20 metres out, turning the opposition inside out and leaving them flat footed.

Gary Ngarongo was another to put in some punishing runs through the middle with evergreen prop Buddy Wirori also putting in a huge effort. This is the Eels reserves first title since 2010 and well deserved victory from a team who had suffered only one sole defeat throughout the whole season



**Good Luck to the All Blacks  
playing against Australia in  
Dunedin this Saturday.**



Join this year's ride to support  
**PROSTATE CANCER  
AWARENESS**

**SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER**

Auckland • PlaceMakers Pakuranga

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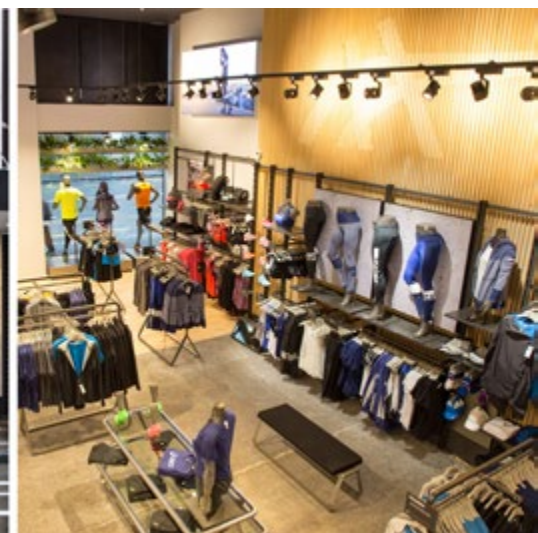
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#### OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 6.00pm

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# Reader Mail

**T**HANK YOU very much for the t-shirts my team will be very happy I will give them to them on prize giving day this Saturday. My team is the under sevens restricted Raiders we played at Mt Smart Sunday week ago when the Warriors played against Canberra Raiders. We had a great time would love to do again I've added a photo from the Sunday at Mt Smart.  
**Joesph**



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## THIS WEEK IN BIG LEAGUE'S HUGE ROUND 25 ISSUE...

NRL, HOLDEN CUP, INTRUST SUPER PREMIERSHIP, INTRUST SUPER CUP AND RON MASSEY CUP TEAM LISTS, PREVIEWS AND STATS + SCORES AND RESULTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY!

### INSIDE

- **Michael Ennis** has blasted the leadership at the Titans following their handling of coach **Neil Henry's** sacking. "On-field leadership at the Titans is not what it needs to be. Players like **Ryan James, Nathan Peats, Kevin Proctor** and **Jarryd Hayne** really need to lead the way. The way the head office has handled the past few weeks has also been questionable."
- A salary cap sum of \$9.4 million looks to have been agreed on by the NRL, clubs and the RLPA, but several clubs who have overspent for 2018 will have to move players on. Warrior **Ryan Hoffman**, who had to leave the Storm in 2010 following salary cap breaches, says it's an extremely stressful and tense time for players who are in limbo.
- Sharks five-eighth **James Maloney** has characterised his team's season as similar to last year, and says there is a good feeling among players that they can ramp up towards another premiership.
- It's the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Broncos' first premiership** in 1992 and former players from that team talk us through how things came together for the club – and how they can see similarities in the current side.

**PLUS...** The **Top 8 prodigal sons returning**, **The Analyst** figures out how well minor premiers have gone for the major title and a **Mitchell Pearce** poster.



### ROUND 25

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from

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**DATE:** SUNDAY, AUGUST 27  
**VENUE:** MT SMART STADIUM  
**KICK-OFF:** 4PM (NZ)  
**REFEREE:** GAVIN BADGER  
**ASSISTANT REFEREE:** CHRIS SUTTON  
**TOUCH JUDGES:** CHRIS McMILLAN & CLAYTON SHARPE  
**SENIOR REVIEW OFFICIAL:** ASHLEY KLEIN  
**REVIEW OFFICIAL:** LUKE PATTEN  
**FOX LEAGUE:** 1.30PM (AEST)  
**LIVE RADIO:** ABC, 2GB

#NRLWarriorsManly					#NRLSeaEagles					
P	T	G	PTS		P	T	G	PTS		
21	9	0	36	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK (C)	1	Tom TRBOJEVIC	20	10	0	40
22	10	0	40	David FUSITU'A	2	Matt WRIGHT	12	6	27	78
19	4	0	16	Blake AYSHFORD	3	Dylan WALKER	22	11	28	100
17	4	0	16	Solomone KATA	4	Brian KELLY	20	7	0	28
21	6	0	24	Ken MAUMALO	5	Akuila UATE	21	14	0	56
16	2	0	8	Kieran FORAN	6	Blake GREEN	21	3	0	12
17	4	44*105		Shaun JOHNSON	7	Daly CHERRY-EVANS (C)	22	5	9*	40
14	1	0	4	Ben MATULINO	8	Darcy LUSSICK	11	0	0	0
21	1	14	32	Issac LUKE	9	Api KOROISAU	21	3	1	14
21	0	0	0	Sam LISONE	10	Martin TAUPAU	19	1	0	4
15	1	0	4	Bunty AFOA	11	Frank WINTERSTEIN	22	1	0	4
17	6	1	26	Ryan HOFFMAN	12	Shaun LANE	8	1	0	4
20	5	0	20	Simon MANNERING	13	Jake TRBOJEVIC	21	7	0	28

**INTERCHANGE**

11	1	0	4	Mafoa'aeata HINGANO	14	Lewis BROWN	19	2	0	8
9	0	0	0	Charlie GUBB	15	Lloyd PERRETT	12	1	0	4
3	1	0	4	Isaiah PAPALI'I	16	Brenton LAWRENCE	21	3	0	12
2	0	0	0	Jazz TEVAGA	17	Addin FONUA-BLAKE	19	0	0	0

**RESERVES**

6	6	0	24	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	18	Jarrad KENNEDY	2	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	Chris SATAE	20/19	Cameron CULLEN	5	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	James BELL	21/20	Jackson HASTINGS	9	1	3	10
5	0	2	4	Mason LINO	22/21	Taniela PASEKA	0	0	0	0

\*Field Goals: S Johnson 1

\*Field Goals: D Cherry-Evans 2

**COACHES**

Stephen KEARNEY

Trent BARRETT

PENALTIES				SCRUMS			
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16

PENALTIES				SCRUMS			
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16

	WARRIORS	SEA EAGLES
Position (Points)	13th (18)	8th (28)
Points For	407	502
Points Against	525	479

ATTACK		
Tries	71	91
Completions	79%	78%
Tries 0-20m	43	48
Tries 21-50m	15	22
Tries 51-100m	5	13

DEFENCE		
Tries	90	81
Tries 0-20m	35	55
Tries 21-50m	29	8
Tries 51-100m	14	12

MATCH AVERAGES		
Tries Scored	3	4
Tries Conceded	4	4
Points Scored	19	23
Points Conceded	24	22
Hit Ups/Runs	174	166
Tackles	324	292
Metres Gained	1571	1566
Handling Errors	4	3
Offloads	8	11
Line-breaks	4	5
Goalkicking	79%	67%

**HEAD-TO-HEAD**  
 Played 30, Manly 22, Warriors 8

**AT MT SMART STADIUM**  
 Played 13, Manly 10, Warriors 3

**WINNING FORM 2017**  
**WARRIORS:** WLLLWLLWLLWLBWLBLLLLL Streak – 7 losses  
**MANLY:** LLWLLWLLWLBWLBWLLWLL Streak – 2 losses

**PAST 8 CLASHES**  
**2017 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 26-22** at nib Stadium, Perth  
**2016 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 15-14** at nib Stadium, Perth;  
**MANLY D. WARRIORS 34-18** at Mt Smart Stadium  
**2015 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 32-12** at Mt Smart Stadium  
**2014 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 22-12** at Mt Smart Stadium  
**2013 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 27-12** at Bluetongue Stadium;  
**WARRIORS D. MANLY 18-16** at Mt Smart Stadium  
**2012 – MANLY D. WARRIORS 24-22** at Patersons Stadium, Perth

**BIGGEST HEAD-TO-HEAD WINS**  
**AUCKLAND D. MANLY 36-10** at Brookvale Oval, 1999  
**MANLY D. WARRIORS 52-6** at Brookvale Oval, 2008

**NEXT CLASH**  
**WARRIORS:** v Wests Tigers at Leichhardt, 6.30pm Sunday September 3  
**MANLY:** v Penrith at Lottoland, 5.30pm Saturday September 2

**CASUALTY WARD**  
**WARRIORS:** Albert Vete (arm), Nathaniel Roache (hamstring) – indefinite; Jacob Lillyman (biceps), James Gavet (arm), Bodene Thompson (pectoral) – season  
**MANLY:** Curtis Sironen (pectoral) – Rd 26; Brad Parker (knee), Jorge Taufua (knee) – season

NRL Preview

by DAVID MIDDLETON  
@Middleton\_David

Sea Eagles desperate to bounce back

SIMON MANNERING

1  
try assist in  
Round 24



Mt Smart Stadium  
Sunday, 4pm

**Form:** The Warriors have shown little sign of arresting the form slump that has led to seven-straight defeats and has once again cost them a place in the finals. Their defensive resolve has crumbled in recent weeks and despite matching strides with the Rabbitohs for 40 minutes last Friday night, their effort fell away dramatically in the second half. The Sea Eagles are in danger of blowing their opportunity to play finals football after losing four of their past five games.

**History:** The Sea Eagles have enjoyed near total dominance in these contests since 2010, winning 12 of the past 13 clashes. The Warriors have suffered narrow losses in the past two encounters, both played in Perth.

**Danger sign:** The Sea Eagles are in danger of dropping out of the race for the finals and a loss here would open the way for St George Illawarra to knock them out of the eight. Trent Barrett's men will need to be wary of the Warriors, who have achieved six of their seven victories for the season on home turf.

**Best Bet?** Look for Manly to bounce back from last week's disappointing effort against the Bulldogs to claim victory by 13+ points.

**Money-spinner:** Look to Dylan Walker, Matthew Wright or Akuila Uate for First Tryscorer.



HOLDEN CUP

DATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 VENUE: MT SMART STADIUM KICK-OFF: 11.45AM (NZ)  
REFEREE: DREW OULTRAM ASSISTANT REFEREE: CAMERON PADDY  
TOUCH JUDGES: ANTIONETTE WATTS & NATHAN BARKER PRINGLE FOX: 9.30AM

WARRIORS V SEA EAGLES

Lee TURNER	1	Jade ANDERSON
Dean KOUKA-SMITH	2	Alfred SMALLEY
Gibson POPOALII	3	Tevita FUNA
Kane TELEA	4	Semisi KIOA
Edward VAEAU-MULITALO	5	Bilal MAARBANI
Paul TURNER	6	Tom WRIGHT
Melino FINEANGANOFU	7	Cade CUST
Chris SIO (C)	8	Elia FAATU
Eiden ACKLAND	9	Manase FAINU
Kenese KENESE	10	Taniela PASEKA
Tyler SLADE	11	Blake ANDREWS
Jerome MAMEA	12	Josh MARTIN
Joe VUNA	13	Jesse MARTIN (C)
14 Sheldon ROGERS	14	Haumole OLAKAU'ATU
15 Tayhler PAORA	15	Jaiden TARRANT
16 Havi TUPOUNIUA	16	Zaan WEATHERALL, 17 Mark
17 Dylan TAVITA, 18 Donovan	18	TEPU-SMITH, 18 Luke POLSELLI
BRIGGS, 20 Soane HUFANGA	19	Keith TITMUS, 20 Kurtis
21 Preston RIKI, 22 Kayal IRO	20	PREECE, 21 Joseph MAU, 22 Kane
23 Kelepi LUI, 24 Lewis SIO	21	McQUIGGIN, 23 Michael FENN
Grant POCKLINGTON		Wayne LAMBKIN

**IMPROVEMENT NEEDED...** The Warriors haven't had much to cheer for this season, but a win in their final home game would be a consolation. They've only won three games all year and haven't tasted victory since Round 16. They will be hoping for an improved performance in defence after conceding an average of 57 points per game over the past five weeks.

**FINALS-BOUND...** A win over the Warriors will see the Sea Eagles return to the finals for the first time since 2015 – the year they made the Holden Cup grand final. Wayne Lambkin's men will be aiming for their first win in three weeks after suffering defeats to the Roosters and Wests Tigers in the past month. They can't afford to be complacent against the last-placed Warriors on Sunday.

HEAD-TO-HEAD LEADERS

AVERAGE METRES	AVERAGE TACKLES	LINE-BREAKS
Tom Trbojevic 184	Simon Mannering 44	Tom Trbojevic 18
Roger Tuivasa-Sheck 179	Api Koroisau 38	Akuila Uate 16
Jorge Taufua 163	Jake Trbojevic 37	Roger Tuivasa-Sheck 15
Martin Taupau 163	Bodene Thompson 35	Dylan Walker 12
Ken Maumalo 154	Bunty Afoa 30	Brian Kelly 9

STATS

FANTASY POINTS
Simon Mannering 59.9
Shaun Johnson 58.1
Jake Trbojevic 54.7
Martin Taupau 51.7
Daly Cherry-Evans 48.9

PHOTO: Mark Kolbe/Getty Images

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Me and Sir Graham caught up with these guys from the Kirwee Rugby club, a small club 20km west of Christchurch, who came over to Waiheke for the day on Saturday.



Joyce Putohe pays tribute to Sir Colin Meads



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