

VODAFONE



Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

3rd August 2018

Newsletter #228b

Hall of Fame

By Barry Ross



THE NRL deserve congratulations for their Hall of Fame function on Wednesday night. Over 300 people attended the black tie event at the Sydney Cricket Ground where five new players were inducted as Immortals and six others were admitted to the Hall of Fame. Three of the new Immortals came from the pre Second World War era and this was very pleasing to most League fans. Each of these three men gave plenty to the game and deserve the honour. History tells us that centre, DALLY MESSENGER played a major and vital role in Rugby League becoming the success it is today. Born in Sydney on 12 April 1883, Dally died at Gunnedah, 440 kms north of Sydney, on 24 November 1959, aged 76. He had played two Rugby Union Tests for Australia against the All Blacks in August 1907, before signing to play Rugby League a few days later and then touring England with the New Zealand All Golds. When he returned to Australia, he joined the Eastern Suburbs club for the very first Sydney Rugby League season in 1908. He won three successive Premierships with Easts in 1911-1913 and altogether played 48 Premiership games with the club in his six seasons, scoring 381 points. He toured England with the first Kangaroos of 1908/09 and when he retired at the end of 1913, he had played seven Tests for Australia, three as captain, as well as 28 minor tour matches. In all of his 163 first class Rugby League games, he scored 1,238 points. The current Dally M awards are named in his honour. Dally was represented on Wednesday night by his grandson, Cameron Messenger.

DAVE BROWN was born in Sydney on 4 April 1913 and died in Sydney on 23 February 1974, aged 60. At his peak in the 1930s, as a centre with Eastern Suburbs, he was called the Bradman of Rugby League. He played with Easts from 1930 to 1936 and again from 1939 to 1941. In these 10 seasons, he played 94, Premiership games and scored 667 points, as well as winning Premierships in 1935, 1936 and 1940. He also played three seasons with English club, Warrington, where he finished with 93 games and 326 points. When he retired at the end of 1941, he had played nine Tests for Australia, six as captain, as well as 31 minor tour games. In his 264 first class matches, Dave scored 1,600 points. He was represented on Wednesday night by his 93 year old sister, Betty Buck.

FRANK BURGE is regarded as one of the best forwards to play the game and along with Steve Menzies, one of the best ever try scoring forwards. Born in Sydney on 14 August 1894, Frank died in Sydney on 5 July 1958, aged 63. He made his first grade debut at age 16 with the old Glebe club in 1911 and was first selected for NSW at 18 years of age. In 14 seasons with Glebe, 1911-1923 and 1926, he played 138 games and scored 137 tries and 49 goals for 509 points. At the Sydney Showground on 19 June 1920, playing at lock, he scored eight tries in Glebe's 41-0 win over University. This is still an NRL record for tries in a match by an individual. He had a couple of seasons coaching in the NSW country in 1924 and 1925, while in 1927, he was captain/coach of St. George. When he retired at the end of the 1927 season, Frank had scored 146 tries in his 154 first grade Premiership games. In his 242 first class games, he finished with 994 points. Frank also played 13 Tests and 23 minor tour games for Australia. He was represented on the night by his elderly son, Bruce Burge.

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The two new modern day Immortals also deserved their selection. Many Rugby League people have wanted NORM PROVAN to be included for many years. He played 256 Premiership games for St. George in 16 seasons from 1951 and scored 63 tries. He played in 10 of the 11 Successive Grand Final wins by St. George from 1956 and was captain/coach in four of these. Born at Urana, 570 kms south west of Sydney on 18 December 1932, Norm is now 85 and living in Queensland. He was too ill to make the flight to Sydney and was represented by his daughter, Sue McCloud, who said, "Dad has always been an Immortal to us. I know he is greatly honoured to be included with the 12 other Rugby League Immortals. " Norm played 18 Tests for Australia and 13 other minor games. In his 351 first class games, the talented second rower scored 93 tries.

MAL MENINGA was born at Bundaberg in Queensland on 8 July 1960 and is now 58. He is currently the Australian coach and began his first class playing career with Brisbane Souths in 1979. He played 166 games (864 points) with the Canberra Raiders in his nine seasons from 1986, including two winning Grand Finals in 1989 and 1990. He had a season with St. Helens in 1984/85, where he finished with 128 points from his 31 matches. He is the only player to make four Kangaroo tours and he was captain of two of these. He played 46 Tests (278 points) for Australia, 23 as captain and 38 minor tour games. Altogether in his 84 matches for Australia, he totalled 551 points. In his 517 first class games, Mal piled on 3,255 points.

The organising committee of the night did a great

job and one of the key members of this group was Robyn Danzey, who is a senior manager in the NRL's Stakeholder Relations department. As well as the five Immortals, six new players were officially inducted into the NRL Hall of Fame. These included the first New Zealander, Mark Graham, now 62 and living in Gladstone Queensland, to be given this honour. The other five were Petero Civoniceva, Cliff Lyons, Steve Menzies, Ricky Stuart and Gordon Tallis.

The function was filled with Rugby League royalty and I was pleased to see some of the elder statesmen looking so well. Former Australian Rugby League and Manly boss Ken Arthurson, now 88 and turning 89 in two months on 1 October, was down from the Gold Coast, while Harry Wells (29 Tests) is now 86 and made the drive down from Port Macquarie with his old Wests Magpies team-mate, John Elford, who is now 71. Another Wests Magpies man, Noel Kelly, now 82, is still fit and active. Noel played 28 Tests for Australia and was the first forward to be selected for three Kangaroo tours. Several weeks ago, Noel was honoured by the Australian government with an OAM. Tommy Raudonikis OAM, another Wests Magpies player, is now 68 and looks very well, despite some health issues over the years. Tommy played 29 Tests for Australia and was down from Brisbane for the night.

Three of the eight previous Immortals were at Wednesday's function. They were Bob Fulton, 71, Wally Lewis 58 and Andrew Johns, 44. Clive Churchill, Arthur Beetson, Reg Gasnier and Graeme Langlands are dead, while Johnny Raper, now 79, is ill in a nursing home south of Sydney.

A promotional poster for a rugby league match. On the left, the Vodafone Warriors logo is shown above the Newcastle Knights logo, with a 'v' between them. Below the logos, the text reads "FRIDAY AUGUST 10 MT SMART STADIUM". On the right, a photograph shows two players in action: one in a blue and red striped jersey (Warriors) and another in a dark blue jersey (Knights) holding the ball. In the top right corner of the photo area, there is a purple shield-shaped logo that says "Harvey Norman WOMEN IN LEAGUE Round".

NRL Hall of Fame Event

On Wednesday night in Sydney I was privileged to visit to the National Rugby League Hall of Fame function. These are some of the photos I took on the night to share with you.



Always great to catch up with Terry Lamb OAM played over 262 for the Canterbury Bulldogs.



Andrew Johns (NRL IMMORTAL) & partner Chrissy.



Colin Love a former chairman of the Australian Rugby League & partner Rebecca.



Darren Lockety & Kerry Boustead both members of the NRL Hall of Fame.



Frank Puletua & wife Jane.



Gene Miles (played 14 tests for Australia) & Brett Kenny (played 17 test for Australia) both members of the HALL OF Fame.



Me and the CEO of NZRL Greg Peters.



One of the true characters of rugby league Alfie Langer.



Our man of the moment on Wednesday night kiwis legend Mark Graham and his lovely wife Jaki.

NRL Hall of Fame Event



A rugby league icon Ron Coote (Hall of fame member) and his lovely wife Robyn.



All the legends who were inducted on the night test your knowledge and see if you can name them all.



Barry Ross our Sydney correspondent with Noel Kelly (aged 82, played over 25 games for Australia) and Barry O'Farrell Former premier of New South Wales.



Jim Doyle (former CEO of the Vodafone Warriors) & Wayne Pearce OMA.



NZRL CEO Greg Peters congratulates Mark Graham on being inducted.



I enjoyed catching up with Paul Kent from NRL 360 at the function.



Mark Graham & wife Jakki.



Jim Doyle and Paul Kent. Paul co-hosts NRL 360 with Ben Ikin on Fox League, he writes for the daily Telegraph.



Gordon (raging Bull) & partner Jemma. Gordon was inducted into the Hall of Fame in Sydney on Wednesday night as well..



FROM LEFT - EDDIE LUMSDEN winger (St George) 15 Tests and 9 Grand Final wins with the great St George team, 136 tries in 158 first grade games, BARRY ROSS, LES JOHNS fullback (Canterbury) 14 Tests, 545 points in 103 first grade games, SIR PETER LEITCH



Our Sydney correspondent Barry Ross with the lovely Robyn Danzey from the NRL who looked after me marvelously on Wednesday night.



Wayne Bennett, Andrew Hill (CEO of the Canterbury Bulldogs club) and Steven Menzies who was inducted on the night into the NRL Hall of Fame.

NRL Hall of Fame Event



Petero Civoniceva & wife Bonny. Petero was inducted to the Hall of Fame on Wednesday night. He also gave a fantastic speech.



The legend Alfie Langer and the Hon. Peter Beattie ARLC Chairman.



Steve (blocker) Roach & Glenn Lazarus both members of the NRL Hall of Fame.



Steve Walters and wife Andrea. Steve and two of his brothers all played for Australia.



The legend Rick Stuart and wife Kaylie. Ricky was not only inducted into the Hall of Fame but also has a foundation that aims to raise awareness for Autism and provide assistance for families. He does a wonderful job.



The man of the moment Mal Meninga who was inducted to the IMMORTALS On Wednesday night in Sydney.



Todd Greenberg CEO OF THE NRL and wife Lisa.



Wayne Bennett, Andrew Hill (CEO of the Canterbury Bulldogs club) and Steven Menzies who was inducted on the night into the NRL Hall of Fame.





146 CAREER GAMES (1981-88)



#101. MARK GRAHAM

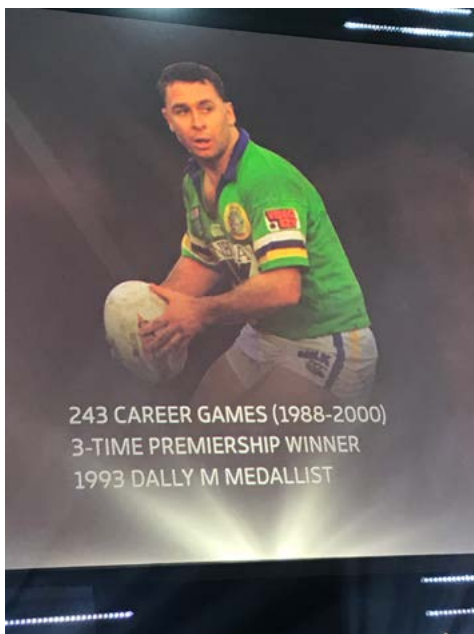
BORN: SEPTEMBER 29, 1955, OTAHUHU, NZ



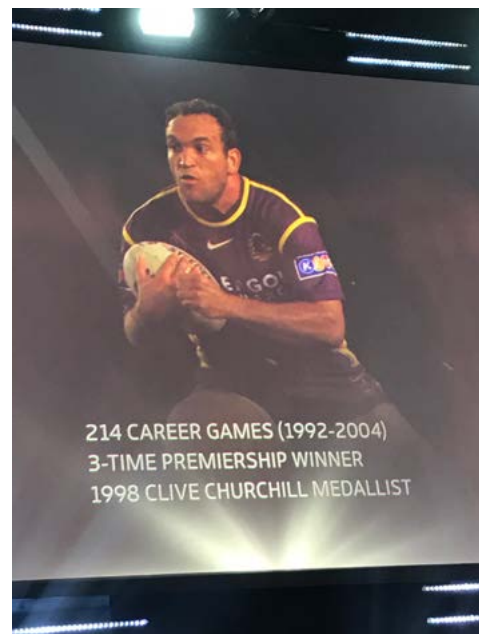
29 TESTS



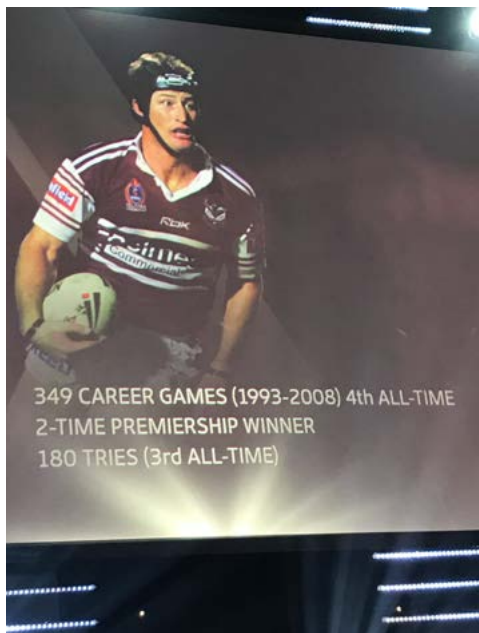
332 CAREER GAMES (1985-99) 7th ALL TIME
2-TIME DALLY M MEDALLIST
2-TIME PREMIERSHIP WINNER



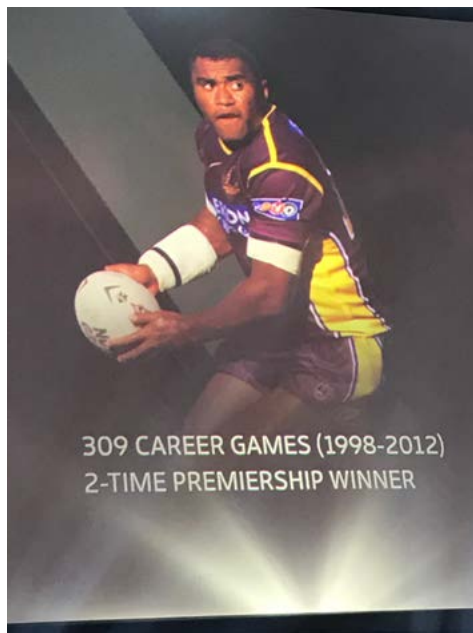
243 CAREER GAMES (1988-2000)
3-TIME PREMIERSHIP WINNER
1993 DALLY M MEDALLIST



214 CAREER GAMES (1992-2004)
3-TIME PREMIERSHIP WINNER
1998 CLIVE CHURCHILL MEDALLIST



349 CAREER GAMES (1993-2008) 4th ALL-TIME
2-TIME PREMIERSHIP WINNER
180 TRIES (3rd ALL-TIME)



309 CAREER GAMES (1998-2012)
2-TIME PREMIERSHIP WINNER

THE GUYS that got inducted into the NRL HALL OF FAME ON Wednesday night in Sydney.



Keep up with Sir Peter Leitch! Click the icons to follow him on:



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



MEDIA RELEASE

HISTORIC INDUCTION INTO IMMORTALS

THE NRL tonight announced the induction into the NRL Immortals of three players from pre-World War II and two post war players.

Norm Provan and Mal Meninga were selected from a short list of 10 players to be crowned the latest Immortals.

And in an historic move, the judging panel determined that three pre-war players selected on the shortlist – Dally Messenger, Dave Brown and Frank Burge – should also be recognised as Immortals.

“The judges took the view that this was a one-off opportunity to recognise the past, to recognise three players from the pre-war era who became legends of the game,” NRL CEO Todd Greenberg said.

“If the panel did not take this step we could have lost our chance to include these champion players among our Immortals.

“It was an opportunity the game could not afford to miss and the Immortals now reflect the full history of Rugby League – from 1908 to the present.”

Mr Greenberg praised the stand taken by the selection panel which also included current Immortals Wally Lewis, Bob Fulton and Andrew Johns, as well as Wayne Bennett, Phil Gould, Ray Warren, Steve Crawley and former Rugby League Week editors Ian Heads and Norm Tasker.

Mr Heads and Mr Tasker - key figures in the ongoing story of the Immortals from 1981 - welcomed the new direction taken by the NRL.

“The reality faced was that the challenge of comparing pre-war players unseen by today’s judges - with post war players at each Immortals’ cycle - would only become more difficult year by year,” said Mr Heads, the Chair of the Panel.

“There was a prospect that the outstanding players from the past would be competing with the champions from each later generation – and that would create an increasingly crowded starting line.

“These three players each played a key role during the ‘building days’ of Rugby League and the decision to recognise them as Immortals was supported by all members of the selection committee.

“Harry Bath, a former great player and coach and a founding Immortals judge of 1981 once said: Those who drink the water must never forget who dug the well.

“Having these early superstars on the Immortals Honour Board delivers on that advice.”

Mr Heads said no one could dispute the credentials of Mal Meninga and Norm Provan.

“Mal captained his Club, his State and his Country, and was one of a kind, while Norm’s role in St George’s wonderful dynasty was immense, and quite simply something which will never be repeated,” Mr Heads said.

The other players on the shortlist were Brian Bevan, Duncan Hall, Ken Irvine, Ron Coote and Darren Lockyer.

Mr Heads said they were all stars in their own right and some would no doubt be included in future Immortals discussions.

The NRL also formally inducted six (6) players to the NRL Hall of Fame; Petero Civoniceva, Mark Graham, Cliff Lyons, Steve Menzies, Ricky Stuart and Gorden Tallis.

“These are our first inductees into the Hall of Fame since the Centenary Season in 2008 and all deserve their place in this company,” Mr Greenberg said.



In Aussie

ICHILLED OUT yesterday with these rugby league legends. Gordon Tallis (13 Tests), Mal Meninga (46 tests), Ricky Stuart (9 tests), Tommy Raudonikis (29 tests) and Graham Eadie (20 tests). Check them out on Wikipedia they all have great history in our great game



Just presented our host Tony who are staying with Vodafone Warriors jersey for his bar.



At the captains run our host Tony gets to meet some players and gets them to sign the jersey I gave him.



POLICE IN Hamilton arrested a male on the 5th of July 2018. A number of caricature drawings of the 1995 Warriors team were located in the males car boot, which Police believe to be stolen.

We would love to get these back to the rightful owner, so if they are yours or you know who they belong to, please get in touch.

If you have any information email
Brendon.veysey@police.govt.nz.

Vodafone Warriors Announce NRL Women's Premiership Squad



A 22-STRONG SQUAD laden with current and former Kiwi Ferns has been unveiled today to represent the Vodafone Warriors in the inaugural NRL women's premiership next month.

With former Kiwi Fern Lorina Papali'i (41) signed, the Vodafone Warriors create rugby league history with a mother and son representing one club at the same time.

Lorina's son Isaiah (19) has this year established himself as a first-choice second rower in his second season in the NRL.

Among the others confirmed at the club's headquarters are Kiwi Ferns captain Laura Mariu and another legendary international Sarina Clark (nee Fiso).

Mariu, who was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday awards, had contemplated retirement after the 2017 World Cup but returned this season to help the Counties Manukau Stingrays to win the national final. She was also a key figure as the Manurewa Marlins beat the Richmond Roses in the Auckland women's grand final last Sunday.

Clark missed the World Cup last year to have her third child. She returned to the field recently and signed with the Vodafone Warriors just this week.

"This is such an exciting day for our club and for rugby league in this country," said Vodafone Warriors general manager football Brian Smith.

"We were thrilled to bring Luisa (Avaiki) on board as the first women's coach in the NRL and today we take another step forward with the announcement of our squad comprising solely New Zealand players.

"We have a group of talented players who are just so excited about being involved in this shot at history."

Avaiki is delighted with the 22 players the club has been able to sign.

"We have some legends of our game in the likes of Laura and Sarina who are backed up by some fantastic players," she said.

"This is a dream for all of us to be involved in the NRL women's premiership and we're all working hard to make the most of what is an amazing opportunity for rugby league."

Avaiki, appointed in last March, had an illustrious international playing career from 1995-2009. She captained the Kiwi Ferns to victory in two women's World Cup tournaments in 2003 and 2008 and was also in the winning side in the first World Cup in 2000.

Features of the squad named:

- A total of 18 players are current or former Kiwi Ferns.

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- The four players yet to represent the Kiwis have all been included in a wider 2018 national squad named by new Kiwi Ferns coach Kelvin Wright.
- A total of 16 players are from the Manurewa Marlins and Richmond Roses squad which met in the Auckland women's premiership final last Sunday.
- Lorina Papali'i and Isaiah Papali'i become the first mother and son pair to represent a rugby league club at the same time.
- Two players Laura Mariu and Apii Nicholls – the New Zealand Rugby League's 2017 women's player of the year – were recently sworn in as constables with the New Zealand Police.
- Several of the players have been national representatives in other sports apart from rugby league:
 - o Sarina Clark has played kabbadi and touch for New Zealand.
 - o Georgia Hale and Krystal Rota have both played touch and tag for New Zealand.
 - o Amber Kani has represented New Zealand Maori at the tag World Cup.
 - o Apii Nicholls has played sevens rugby union and tag for Cook Island.
 - o Lorina Papali'i, the NZRL's player of the year in 2014, has played tag for New Zealand and represented Samoa Mausina at two women's rugby union World Cup tournaments.
 - o Masuisuimatamaalii (Sui) Tauasa-Pauaraisa is a Samoa rugby union sevens representative

The Vodafone Warriors will play NRL women's premiership matches against Brisbane A 22-strong squad laden with current and former Kiwi Ferns has been unveiled today to represent the Vodafone Warriors in the inaugural NRL women's premiership next month, St George Illawarra and the Sydney Roosters during the NRL finals in September.

They'll warm up for the competition with a match against Auckland when the Vodafone Warriors stage a double header in their Women in League game day at Mount Smart Stadium on Friday, August 10.

The women's game is scheduled to kick off at 6.05pm followed by the 22nd-round NRL clash between the Vodafone Warriors and the Newcastle Knights (8.00pm).

VODAFONE WARRIORS | 2018 NRL WOMEN'S PREMIERSHIP

RAQUEL ANDERSON-PITMAN

Born: November 2, 1991

Birthplace: Tokoroa, NZ

Club: Manurewa Marlins

Position: Halfback/hooker

Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2017-2018), World Cup (2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays

Occupation: Boiler operator, Oji Fibre Solutions

Personal Note:

Continued on next page...

SARINA CLARK

Born: November 11, 1981
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Fullback
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2006-2016), World Cup (2008, 2013), NRL Nines (2015, 2016, 2017), New Zealand Maori (2015), New Zealand kabaddi (2013-2015), New Zealand touch (2009), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Case manager, WINZ

LISA EDWARDS

Born: October 19, 1992
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Mount Albert
Position: Wing
Rep Honours: Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Receptionist, Crittal Arnold

LUISA GAGO

Pronunciation: Loo-ee-sah Nung-or (Nung as in rung)
Born: November 8, 1993
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Second row/loose forward
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2017-2018), NRL Nines (2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Customer service, Smith & Smith

GEORGIA HALE

Born: August 9, 1995
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Halfback/standoff/hooker
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2015-2018), World Cup (2017), NRL Nines (2015-2017), New Zealand touch, New Zealand tag, Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Community coordinator, Vodafone Warriors

AMBER KANI

Pronunciation: Car-nee
Born: January 17, 1991
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Centre
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2015-2018), World Cup (2017), NRL Nines (2016-2017), New Zealand Maori (2014-2016), Tag World Cup, New Zealand Maori (2012), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Ambassador, Manurewa Business Association

ONJEURLINA LEIATAUA

Pronunciation: On-jar-lee-nah Lay-a-toe-ah
Born: December 1, 1995
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Otahuhu Leopards
Position: Centre/second row
Rep Honours: Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Warehouse assistant, Tupperware

HILDA MARIU

Pronunciation: Mar-ree-oo
Born: August 9, 1983
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Second row/centre
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2014-2018), World Cup (2017), NRL Nines (2015), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Health promoter, Te Kaha o Te Rangatahi Trust

LAURA MARIU

Pronunciation: Mar-ree-oo
Born: December 2, 1980
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Loose forward/halfback
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2000-2018), World Cup (2000, 2005, 2008, 2013, 2017), NRL Nines (2015, 2016, 2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Constable, New Zealand Police

VA'ANESSA MOLIA-FRASER

Pronunciation: Var-ah-nessa Morleeah
Born: January 18, 1996
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Fullback
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2016, 2017), NRL Nines (2017), Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Student, AUT

APII NICHOLLS

Pronunciation: Ah-pee
Born: February 26, 1993
Birthplace: Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Club: Otahuhu Leopards
Position: Fullback
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2017-2018), World Cup (2017), Cook Islands sevens (rugby union), Cook Islands tag, Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Constable, New Zealand Police

TANIKA-JAZZ NOBLE-BELL

Born: February 20, 1996
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Second row/prop
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns wider squad (2018), Kiwi Ferns (2017), NRL Nines (2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays, Auckland Vulcans
Occupation: Student, University of Auckland

ANNETTA-CLAUDIA NUUAUSALA

Pronunciation: Noo-ow-sar-lah
Born: January 22, 1995
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Prop
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2016-2018), World Cup (2017), Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Customer/after sales support, Husqvarna NZ

LORINA PAPALI'I

Pronunciation: Law-ree-nah Par-par-lee-ee
Born: January 16, 1977
Birthplace: Hamilton, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Second row/prop
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (1994-2005), World Cup (2000, 2005), New Zealand tag (2007, 2010, 2011), Samoa Mausina rugby union (2002 World Cup, 2006 World Cup), Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Office supervisor, Worth & Douglas

KAHURANGI PETERS

Pronunciation: Car-who-rung-ee
Born: February 23, 1994
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Prop
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2013-2018), World Cup (2013, 2017), NRL Nines (2015, 2016, 2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Mother

KRYSTAL ROTA

Pronunciation: Roar-tah
Born: October 3, 1985
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Manurewa Marlins
Position: Hooker
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2008-2018), World Cup (2008, 2017), NRL Nines (2015, 2017), New Zealand Maori, New Zealand touch, New Zealand tag, Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Mother

AIESHALEIGH SMALLEY

Pronunciation: Ah-eee-shar-lee
Born: September 23, 1991
Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Otahuhu Leopards
Position: Prop
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2017-2018), World Cup (2017), NRL Nines (2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Mother

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MASUISUIMATAMAALII (SUI) TAUA-SA-PAUARAISA

Pronunciation: Sue-ee Toe-ar-sah Par-wah-rye-sah
Born: October 30, 1987
Birthplace: Motootua, Samoa
Club: Linwood Keas (Christchurch)
Position: Second row/loose forward
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns wider squad (2018), Canterbury (2017-2018), Samoa rugby union sevens (2016, 2017, 2018)
Occupation: Clinical administrator, Christchurch District Health Board

CRYSTAL TAMARUA

Pronunciation: Tar-ma-roo-ah
Born: July 30, 1995
Birthplace: Auckland
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Second row/loose forward
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2017), Cook Islands (2017), World Cup – Cook Islands (2017), Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Postie, NZ Post

ALICE VAILEA

Pronunciation: Vie-lee-ah
Born: January 30, 1996

Birthplace: Auckland, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Second row
Rep Honours: Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Teacher aide, Waikowhai Intermediate School (Auckland)
Personal Note:

LANGI VEAINU

Pronunciation: Lung-ee Vee-eye-nu
Born: November 3, 1993
Birthplace: Auckland
Club: Otahuhu Leopards
Position: Wing
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2016-2018), NRL Nines (2016, 2017), Counties Manukau Stingrays
Occupation: Mother

SHONTELLE WOODMAN

Born: September 2, 1986
Birthplace: New Plymouth, NZ
Club: Richmond Roses
Position: Centre/wing
Rep Honours: Kiwi Ferns (2014-2018), World Cup (2017), Akarana Falcons
Occupation: Teacher, Melville High School (Hamilton)



Breaking news!

Vodafone Warriors Simon Mannering is putting out his book around this Xmas this will be a great read. It's being published by www.upstartpress.co.nz



THIS WEEK IN OUR ROUND 21 ISSUE

NRL, INTRUST SUPER PREMIERSHIP, INTRUST SUPER CUP +
UNDER-20s TEAM LISTS, PREVIEWS AND STATS + SCORES AND
RESULTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY!



ROUND 21, 2018

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from Thursday, August 2

DIGITAL VERSION

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bigleague@newslifemedia.com.au

Wade Graham had plenty to look forward to in 2018, but multiple injuries denied him regular game-time and cost him the chance to retain his Blues jersey. Now that the Sharks enforcer is back, he's determined to make up for lost time.

As a youngster growing up in inner-city Auckland, Esan Marsters idolised the natural ability of Benji Marshall. Now he's playing beside him and learning everything he can to help the Wests Tigers make the NRL finals and cement his place for the Kiwis.

If you'd told Isaah Yeo after his debut that he'd reach 100 NRL games, he wouldn't have believed you. But now the perennial Panther is embracing a new challenge as captain of Penrith, and Trent Merrin is sure Yeo is the right man for the job.

Victor Radley is enjoying a rapid rise at the Roosters, but while the club has a reputation for luring high-profile stars from other clubs, the Clovelly junior is proud to be a rare local product.

Family has always been of the utmost importance to the Dragons' interchange gun Leeson Ah Mau, but after moving to Australia to play with his brother, it's family that will take him back across the ditch again in 2019.

PLUS... Cody Walker prepares to steal the Storm's thunder in their top of the table clash, the Women's NRL edges closer to kick-off, Ten Minutes with Manly's Jorge Taufua, Hall of Fame inductee Petero Civoniceva talks about the honour, a Newcastle Knights poster, scores, stats and more!

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Gday mate Pete the pomme here in Newcastle in the UK with my grandkids Jack and Alex having a great time c u soon.



Many thanks for the generous coverage in today's Sir Peter Leitch Club newsletter.

That's Shane Flanagan's son pictured in the late afternoon sunlight at Henson Park.

Regards,

Glen Dwyer

Newtown RLFC.

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The Newsletter Team

Here is the team that help me put together the newsletter each week. We have a number of fantastic contributors who send in content each week that along with my editorial gets wrapped up by our graphic designer and sent out by our distribution man to your inbox.

Sir Peter Leitch - Editor
David Kemeys - Editor at Large
Hayden Woodhead - Graphic Designer

John Coffey - Southern Correspondent
Barry Ross - Australian Correspondent
John Holloway - Correspondent
Miles Davis - Correspondent
Shane Hurndell - Correspondent