

VODAFONE



# Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

20<sup>th</sup> August 2018

## Newsletter #231

ON SATURDAY night I was privileged enough to go to a charity function hosted by Monty Betham and his team for there charity steps for life. The MC for the night was Sky TV's Stephen McIvor. He had 6 celebrity speakers who he interviewed. He had Sir John Kirwin famous ex all Black & Butcher. TV's Hayley Holt & Jack Tame as well as Madeleine Sami actress, comedian & musician and much loved Joseph Parker. Plus the main man Monty Betham. It was a fantastic night topped of by a sensational band called Monroes who had everyone dancing the night away. It's always great supporting a very good charity so I wanted to share some photos with you from the night with you all. You can check out their web site [www.stepsforlife.co.nz](http://www.stepsforlife.co.nz)



Me and my girls Julie, Janice & Angela.



Me, Monty and Sir John Kirwan.



Shontayane & wife Liana looking fantastic.



Jack and Haley.



Jack, Monty and Joseph at the dinner table.



Joseph and Jack entertaining the audience.



Monty and some of the young men that volunteered their services on the night.



The A team on the night. Stephen, Jack and Medeleine, Haley, Sir John, Monty and Joseph.



The man of the night thanking everyone for coming.



# Harris and Lino back but Green out

## VODAFONE WARRIORS v PENRITH PANTHERS

8.00pm, THIS Friday, August 24, 2018  
Mount Smart Stadium, Auckland

*by Richard Becht*

**E**XPERIENCED BACK rower Tohu Harris returns from injury while Mason Lino replaces an injured Blake Green in the halves for the Vodafone Warriors' 24th-round NRL clash against Penrith at Mount Smart Stadium on Friday (8.00pm kick-off).

Lino's selection at standoff is the only change to the starting line-up used in the last three matches against St George Illawarra, Newcastle and Canterbury-Bankstown as the Vodafone Warriors strive to confirm their place in the NRL finals for the first time since 2011.

Harris comes onto the bench for Leivaha Pulu after being side-lined since June 29 with meniscus tears in both knees.

Named on the bench again is utility back Peta Hiku, who is set to make his 100th career appearance after joining the club this season following a total of 80 games for Manly-Warringah and Penrith from 2013-2017.

The biggest individual milestone in the Vodafone Warriors' history looms large with Simon Mannering playing his 299th game this week as he eyes becoming the first player to rack up 300 matches for the club in the final regular season game against Canberra on Friday week.

Veteran playmaker Green, missing from the line-up for just the second time this year, is expected to return from a calf injury against the Raiders.

It gives Lino the opportunity to make his seventh appearance of the season and only his second in tandem with Shaun Johnson after the pair lined up against Melbourne in the 6-12 loss on July 22.

While the Vodafone Warriors lose one of their leaders in Green, they welcome back another in Harris who has missed the last six games against Penrith,

Brisbane, Gold Coast, St George Illawarra, Newcastle and Canterbury-Bankstown. He needed minor surgery to repair a tear in his left knee after the June 29 match against Cronulla before succumbing to the same complaint in his right knee in a training session as he was preparing to make his comeback against the Dragons.

The Vodafone Warriors sit eighth on the ladder with 28 points, two behind the Dragons, Panthers and Sharks with the Storm, Roosters and Rabbitohs all locked on 32 points at the top of the table.

Penrith rebounded from an 18-50 loss to Brisbane with three late comebacks to beat the Sea Eagles, Raiders and Titans but lost 12-20 to the Knights last Saturday.

In 40 meetings since 1995, the Vodafone Warriors have 16 wins and the Panthers 23 with one match drawn.

The Vodafone Warriors have won only two of the last 10 contests against Penrith, both of those at Mount Smart Stadium (2014 and 2016) while the ledger is 9-9 in the 18 games the two sides have played in Auckland.

### Vodafone Warriors

- 1 Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (C)
- 2 David Fusitu'a
- 3 Gerard Beale
- 4 Solomone Kata
- 5 Ken Maumalo
- 6 Mason Lino
- 7 Shaun Johnson
- 8 James Gavet
- 9 Issac Luke
- 10 Agnatius Paasi

### 11 Isaiah Papali'i

- 12 Adam Blair
  - 13 Simon Mannering
- Interchange:
- 14 Jazz Tevaga
  - 15 Tohu Harris
  - 16 Bunty Afoa
  - 17 Peta Hiku
  - 18 Leivaha Pulu
  - 20 Anthony Gelling
  - 21 Chris Satae
  - 22 Karl Lawton





# I don't think I can take it

By David Kemeys

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



**I** WILL ADMIT it, I will not be able to cope if we blow it from here.

We were all over the moon when we beat the Knights and moved on to 28 points, just two short of the magic 30, and most of us will have believed we would get them on Sunday against the Bulldogs, who quite frankly, are awful.

When the Tigers, the only side that can catch us, blew their own chances, beaten by the Dragons, it was all set up for a perfect Sunday.

Instead it was the same old story we have witnessed all year, great on our day, good enough on others, woeful on others still.

You really do not want to come up against sides that are battling to avoid the wooden-spoon, because it is a big motivator. You really want to be facing the mid-table sides with nothing left to play for, and the Bulldogs proved, and good on them, that there is life in the old Dogs yet.

The last minute field goal that sunk us totally ruined my weekend.

Being a Warriors tragic has never been easy but even in a year when we have achieved more than anyone thought we could, this limp to the finals has been agonising.

Months ago I said this would go down to the wire, and I still believe that.

I wanted to be wrong, I wanted those points on Sunday.

Now we have the Panthers on Friday night, a side looking to steady a ship that has been left rocking by the sacking of coach Anthony Griffin. It will not be easy, even given their form of late, which has relied on an awful lot of luck to get home from losing positions.

But you know what they say, good sides find a way to win.

If the Tigers win, and we lose, we will go into the last weekend, which has us pitted against the Raiders, with our hearts in our mouths, even giving that our points differential is considerably better than the Tigers.

I never enjoy playing the raiders, just don't.

You can say what you like, and I thought the boys were actually good value despite it being far from a polished performance, to fight back to 26-26, but the media line was always going to be obvious – golden chance blown, that sort of thing, and to be fair to the media, it is hard to argue.

What is galling, and it is another case of same old thing, the officials missed a clear forward pass – again – during the lead-up to the Lachlan Lewis try.

When Josh Jackson sent Kerrod Holland through a hole, there was a glaring forward pass.

It has to be cleaned up. No point going on about it. Nothing has happened so far, probably won't. But if it decides a grand final, there will be a riot.

Back to the point, the reason I say I just won't be able to cope if we fall over from here, is the glee the haters are going to express.

We are all going to be subjected to that taunts about same old Warriors, chokers and the like.

Surely the game can't be that cruel.

## New Deal For Kearney

News this week that coach Stephen Kearney has a new deal in the pipeline, and it's one that could make him our longest serving coach.

He has a three-year deal that is up at the end of next season, and apparently talks have already started on a new deal.

You can understand why we would want to lock up a longer term deal. I have no problem with it, given it is all supposed to be part of a long-term building process and that sort of thing.

I for one am absolutely sick of the coaching merry-go-round we have witnessed.

Besides which, contracts aren't worth the paper they are printed on- just ask Griffin.

Ivan Cleary did six years, Daniel Anderson four, while John Monie and Andrew McFadden are the only others to last more than two seasons.

Doesn't say much for us does it.

We have to believe that looking longer term has to be the way forward.

## RTS In Hunt For Dally M

Captain Roger Tuivasa-Sheck is being mentioned in the debate over the Dally M player of the year. Aussie's bookies have him behind Bunny Damian Cook and Knight Kalyn Ponga.

Ponga won't win simply because his Knights won't make the eight, and the winner always comes from a side that goes deep in the finals.

Gary Freeman and Jason Taumalolo are the only previous Kiwis to have won.

RTS has had an amazing time of late and made his 50th NRL appearance for us against the Bulldogs.

## Billy Calls It A Day

I was in Melbourne last week when Storm fullback Billy Slater called time on his NRL career.

You know how much coverage it got in the papers?

Hardly any.

The only game they give a toss about in Victoria is Aussie Rules.

Two Clive Churchill Medals, a Dally M, two NRL premierships, 31 Origin games and instrumental to Queensland's dominance, more than 300 games for the Storm with 187 tries, and 30 tests for Australia.

Even I love the guy and will forgive him for being at the Storm. One of the best ever.



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



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



# NZ Police v Australia Police

By Sir Peter Leitch

**M**OST OF you know I like the coppers - I'm the Patron of a Police Wing from the Royal New Zealand Police College, my good mate Dexter Trail is an Inspector in the Tasman District (I have no idea what he does down there!) and my other good mate Tony Feasey is a dog handler (its clear the dog dog does all the running).

I support our police as they have a bloody tough job to do some days. This Friday night the 24th August they have another tough assignment.. the New Zealand Police Rugby League team will be playing the Australian Police Rugby League team before the mighty Vodafone Warriors take on the Penrith Panthers. GO the mighty Vodafone Warriors!!

I want as many of you as possible to get along early to support the boys and cheer them on. They don't often get an opportunity like this so we need get in behind them and watch them beat the Aussies. I'm told there's no love lost between these two sides so there should be some good hard entertaining footy and you never Reg Regan might even make an appearance.

There's been a number of Warriors NRL, ISP and NYC players choose a career in the Police after they've finished playing rugby league. Names like Tony Tatupu, Junior Fiu (current Asst Coach of the ISP team), Boycie Nelson, Lee Oudenryn, Francis Meli to name just a few.

There will be Police displays all around the joint on Friday night, the Dog Squad will be there, Police Recruiting, Road Policing, Armed Offenders Squad and the Launch Section. So make sure you come along and don't be afraid to say hi to the boys and girls in blue, give them a hug even and thank them for the work they do. Remember they are just ordinary people like you and me who have an extra-ordinary job!

GATES OPEN:	5:15PM
KICK OFF:	5:35PM NZ POLICE v AUSTRALIA POLICE
NRL KICK OFF	8.00PM Vodafone Warriors V Penrith Panthers

*Constable Troy Larsen taking a hit up against British Columbia Selection supported by Dylan Weatherall on the NZPRL tour to Canada in 2017. Troy is the son of a former Mighty Mangere East Hawks player Garry Larsen who is also in the NZ Police.*







Australian Federal politician, Anthony Albanese at the recent Newtown Jets Vs Penrith game at Henson Park in Sydney on 28 July. Wearing a Newtown Jets T-shirt, he is speaking to some of his constituents.



By Barry Ross  
Australian Correspondent

## Dedication

**I** REALLY ENJOYED the annual Men of League Gala dinner, which was held last Wednesday night, 15 August, at the Westin Hotel in Pitt Street Sydney. This year the theme was great Grand Finals since 1955, when these games became permanent each year. The 10 Grand Finals celebrated were 1955 (Souths beat Newtown), 1965 (St. George beat South Sydney), 1973 (Manly beat Cronulla), 1981 (Parramatta beat Newtown), 1989 (Canberra beat Balmain), 1997 (Newcastle beat Manly), 2003 (Penrith beat the Roosters), 2005 (Wests Tigers beat the North Queensland Cowboys), 2014 (Souths beat the Bulldogs) and 2015 (the Cowboys beat the Broncos). The 1989 decider was judged as the best of all the Grand Finals with the 2015 game, a close second.

More than 460 guests at the black tie function enjoyed the night, with many great names of the game being present. Fox TV commentator Steve Roach (20 Tests), in a humorous speech, told how much disappointment he felt after losing the 1989 Grand Final. Other Australian Test players, including St. George legend Billy Smith (26 Tests), Michael Cronin (33 Tests), Fred Jones (3 Tests), Ron Coote (23 Tests), Paul Gallen (31 Tests), Michael Morgan (12 Tests), Robbie Farah (8 Tests) and Greg Brentnall (13 Tests), enjoyed the night, as did popular New Zealander Martin Taupau (21 Tests). Recently appointed NRL Commissioner, Peter V'Landys was also a guest, as was Men of League Patron, John Fahey AC and former NRL Commission chairman, John Grant and his wife, Helen Wood Grant, who is a Men of League board member. Chairman of the Men of League, Professor, the Honourable Stephen Martin and newly appointed CEO, Stephen Lowndes, welcomed the guests.

During the night, it was announced that in the seven and a half months of this calendar year, more than half a million dollars had been spent by the Men of League on well being. The 500 plus active Men of League volunteers throughout Australia were thanked for their dedication and hard work.

The large numbers of big name and talented players who are retiring at the end of this season has been well covered in the media on both sides of the Tasman. This year probably will see the biggest loss of experience due to retirement after a single season, in the game's history. If you add the players who have finishing during this season because of injury to the men who have announced their retirement as at their final game this year, there is 3,122 first grade games and 184 Tests (Australia, New Zealand, England, Samoa, Scotland) of experience leaving Rugby League from the names I have mentioned below and I have probably forgotten some.

The players who finished during this year include Peter Wallace (240 games), Beau Scott (244) and Antonio Winterstein (214), while the ones going at the end include Billy Slater (315), Ryan Hoffman (324), Chris Heighington (337), Luke Lewis (319), Sam Thaiday (301), Simon Mannering (298), Jason Nightingale (265) and Jacob Lillyman (265). All these players are a credit to themselves and our game and everyone in Rugby League wishes them well.

*Continued on next page...*

Anthony Albanese, the Federal member for the seat of Grayndler in inner Sydney's western suburbs, is a true Rugby League man. He played the game and is a strong supporter of South Sydney in the NRL and the Newtown Jets in the NSWRL Intrust Super Premiership. Just a week or so ago, he made a very complementary speech about the Newtown Jets in the Australian Federal Parliament. A member of the Australian Labor Party, who at the moment are leading the polls for next year's election, many believe Anthony should be the party leader and Australia's next Prime Minister.

The 117th English Challenge Cup final will be held this Saturday (25 August) at Wembley Stadium in England. The Warrington Wolves, coached by former St. George/Illawarra Head coach, Steve Price, will take on the Catalans Dragons, who are coached by Steve McNamara. Several former NRL players in both teams, will play in this clash. Last Saturday, 18

August, the Toronto Wolfpack hosted a super league team for the first time at their home ground, Lamp-ort Stadium in Toronto. In a round two, Super 8 Qualifying game, Hull Kingston Rovers, coached by former Australian coach, Tim Sheens beat the Wolf-  
pack 28-22 before a crowd of 7,540. There are seven, Super 8 Qualifying rounds to decide the make up of the top English competition in 2019. The bottom four teams from the Super League (Leeds Rhinos, Hull KR, Salford and Widnes) play the top four sides from the second tier Bedford League competition (Toulouse Olympique, London Broncos, Halifax and the Wolfpack) in a round robin tournament. After two rounds, Salford are the only team to win both of their matches, while the Wolfpack and Hull KR both have a win and a loss.

It is good that the Warriors finish the regular season with two home games. They can regroup and concentrate on confirming their place in the top eight teams.



DAVID ROSS, BILLY SMITH (26 Tests, 4 winning Grand Finals with St George), ROBBIE FARAH (8 Tests, 2005 Grand Final win with the Wests Tigers).



DAVID ROSS, MARTIN TAUPAU (21 Tests for New Zealand), BILLY SMITH (26 Tests, 4 winning Grand Finals with St George).



From left FRED JONES (3 Tests and Manly captain in the winning 1973 Grand Final), LYN CRONIN, MICHAEL CRONIN (33 Tests, 4 winning Grand Finals with Par-  
amatta), DAVID ROSS, BILLY SMITH (26 Tests, 4 winning Grand Finals with St. George), BARRY ROSS and RICHARD BRADLEY.



BARRY ROSS and BILLY SMITH. Billy is wearing an NRL Hall of fame jacket, but he is proudly showing off his St. George Dragons shirt. And so he should, after a record 296 games for the club and four winning first grade Grand Finals.



# Last Grand Final At Addington

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)



**L**INWOOD KEAS and Hornby Panthers clash for the third consecutive season in Sunday's Canterbury grand final at AMI Stadium. It will be the last club game at rugby league's spiritual Addington home before moving to the new Nga Puna Wai sports complex in 2019. Linwood is in its fourth consecutive grand final after losing to Papanui Tigers in a 2015 extra-time thriller and beating Hornby 29-10 in 2016 and 34-20 last year.

This is a fitting inter-club finale on a strip of turf known as the Addington Show Grounds from rugby league's founding in 1912 until 1997, when it became Rugby League Park. In 2012 the venue was renamed AMI Stadium after the earthquakes. Formed in 1915, Hornby is the most successful club in terms of championship wins while Linwood, unbeaten this year, is the last of the four originals still playing premier football.

Linwood stormed into the grand final two weeks ago by beating Northern Bulldogs 48-10 in the major semi-final. But Hornby, led by stalwarts Corey Lawrie and James Baxendale, were 50-6 minor semi-final winners over Halswell Hornets before eliminating the Bulldogs 16-6 in Saturday's preliminary final. The last Addington grand final for the Pat Smith Challenge Trophy has all the ingredients of being a classic contest.

Grand finals were introduced in 1967. Notable feats and records since then are:

The first: Hornby had won the previous three championships under the old first-past-the-post system before beating Addington 17-10 in the inaugural grand final. Kiwi Brian Langton was one of Hornby's try-scorers.

Venues: Of the 51 previous grand finals, 47 have been held in Addington. The others were at Denton Oval in 2011 and 2014, Rugby Park in 2013 (the only rugby league game ever played there) and Linfield Park in 2017.

Biggest score and biggest winning margin: Linwood 66 beat Hornby 10 in 2005.

Fewest points in a match: Papanui 8 beat Sydenham 5 in 1978.

Extra time (not golden point): Linwood 9 Papanui 7 in 1968 (won by a John Rosanowski penalty goal); Hornby 19 Halswell 18 in 2012 (won by a Corey Lawrie field goal); Hornby 22 Halswell 20 in 2013 (won by a James Baxendale penalty goal); Papanui 20 Linwood 14 in 2015 (won by a James Wihongi try and Izic Placid conversion).

Knock-out drops: Kiwi Phil Bancroft kicked late field goals for Halswell to beat Hornby 17-16 in 1985 and 15-14 in 1987 when extra time seemed inevitable.

Grand final appearances: Hornby 23, Halswell 19, Papanui 17, Linwood 14, Marist-Western Suburbs 7, Addington 6, Eastern Suburbs 6, Sydenham 4, Celebration 2, Kaiapoi 2, Riccarton 2.

Grand final wins: Hornby 15, Papanui 11, Halswell 10, Linwood 6, Eastern Suburbs 4, Addington 2, Riccarton 2, Kaiapoi 1.

Biggest losing streak: Marist-Western lost all 7 grand finals, to Hornby in 1969, Linwood in 1970, Papanui in 1972 and 1973, Eastern Suburbs in 1979, Halswell in 1988 and Addington in 1989. Marist-Western last played premier football in 1996.

Most consecutive grand finals: 8 by Papanui from 1971 to 1978, losing only to Eastern Suburbs in 1975. Kiwi Rodney Walker played in all eight and was winning captain-coach in the last three.

Most repeat grand finals: 4 between Hornby and Halswell from 1984 to 1987. Hornby won in 1984 and 1986 and Halswell won in 1985 and 1987.

Father and son winning coaches: Frank Endacott won with Addington in 1982 and Hornby in 1986 and son Shane Endacott won with Halswell in 2011 and Papanui (co-coach with Jonny Pritchard) in 2015.

*Continued on next page...*



*Continued from previous page...*

Most refereeing appointments: Test referee Peter Yaxley controlled the first nine grand finals from 1967 to 1975.

Most individual tries and points: Kiwi and Warrior Aaron Whittaker scored 5 tries and kicked 6 goals (32 points) when Riccarton (54) beat Linwood (14) in 2002.

Most goals: 11 by Leon Boyd for Linwood (66) against Hornby (10) in 2005. Boyd also scored a try for 26 points.

Most tries by a forward: 3 by second-rower Graham Larson for Hornby (20) against Halswell (5) in 1986.

Most grand finals as a player and coach: 12 by Kiwi Wayne Wallace from 1982 to 2009. Played in 6 for Hornby (won 4, one as player-coach) and one for Marist-Western (lost), non-playing coach of Hornby in 4 (won them all) and co-coached Hornby to win in 2009.

Most grand final appearances: 10 by Kiwi Barry Edkins, 5 for Eastern Suburbs between 1975 and 1981 and 5 for Hornby from 1982 to 1986.

Most consecutive appearances: 8 by Barry Edkins for Eastern from 1979 to 1981 and Hornby from 1982 to 1986 and Rodney Walker for Papanui from 1971 to 1978.

Most wins as a player: 7 by Barry Edkins for Eastern in 1975-79-80-81 and Hornby in 1983-84-86 and Rodney Walker for Papanui from 1971 to 1974 and from 1976 to 1978.

Played grand finals for most clubs: 4 clubs by Grant Findlay, for Papanui in 1972-76-77 (all won), Marist-Western Suburbs in 1973 (lost), Eastern Suburbs in 1979 (winning player-coach) and Addington in 1981 (losing player-coach).

Footnote: Hornby has won most (27) championships since 1913, well ahead of Sydenham (16), Papanui (13), Linwood (11) and Halswell (10). Papanui and Linwood also shared the 1960 title under the first-past-the-post system.

VODAFONE  
WARRIORS

V

PANTHERS

**THIS FRIDAY**  
**MT SMART STADIUM**  
NRL KICK OFF 8:00PM





# GRAND FINAL

**SUNDAY 26th AUGUST 2018**

**THE FINAL KICK OFF  
at  
RUGBY LEAGUE PARK  
ADDINGTON**

---

**WOMEN'S GRAND FINAL - 1pm**

---

**MEN'S GRAND FINAL - 3pm**

---

**ENTRY PRICE: Adults \$10  
Children 16 years and under FREE**







*By Miles Davis*

## Bulldogs & Nightingale

**T**HE COMPELLING, but often tortuous, ride that is the Vodafone Warriors season took another slight dip at the weekend. The game against the Bulldogs was in itself a microcosm of the season so far. Brilliance followed by lapses followed by a great comeback and finishing with a sporting knee to the groin as birthday boy Lachlan Lewis popped over a late drop goal to win the game 27-26.

I can understand that some fans are now feeling slightly nervous about their beloved club's play-off prospects but I am quietly confident. The Dragons victory over Wests Tigers means that the Vodafone Warriors would have to lose both of their last 2 games (at home to the injury-hit Penrith Panthers and the up and down Canberra Raiders) and the Tigers would have to win both of theirs – against Manly and the Rabbitohs – plus turning around a 45 points differential that is currently in our favour. That is an unlikely scenario so qualification for the top 8 is relatively assured. In a perfect world they may even sneak a top 4 spot with the 3 teams above them having just 2 points more. The downside is that the Vodafone Warriors points differential is the worst of the bunch although a couple of hefty wins would put that right.

Some more positives from the weekend's loss is the form of several key players. David Fusitua is having a huge season and is a beast. His power and ability challenging for a high ball makes him as big a threat near the line as anyone in the NRL. Isaac Luke is living up to his nickname and bullying opponents. If he can take the ball to the line consistently he will worry any defence. I also thought Simon Mannering had a massive game and is playing as well as ever. It's as if he is determined to leave nothing in the tank before his retirement at the end of the season. How good would it be to send off a club legend with a Grand Final win?

Another factor that gives me confidence is that the Vodafone Warriors thrive on the underdog tag. Sunday's game was against a lowly side that was trying to avoid the wooden spoon. It is just the sort of game the Vodafone Warriors tend to trip up in. When they face a form side in the competition they tend to lift their game. That is the side I expect to see come play-off time. Keep the faith.

### GOODBYE JASON

**T**HERE IS an old song entitled "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square" well there is another Nightingale that has made my rugby league heart sing on many occasions over the last 11 years – Jason (or Gypsy as we know him). So it was with sadness that I greeted the news of his retirement from rugby league at the end of this season. He is a one club man who has played almost 300 games for the Dragons and scored over 100 tries. In my mind he has been the most consistent and reliable player for my beloved Dragons over the last decade. He never let us down. Solid in defence, magnificent under the high ball and a great finisher he will be very hard to replace. I will never forget his two tries in the 2010 Grand Final that ended 31 barren years for my favourite club. That year he was also named in Rugby League's team of the year. On top of his stellar career in the NRL he has also notched up 33 appearances and 19 tries for the Kiwis.

*Continued on next page...*

*Continued from previous page...*

As well as his ability it his loyalty that has earned him my undying affection and gratitude. Players like him are a rarity in the modern game and I am keeping my fingers crossed that somehow the Dragons can turn their recent poor form around and make it to the Grand Final to give him a perfect send-off. Hopefully against the Vodafone Warriors where he can battle for the final time against another legend cut from similar cloth – Simon Mannering. Now that would be the perfect end to a great story.

Jason Nightingale highlights 2010 – 2012 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoO2nul8cX4>

More Nightingale Magic <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-XWddNguDU>



**T**HE ULTIMATE All-Stars clash is back, transforming in 2019.

In what will be a modern tribal showcase of First Nations players proudly representing their cultures, the Australian Indigenous team are set to take on the New Zealand Māori team for the very first time in a Men's and Women's double-header at AAMI Park Melbourne on Friday 15 February 2019.

**Get Tickets**

A marriage of cultures, history and community on the field for one night only!

## NRL Judiciary Final Results - Round 23

	Club	Time Minute of Match	Charge / Incident	Charge Grade	Result - Guilty or Not Guilty	Matches to Serve	Points/Fine Calculation	Carry-Over Points	Misconduct on whom?
Chambers Will	Storm	37th	Dangerous Contact - Head/Neck	3	Guilty - Early Plea	3	382	82	Hayne Jarryd
Kikau Viliame	Panthers	76th	Contrary Conduct	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	\$1,100	N/A	(Melee)
Blake Waqa	Panthers	76th	Contrary Conduct	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	\$1,100	N/A	(Melee)
May Tyrone	Panthers	76th	Contrary Conduct	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	\$1,100	N/A	(Melee)
Kenny-Dowall Shaun	Knights	76th	Contrary Conduct	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	\$750	N/A	(Melee)
Levi Danny	Knights	76th	Contrary Conduct	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	\$1,100	N/A	(Melee)
Cordner Boyd	Roosters	38th	Dangerous Throw	1	Guilty - Early Plea	0	75	75	Bateman Luke

**Check out this NZRL Insider weekly update:**

<https://mailchi.mp/e0253bf29e8c/nzrl-insider-weekly-update-cc01-9b4qs5-411425>





By Shane Hurndell  
Hawke's Bay Today  
Sports Reporter

## Play It Again Sam

**BIG CUSTOMER** Maraenui prop Sam Magele attracts three defenders during this hit up against Tamatea on Saturday including former Magpies rugby prop Mason Kean at left.

PHOTO HAWKE'S BAY TODAY

**O**NE QUESTION has been asked regularly by spectators during the first two weeks of Hawke's Bay's premier club rugby league competition.

Is that former Hawke's Bay Strongest Man Competition winner Sam Magele turning out at prop for Maraenui? Yes it is.

Father of four Magele, 40, who won the last Hawke's Bay Strongest Man Competition in 2013 last played league five years ago and returned to the sport this season as part of a weight-loss mission.

"I started the 40-Week Challenge in November. You had to lose 40kgs in 40 weeks. I only managed 37kgs so I decided to carry on with the aim of completing it," explained Magele who was 213kgs when he started and 175kg when he took the field on Saturday.

If there was a heavier league or union player in New Zealand I would be surprised.

"I'm hoping to keep losing weight so I can get my fitness up to play rugby for Tech next year."

Last year he bettered the New Zealand bench press record for over 120kg competitors by 1kg with a press of 307kg.

"My days of Strongest Man competitions are over. The boys are a lot bigger these days and they have a few lollies which I'm not into," he said referring to performance enhancing drugs.

"It's important I keep motivated. I want people to think if a big guy like me can get out on the field then they can do it too," Magele explained.

The truck driver for NZL Transport and Hiab Specialists had two short rests during 60 minutes of action when Maraenui were beaten 40-22 by Tamatea during Saturday's second round fixture at the Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park in Hastings. While he didn't score a try as he did in the previous week's 42-18 loss to Bridge Pa Magele said he relished marking former Hawke's Bay Magpies rugby prop Mason Kean.

"Everyone told me how highly Mason is ranked. He is tough but I enjoyed running it straight at him. Tamatea are a tight outfit and well organised with their systems. We did well to get 16 players for the game and although I hurt my shoulder in the first half I kept going because we ran out of subs."

"If my shoulder is right I'll be back out there playing again next week," Magele added.

In the other premier grade clash defending champions Kahuranaki were handed a 78-14 drubbing by the team they beat in last year's grand final Bridge Pa. Winger and man-of-the-match, Jarome Mareikura, scored four tries for Bridge Pa.

*Continued on next page...*

Continued from previous page...

"It was a bit of a grudge match for us and it was good to put on a display like that for Colin," Bridge Pa player-coach Ihaka Waerea said referring to scrumhalf Colin Hokianga who was playing his blazer game, 25th match, for Bridge Pa.

Hokianga, secondrower Rana Huata, and captain and centre Jeston Craig joined Mareikura on Waerea's MVP list. Waerea was impressed with his team's ball security and completions.

Secondrower Teina Huia celebrated his Bridge Pa debut with a try. Hooker James Bailey, Craig and winger Roger Paewai scored two tries each while standoff Waerea and substitute Buffy Wainhou also scored tries.

Former Magpies rugby winger Mikey Vuicakau also made his debut for Bridge Pa. Former Canterbury rugby league rep Jermahl Carroll shone at fullback for Bridge Pa, in general play and with his goalkicking.

Kahuranaki were missing several key players in their first outing of the season. Standoff Czebalos Smiler and experienced forward Boy Waaka were their best players.

Reserve grade games saw defending champions Bridge Pa beat Omahu Huia 38-22 and Bay Bulldogs wallop Flaxmere 60-8.

Women's grade fixtures saw Hastings Rugby and Sports upset Tamatea 32-22 and defending champions Bridge Pa beat improving newcomers YMP 50-4.

## Want to do a tour of Mt Smart this Friday?

If you want to do a tour of Mt Smart Stadium go to the back of the Western stand and go to the Southern end. On the right hand side there is a lift. Tell security that you doing the tour of the Stadium and then take the lift to the Stacey Jones lounge and ask for Sir Peter. The tour will kick off at 6.30pm all welcome! This tour will be led by my good mate Dexter who flies up from Nelson just for this.



**Good luck to the All Blacks for their game against Australia at Eden Park this Saturday!**



## NRL MATCH OFFICIALS - ROUND 24



GAME: WARRIORS V PANTHERS		DATE: FRIDAY 24TH AUGUST 2018	
VENUE: MT SMART STADIUM		KICK OFF: 8.00PM NZ (FOX)	
HEAD REFEREE:	Ashley Klein	REVIEW OFFICIAL:	Luke Patten
ASSIST REFEREE:	Chris Sutton	SENIOR REVIEW OFFICIAL:	Steve Chiddy
TOUCH JUDGES:	Kasey Badger		
	Nick Beashel		
STANDBY TJ:	Chris McMillan	JERSEY COLOUR:	Yellow





# High-Tackle Holloway... I'll give ya the tip mate!

## The Mad Butchers Weekly NRL Tipping Comp.

By John Holloway

### NRL Round 24

		Tarsh Ieremaia	Joe Vagana	John Coffey	Fast Eddie	Monty Betham	Neville Kesha	High-Tackle Holloway
		<i>Flava Star. Moving to the beat.</i>	<i>League Legend and Machine Lease King.</i>	<i>Newsletter Columnist and Veteran Leagueie</i>	<i>Devonport Dutchman - Takin it easy...</i>	<i>The Warrior Boxer - StepsForLife</i>	<i>Ex International Referee</i>	<i>Richmond Bulldog - Old School Richmond Leagueie</i>
Date/ Venue	Game							
Thur 23 Aug Cmbtwn	Tigers v Sea Eagles	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers
Fri 24 Aug Mt Smart	Warriors v Panthers	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors
Fri 24 Aug 1300Smiles	Cowboys v Eels	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys
Sat 25 Aug GIO	Raiders v Rabbits	Rabbits	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Rabbits	Rabbits	Raiders
Sat 25 Aug CBus	Titans V Storm	Storm	Storm	Titans	Titans	Storm	Storm	Storm
Sun 26 Aug ALLIANZ	Roosters v Broncos	Roosters	Roosters	Roosters	Roosters	Roosters	Broncos	Broncos
Sun 26 Aug SthCross	Sharks v Knights	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks
Sun 26 Aug Jubilee	Dragons v Bulldogs	Dragons	Bulldogs	Bulldogs	Dragons	Dragons	Dragons	Dragons
Picks last week		5/8	4/8	2/8	3/8	3/8	2/8	3/8
Total picks		106	98	104	102	97	113	98

### Do You Laugh Or Cry...

**T**HE WARRIORS just keep on posing that same question. They lose when they shouldn't, they win when its totally unexpected and the only thing that's consistent is their inconsistency. You take the front seat on a very tall and twisty roller coaster when you sign on to the Warriors. I try to console myself by imagining what the Raiders, Bulldogs, Eels, Manly and Cowboy fans have felt this year, they may have expected higher aims than us and yet failed miserably. I ask myself would I rather be Kearney or Ricky Stuart, Kearney or Dean Pay, Kearney or Paul Green, Kearney or Barrett....The answer is Kearney every time. Notwithstanding the topsey-turvey ride, progress has been achieved. We are in the 8 albeit tenuously, we have had a big sequence winning start, we have achieved a terrific away win record, we have demonstrated on occasions a very resolute defence and notably we mainly "stayed in the fight" for 80 minutes all attributes that we were not reknown for. All this in the face of the fact that many pundits said we were too flakey and would surely challenge again for the wooden spoon. One or two heretics sought headlines by forecasting us into the top 8, they are feeling a either a bit clever or a bit amused right now. So here we are two games from D-Day still wringing our hands and crossing our fingers. Unbelievably after this ugly 27/26 dip v the Bulldogs we are still only 4 points below the Number 1 spot (Storm/32pts) on the ladder. We sit precariously on the bottom rung of the 8 with 28pts and the Tigers 2 wins away on 24pts still eyeing us up.

Continued on next page...

*Continued from previous page...*

That's where we live brothers lets see where the dice fall. The Dragon you could say did us a favour holding the Tigers back for this round with a 20/10 win at the Westies legendary home Liechhardt Oval, no small feat against Ivan Clearys desperate 9th placed crew and a capacity crowd baying for Red V blood. Some surprises elsewhere too as Russell Crowes rampant Rabbitohs got bucked bigtime by the Broncos 18/38 and the mid table Steeltown Knights served it up to the well fancied Panthers 20/12 in front of the not very happy Penrith home crowd. Last but not least Rueful Ricky turned into Rapturous Ricky as the Rocky Raiders got home over the ladder leading Roosters in a low scorer 14/12. This allowed the Storm to go back to the top with a regulation 20/4 victory over the stranded Eels. Johnny Thurstons last

game in Sydney was memorable only for that as The Sharkies dined out 28/16, no fairytale finish here for the fabulously talented JT, the humble hero of the Maroons and the Far North. So this week more twists in the tail, who finishes where in penultimate 8 and who is falling out the back door gate. The mighty Vodafone Warriors are at our Home Friday nite, so get ya cheer gears on. The Blue Mountain boys are coming to bigtown Penrose. Burgers and Beers and Phil Goulds tears. Be there or be square!!!

TIPPING A bit lopsided this round, Tarsh 5/8 and big Joe Vagana 4/8 did best but not good for the rest. The upsets causing carnage. A small miracle needed to unsettle the Whistle-blower out front by 7 wins with but two rounds to go. Read it and weep.

## Last Double Header In Sydney For 2018

By Joe Williams - ISP Team Manager / Football Administrator

**T**HE JOHN Teina coached Vodafone Warriors Intrust Super Premiership team head to Sydney in the final round robin sudden-death game for a chance to secure their place in the final series with a match against North Sydney Bears.

Despite losing their last six matches, they're still seventh on the ladder on 22 points thanks to a run of helpful results from the teams nearest them on the ladder. But, after failing to register success since beating the Mounties on June 30, they must now rediscover winning touch to make the finals starting the following weekend.

While the Vodafone Warriors Jersey Flegg team, coached by Ricky Henry, play their last game of the year, also against North Sydney Bears.

The games this weekend is at North Sydney Oval on Saturday 25th August with Jersey Flegg kicking off at 1.30pm followed by the Intrust Super Premiership team kicking off at 3.00pm.

### Intrust Super Premiership

	5 Junior Pauga
	6 Chanel Harris-Tavita
Vodafone Warriors V	7 Sam Cook
North Sydney Bears	8 Ligi Sao
3.00Pm, Saturday, August	9 Karl Lawton
25	10 Chris Satae
North Sydney Oval,	11 Matiu Love-Henry
Sydney	12 Joseph Vuna
	13 James Bell (C)
Vodafone Warriors	Interchange:
	14 Reece Charlie
1 Hayze Perham	15 Tom Ale
2 Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad	16 Patrick Siple
3 Blake Ayshford	17 King Vuniyayawa
4 Anthony Gelling	Coach   John Teina

### Jersey Flegg Cup

	6 Dakohta Taimani
	7 Paul Turner
Vodafone Junior Warriors	8 Preston Riki
V North Sydney Bears	9 Taane Paki
1.30Pm, Saturday, August	10 Wesley Veikoso
25	11 Kakoi Togo
North Sydney Oval,	12 Tyler Slade (C)
Sydney	13 Phillip Makatoa
	Interchange:
Vodafone Junior Warriors	14 Antonio Poua
	15 Lotu Inisi
1 Kayal Iro	16 Junior Pua
2 Harley Maynard	17 Eiden Ackland
3 Lewis Soosemea	18 Carlos Henry
4 Patrick Elia	
5 Edward Kosi	Coach   Ricky Henry





# The Man Behind One Of NZ Sport's Most Iconic Anthems

*By Jackson Thomas*

*Article courtesy stuff.co.nz*

**I**F SIR Peter Leitch or Shaun Johnson are the face of the Warriors, Lapi Mariner is the voice. His 2001 anthem became synonymous with the club through some of its toughest years and to this day, that six-word hook instils a feeling of nostalgia and hope in many a die-hard Warrior fan.

It's just a matter of faith.

Seventeen years a go, it was an advert by Vodafone which launched the song into the mainstream.

It depicted the man with the voice, Mariner, leading a band of Warriors fans "Pied Piper-style" down Auckland's Karangahape Rd, belting out the gospel track.

At the time, it was just a catchy slogan to market the telco company's sponsorship with New Zealand's lone NRL franchise.

But it became so much more.

It turned into a phrase muttered in Kiwi league circles for years, usually after one of the side's many on-field disappointments.

And season after heartbreaking season, it was a crutch on which fans lent.

Flash forward 17 years and the catchy chorus could still be heard echoing down Beasley Ave after the Warriors Round 12, 30-10 loss, to South Sydney.

"Keep the faith brothers, we'll bounce back. It's just a matter of faith," one fan sang, as he charged proudly toward the Penrose McDonalds, fist in the air.

However, at the time of its recording back in 2001, Mariner and the team at Liquid Studios had no idea just how big the song would become - or how much it would change the life of a shy boy from West Auckland.

Mariner always knew he had a gift.

From a young age he would sing in church, at home and jam with the family.

But his true passion - ironically - was rugby league and through his early years, that was the avenue down which Mariner saw his life heading.

"I grew up in Te Atatu North, or I think they call it Peninsula now? something fancy like that," he said, sipping a green smoothie at his now local Otahuhu cafe.

"It was a great place to grow up, very diverse. We had a lot of Pasifika people, Pakeha and also all the Croatian kids who's families owned the vineyards. I was surrounded by a whole host of different music and cultures but like all kids, I gravitated to sports."

*Continued on next page...*

The Waitakere College product was a talented teen.

At 14 years old he was selected to represent Auckland at a tournament in the Waikato - until tragedy struck.

"I missed the bus down but I was so keen to get there and have my first real crack that the old man agreed to drive me," Mariner said.

"We were on the motorway when a woman coming the other way lost control. Her wheel buckled under her car and she slid across the lane. Straight into us. Head on."

The crash left the young rugby league prodigy broken. His hip, ankle and knee were shattered and he was forced to take the best part of the year off school recovering.

He was told he would never play league again.

Unable to chuck the ball around with his mates at lunchtime, Mariner became isolated and "lost".

That was until he met a group of boys who "truly changed everything".

"There was a group of guys who would hangout in the B block toilets and sing, all day," he said.

"While I was recovering I would go sit outside and just tap my foot and nod along, probably looked pretty weird to the other kids but I fell in love with the harmonies and honestly, that was where it all started for me."

After eventually plucking up the courage to go in and jam with his fellow students, Mariner became the ultimate school entertainer.

Over the next few years he starred in all of the school's shows and learnt how to properly use his powerful voice.

He joined a group and picked up a job working at the Aotea Centre.

Mariner would sing on the job and for the boys at lunchtime, his big break coming when his then boss, Don Mann, was leaving to take up a position at the Warriors.

"He was doing some marketing stuff for New Zealand Rugby League, this is 1999, and he asked if I could sing the anthems. Honestly, I can't thank Don enough for giving me that," he said.

"Even though I never got to fulfil my dream of playing on that stage, I still got to be out there next to the boys and I suppose represent my country, in my own little way."

Mann, brother of Kiwi league great and foundation Warrior Duane Mann, then put Mariner's name forward for the 2001 ad campaign.

"And from there the rest is history," Mariner said.

"The relationships I built through that period really kick-started my career. I would record jingles for Liquid Studios and I got to travel the world. Truly blessed for that song [It's just a matter of faith] and the people that helped make it happen."

Nowadays, Mariner is still a professional singer, and splits his year between singing at concerts in the Pacific Islands, New Zealand and America, where he plays some of the biggest hotels in Las Vegas.

And as the 2018 Warriors charge toward their first finals birth in seven years, he said his faith in the team remained as strong as it was all those years ago.

Mariner hopes his latest version of the song, sung with students from his old stomping ground at Waitakere College, can serve as extra motivation to the players, club and its loyalist fans.



# Motu appointed NZRL GM for High Performance

*By Brooke Hurdell*

**O**N MONDAY, the New Zealand Rugby League (NZRL) announced the appointment of the new General Manager for High Performance, Kiwi #686 Motu Tony.

Tony begins his new role this week after stepping down from his recently appointed position as NZRL Independent Board Director to put his expertise to work on the organisation's senior management team.

Motu Tony brings almost 20 years of experience in professional sport to the role. His playing career included 13 Tests for the Kiwis between 2001 and 2006 winning the 2005 Tri-Nations, alongside stints with the New Zealand Warriors and Super League's Hull FC.

Of recent, he has attained board experience with Baseball New Zealand, the New Zealand Rugby Union 'Navigating Two Worlds' Advisory Panel, the Rugby Football League Disciplinary Review Panel Committee and Hull FC Super League Limited to name a few. In addition to this, he recently finished his term as the Acting Chief Executive Officer at Baseball New Zealand following a successful tenure as the General Manager of Football Operations at Hull FC Super League.

At Hull FC, Tony led their high performance programme which included the responsibilities of recruiting and retaining both players and staff, as well as the financial management of a live salary cap. Tony left Hull FC in 2017 to return to New Zealand after the club had won consecutive Challenge Cups (2016 and 2017) and re-established itself as one of the premiere clubs in the Super League.

Greg Peters, Chief Executive of the NZRL is pleased to have someone of Motu Tony's high-performance expertise joining his staff during this exciting period of reinvigoration for the organisation.

"He has almost 20 years of experience in sports leadership as an athlete, administrator and Director (both Executive and Non-Executive). The fact that he has also pulled on the Kiwis jersey is another feather in his cap and will provide insights from unique sides of the spectrum.

"I'm confident Motu will be a great addition to our team as we look to review the draft strategic plan," Peters says.

The NZRL Board will be looking to identify a suitable replacement for Motu Tony on the Board with someone who has the requisite high performance experience.

Bio:

2018 Interim Chief Executive Officer, Baseball New Zealand

2013-2017 General Manager of Football Operations, Hull FC Super League Limited

*Continued on next page...*



*Continued from previous page...*

#### New Zealand Kiwis Rugby League 2001 – 2006


- 13 Tests
- Selection for UK Tours in 2002, 2004 and 2005
- 2005 Tri-nations Winner, 24-0 vs Australia. First time Kiwis had defeated Australia in a Test series in 50 years
- 2006 Tri-nations Grand Finalist

#### Professional Rugby League Player 2001 – 2012

- Wakefield Wildcats
- Hull FC Super League Limited
- Castleford Tigers Super League, Yorkshire, United Kingdom
- Brisbane Broncos, NRL, Australia
- New Zealand Warriors, NRL, New Zealand

#### Board experience

- 2018 – Present Baseball New Zealand
- 2018 – Present New Zealand Rugby Union 'Navigating Two Worlds' Advisory Panel
- 2017 – Rugby Football League Disciplinary Review Panel Committee
- 2017 – Hull Rugby League Participation Committee
- 2016 -2017 – City of Hull Rugby League Academy Board of Directors
- 2014 -2017 – Hull Super League Limited Board of Directors



**Be a Grandstand Millionaire!**

**Got what it takes to win up to a million dollars?**

Just head to a Vodafone Warriors home game, download the Vodafone Stadium Live App, register for Grandstand Millionaire and pick the try scorers in order.

If you nail it, you could be walking home with up to a million dollars!

GET IT ON  
**Google Play**

Available on the iPhone  
**App Store**

The future is exciting.  
**Ready?**

**vodafone**



## New Zealand 18S V New Zealand Samoa 18S Fixture Confirmed

*By Brooke Hurdell*

**T**HE NEW Zealand Rugby League are pleased to announce the New Zealand Resident 18s will face-off against the New Zealand Samoa 18s on Saturday 6 October at Mt Smart Stadium in Auckland.

This game will be the prequel to the Men's National Premiership promotion/relegation game and Grand-Final in what will be a blockbuster triple-header.

David McMeeken, NZRL Talent Manager says the fixture will highlight some of the best 18s age-group talent in our own backyard.

"The occasion provides a great opportunity for these aspiring Kiwis to represent not only themselves and their families, but also their country.

"In successive years New Zealand Rugby League (NZRL) has provided fixtures for both the 16s and 18s age groups, providing a viable and meaningful pathway for our very best players at these age groups and beyond, whilst also adding some prestige for those that want to represent New Zealand," he said.

While New Zealand Rugby League CEO, Greg Peters has spent only several weeks in the role, he is proud that the NZRL is consistently looking for new fixture opportunities with teams around the world including the Pacific Nations.

"We are excited to be able to provide competitive fixtures against Pacific Island teams and to grow our relationship with those countries.

"Players at 18s level are always eager to pull on the New Zealand jersey for the first time and this fixture will present an opportunity for these youngsters to put their best foot forward on the international stage," he said.

As for Samoa, Rugby League Samoa President, Tagaloa Fa'afouina Sua said: "As proud Samoans we are always looking to challenge ourselves on the world stage and this 18s International fixture gives our young Toa Warriors a chance to challenge the best New Zealand has to offer."

"We are grateful that the NZRL continues to support Rugby League Samoa and other Pacific nations and we all look forward to a great day showcasing our best young talent and future stars," he added.

New Zealand Resident 18s v New Zealand Samoa 18s

Saturday, 6 October

Mt Smart Stadium, Auckland

To find out more about whats happening with the NZRL go to: <http://nzrl.co.nz/>





# ARL Match Reports

By ARL

Glenora's Daniel Reuelu-Buchanan

## SAS Fox Memorial Premiership Semi-finals Week 1 Match Reports

Howick 20 Northcote 17

A Drew Radich try inside the final five minutes saw Howick through the elimination semi-final, booking a spot against Pt Chevalier in next week's major semi and ending Northcote's season. With Howick up 12-10 at half-time, a Morgan Timoti-Cook try and a Cole Waaka drop goal gave Northcote a late one-point lead, before Radich powered over to secure the win.

Glenora 26 Pt Chevalier 10

After trailing 4-0 at the end of the first half, a gritty second stanza saw Glenora run away for a win which books their spot in the SAS Fox Memorial Premiership Grand Final for the second year in a row. In the second half, Chase Bernard powered through for his side, before Simon Luafalealo and Epalahame Lauaki extended the lead, taking full advantage of a Pirates side who had two men sent to the sin bin. The Pirates will now face Howick in a do-or-die major semi-final on August 25.

## Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup Week 2 Semi-final Match Reports

Franklin Storm 34 Ellerslie 10

The Franklin Storm continue their brilliant first year in the Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup, after overcoming the Ellerslie Eagles to book a spot in the major semi-finals. After being starved of possession through the first 20 minutes, Franklin battled through to take a 16-6 lead into the break. In the second half they leaked just one try, while piling on the points at the other end, with fullback Jackson Orr scoring a double.

Manurewa 30 Otara 18

Twenty six unanswered points in the second half saw Manurewa overcome Otara to keep their season alive in the elimination semi-final. The Scorpions led 18-4 at the break, after scoring three converted tries, but were powerless to stop their opponent's run in the second. Manurewa hooker David-John Phillips grabbed a double in the win, with the Marlins scoring two late tries to blow the scoreline out.

---

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



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



## Sizzling Super Club opener for South Africa's Jaguars



**A** PERSISTENT AND tenacious Gauteng Jaguars provided the upset of the opening day when overcoming the Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel 65-61 in the Super Club netball tournament in Nelson today.

With a two-point shooting zone introduced for the second edition of Super Club, most teams used every opportunity to try for maximum points but the Jaguars and Steel took a more judicious approach.

Reverting to a more traditional game, the pair, both missing a clutch of frontline players, slugged out an entertaining and closely-contested match where the one-point option was often the chosen option.

Shooter Ine-Mare Venter, midcourter Tshina Mdau and defender Shadine van der Merwe were key performers as the South African champion Jaguars rebounded from an early deficit to lead at halftime before the score changed constantly through an intriguing second half.

The New Zealand champions used many of their younger brigade with rookie shooter Georgia Heffernan having a strong impact alongside Jen O'Connell.

The other results on the opening day of the tournament, where the top three New Zealand teams and five international teams are taking part, went according to script with the NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS), Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse and Silvermoon Tactix posting opening day wins.

A withering final quarter, which reaped 30 goals, helped the Tactix post the biggest score of the day when they outclassed the Singapore's Sneakers 86-51.

With both teams making their first appearance at Super Club, the Tactix opened up strongly as their opponents took time to adjust. Once they found their feet, the Sneakers made a contest of it when losing the second quarter by one goal and winning the third by two.

However, the Sneakers struggled to contain the Tactix accuracy and finishing as well as the height difference.

Defender Sophia Fenwick had a strong outing for the Tactix, grabbing eight intercepts through the match while forming an effective partnership with goalkeeper Lily Marshall. Coming into the game later, goal attack Brooke Leaver brought her well-known energy and enthusiasm with productive results.

A good start and finish paved the way for a 66-33 win for Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse over tournament newcomers, the UWS Sirens from Scotland.

The ANZ Premiership runners-up were able to introduce their four Beko Netball League players during the match, 16-year-old schoolgirl shooter Saviour Tui slotting in like a veteran to play out the whole match.

*Continued on next page...*



*Continued from previous page...*

From the outset, Tui and new Silver Fern Aliyah Dunn were intent on hitting their shots from the two-point zone, starting with a bang to push the Pulse to a healthy lead.

The Pulse dominated the rebounding stakes at both ends of the court with Sulu Fitzpatrick and Karin Burger doing their bit at the defensive end. The Sirens, with Waikato Bay of Plenty Magic shooter Monica Falkner in their ranks, were competitive through the middle stages but with 21-7, 34-17 and 46-24 leads at the respective breaks, the Pulse were never under any threat.

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) opened the tournament with a convincing 71-51 win over the combined Fiji/Samoa team of Marama Vou.

Marama Vou made a bright start with 16-year-old Fiji goal shoot Laisani Waqa and Samoa goal attack AJ Savelio propelling the Pacific Island team to a 14-12 lead at the first break.

A more purposeful and efficient NSWIS soon found their feet, going on to stamp their mark on the remainder of proceedings. Tall goal shoot Georgia Marshall found her groove from both close range and the two-point zone as the Australian team went into halftime with a handy 31-25 lead which was extended to 49-35 at the last break.

Super Club runs from 19-24 August 2018. Head to [NetballNZ.co.nz](http://NetballNZ.co.nz) for the draw and other updates. Catch all the games LIVE on SKY Sport!

---

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



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter

---



I meet Aaron Finan at Monty's function and he just had to show me his tattoo to prove he was a loyal fan.



I popped into Best Ugly Bagesl and got served by Angelo Munro who is a massive Warriors fan. Had the hat on and a tattoo. Turns out he was the lead singer in the punk rock band Bleeders.



# West Coast Chargers go down by 6 in a close encounter with Southland Rams

By Jennifer Pope

**W**EST COAST Chargers played Southland Rams in a close contest to lose by 6, in the South Island tournament, played on Saturday at Wingham Park. A perfect day for Rugby League and both sides played an exciting game of football. Southland winning 24 – 18

Even start by both sides, sizing each other up, West Coast gave away an offensive penalty, Southland had the first shot at points, Ramera Chambers stepped up and scored the opening try. 4 – 0.

Southland had plenty of possession early and their left to right passes were on point to beat the defence and get on the outside, unfortunately the last pass was ruled forward.

West Coast got back into the arm wrestle and both sides went at each other, lots of good contact from Southland player Kieran Turuwhenua and West Coast second rower Hamish Pattinson.

Loose forward for the Rams Dylan Lovett was excellent all day, stand out player for his side, scored the next points to put the visitors in front 8 – 0.

West Coast forced three line drop outs to sustain pressure and finally get on the score board to centre Jordan Forsyth who cleverly took on his opposite centre to score in the corner. Jordan Campbell had the ball on a string with his kicks and converted to get the home side within 2 points. 8 - 6

Replacement props George Watson and Keil Johnson provided some impact running for West Coast, good offload from Johnson to Jordan Pattison had him in the clear with Campbell on his inside, he wasn't able to get the pass away, however it got coast rolling forward and got a penalty right in front of the sticks that Campbell slotted over to even up the points.

West Coast scrambling defence kept turning up for each other but their discipline let them down and gave Southland another chance to get in front right before the half-time whistle. They displayed their great ball skills again, with fluent passes to the right, to bet the defenders sliding and Joe Gillies reaped the rewards. Southland Rams headed into the break, up 12 – 8.

Rueben Ellen, came out in the second half for the coast on a mission, his work rate was high and his defence made it hard for Southland to get out of their own half. Southland coughed up the ball and West Coast were on attack, great straight running from Ellen and J. Pattinson, gave Campbell space to run to the line, give the ball to Navare Jacobs out the back, who threw a great pass to Anata Iraia to score the opening points for the second and get West Coast in front for the first time. Awesome conversion again from Campbell and his side were up 14 – 12.

Southland Rams upped their energy, running hard and around tiring West Coast forwards, Daniel Low for the rams made a break up the middle, a good attacking raid down the right side, fullback Chambers and winger Nehemiah F-Ioane combining well. West Coast scrambling defence did well led by H. Pattison and Campbell diffused the situation. Too many dropped balls when getting tackled hurt the home side, and gave the visitors too much ball in their half. Lovett burst onto the ball to get inches from the try line, got up quick and his dummy half Low was able to dart over before the Charges had a chance to set up, right under the sticks, easy conversion to get Southland back in front by 4.

West Coast started to give away cheap penalties and made it hard for themselves, however their spirit never lacked, Forsyth made some tough runs to get them out of trouble deep in their half, alongside Jacobs who had a terrific game at fullback. Alex Levien also rolled up his sleeves and got down to business with no nonsense runs up the middle.

Southland were very clever with the ball, and set up a play a la Melbourne Storm, Korey Pennicott ran out to draw the defence wide and opened up the inside to Chambers, too fast for the West Coast defence to react, and scored close to the post. Another successful conversion. Score 24 – 14

*Continued on next page...*



*Continued from previous page...*

The clock ticking down and against the West Coast, they did have their chances, Campbell and Jacobs combined again, with a copy book of what worked before and Iraia again scored. Campbell unsuccessful this time with the kick and the home side were down by 6 with minutes to play.

Luke Negri had a last-ditch attempt and breaking the line only to be caught, Southland played smart to kick a 40 – 20 and get the ball back, and therefore stopping any chance of West Coast scoring again.

Jordan Campbell was best on the park in a losing side, second was Lovett for the winning side.

Coach of the Southland Rams Te Iwi Wairau was happy with his sides second half making only 8 errors. Karadine Neilson and Rangi Rogers had great runs from the back. His best prop Turuwhenua leads his pack, Low and Lovett's defence was impressive.

Brad Tacon West Coast Coach, needed his team to step up from last week and thought they did, too many errors that the opposition was able to score off hurt. They talked about playing for the full 80 and felt they achieved that. Southland were a tough side, and he was happy with the way the boys turned up. Jordan Campbell was outstanding, Tayla Eason always put his body on the line, Bailey Stewart went well, and Navare Jacobs active at fullback.

Southland 24 (Chambers 2, Lovett, Low, Gillies tries Taukim 2 goals)

West Coast 18 (Iraia 2, Forsyth tries, Campbell 3 goals)

Get a quote  
or make a  
booking today



When the Mad Butcher goes to Waiheke Island he prefers to travel with Sealink!

## Your link to Waiheke and Great Barrier Islands

Sealink\* ferries have been carrying vehicles, passengers and freight to Waiheke and Great Barrier Islands since 1960.

We welcome foot passengers, or take your car for an island road trip.

For your freight needs, enquire about our versatile Sealink Logistics fleet.

Get in touch with our friendly team to book your travel and transportation around the Hauraki Gulf.

0800 732 546 [info@sealink.co.nz](mailto:info@sealink.co.nz) [www.sealink.co.nz](http://www.sealink.co.nz)



**SEALINK®**  
*Get together®*

# Former International Greats News

## By Graeme Laurence

### **FIGS 2Nd Reunion – Friday 21St September – Kirra Beach Hotel 11.30Am**

**H**I ALL - It's only 5 weeks to go before our 2nd Reunion - Scott Sattler will be our MC again and we will have some great guest speakers. We are expecting in excess of 100 Former International Greats - FIGS to attend.

We are also excited about David Hughes attending. David is the only Prostate Clinical Nurse Specialist in NSW. As Prostate Cancer is one of the FIGS designated charities we will be making a presentation to Dave on behalf of FIGS to assist in the further funding of Prostate Cancer support.

If you intend to come along and support please visit the events section on our Group Facebook page and tick the "going" section. This will help us with our catering. Hope to see you all there for what will be another awesome day

Cost is \$80/supporter with free admission to any Former International Greats – FIGS

### **FIGS Charity Golf Day – Friday 12Th October – Carbrook Golf Club**

All FIGS and supporters are invited to the inaugural FIGS Charity Golf day. Supporting: Dementia and Prostate Cancer – a 4 Ball Ambrose Shotgun Start 18 Holes.

Registration Time: 7.00am for an 8.00am start

Cost: \$120PP - Includes 18 holes and shared cart, Polo Shirt, breakfast on arrival, lunch approx- 12.30pm, 4 complimentary Drinks. - 2 Drink carts will be circulating during the round.

At the completion of the round, during lunch, there will be a prize presentation and a special presentation from special guests TBA.

Please respond directly to Andrew Stokes - stocksdraw688@gmail.com

Get in early and book as there are limited places.

We look forward to seeing you all there!!

### **SPONSOR A HOLE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

\$1,000 Per Hole and you will receive: Advertising Space at your individual hole, a team of 4 players in the event, exposure on the FIGS- Facebook Page and other Media Coverage Sourced on the Day. (Sponsors will need to provide their own advertising banner 48hrs prior to the event)

CONTACT FORMER KIWI BERNIE LOWTHER on +61 412 145 875

Norm Provan's 1962 premiership-winning St George teammate John Riley reflects on Provan's induction as rugby league's 12th Immortal

<https://www.nrl.com/news/2018/08/02/teammates-reflect-happy-norm-provan-day/>

Find them on facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/formerinternationalgreats/>

# SAS College Rugby League Grand Finals Is Tonight Here is the Preview

By ARL

**W**EDNESDAY NIGHT will see a new king of Auckland secondary school rugby league crowned, with Kelston Boys' High School and Mt Albert Grammar to face off for the SAS College Rugby League title.

Perennial heavyweights at schoolboy level, Kelston have gone through the season with just one defeat to their name, and edged past Wesley College in the semi-finals a fortnight ago to advance to the final for the second-straight year.

Mt Albert Grammar on the other hand had to recover from a sluggish start to 2018, powering through the second half of the season to sneak inside the top four on points for and against, before putting in their most impressive performance in recent memory to dispose of St Paul's College in the semi-finals, 22-4.

Entry to Mt Smart Stadium #2 for the match day, which includes four back-to-back Grand Finals, is free for students in school uniform and \$2 for everyone else.

The match will also be streamed live and free from

7pm. [Click here to watch.](#)

Earlier in the day at same venue, St Paul's College will clash with Southern Cross Campus in the U15 nine-side decider, before Sir Edmund Hillary and Aorere College do battle in the girls' competition.

The Senior A Grand Final (second-tier Premier) will be contested between James Cook High School and St Paul's.

All three of those matches will also be streamed live and free. [Click here to watch.](#)

SAS College Rugby League Grand Final night  
Wednesday, August 22

Mount Smart Stadium #2

3.30pm: St Paul's College U15 v Southern Cross Campus U15

4.30pm: Sir Edmund Hillary Girls v Aorere College Girls

5.30pm: James Cook High School Snr A v St Paul's College Snr A

7.00pm: Kelston Boys' High School v Mt Albert Grammar School



v



**8PM FRIDAY AUGUST 24**

**MT SMART STADIUM**





@NRL

# ROUND 23 LADDER

**1**  
32 PTS

**STORM**



**2**  
32 PTS

**ROOSTERS**



**3**  
32 PTS

**RABBITOHS**



**4**  
30 PTS

**DRAGONS**



**5**  
30 PTS

**PANTHERS**



**6**  
30 PTS

**SHARKS**



**7**  
28 PTS

**BRONCOS**



**8**  
28 PTS

**WARRIORS**



**9**  
24 PTS

**TIGERS**



**10**  
20 PTS

**RAIDERS**



**11**  
20 PTS

**KNIGHTS**



**12**  
18 PTS

**TITANS**



**13**  
16 PTS

**BULLDOGS**



**14**  
16 PTS

**SEA EAGLES**



**15**  
14 PTS

**EELS**



**16**  
14 PTS

**COWBOYS**



Holden

# Reader Mail



**H**I THERE Sir Peter

Was awesome to chat to you today thanks again for the awesome jersey Here's the Pic of me and the winnings Since 1995 I've been loyal to the boys WARRIORS FOR LIFE!! Keep on doing what your doing Sir Peter Your one legendary guy!

Thanks  
Chris Olding  
HAPPY WARRIORS SUPPORTER

Hi Sir Peter

Many thanks for the Vodafone Warriors jersey I recently received.

Here I am with my golfing mate Peter Finlayson before we go for a hit.

Cheers Peter Howley, Invercargill



**S**IR PETER, thank you for arranging the tour of the ground it was very interesting and I enjoyed seeing all of your memorabilia again, especially seeing Ian Smith shirt.

We all very much enjoyed your hospitality and especially the interviews, your humour and to top it off a great result. Many thanks

Cheers Dean Cindy & Jack.

Napier

The Chch Lads at Fox&Ferret@The Palms watching the Warriors on the big screen.

Pop down this Friday night to watch the boys take on the Panthers. 8pm kick off. Drink specials during the game & the odd prize or 2 thanks to Tom (Fox) & The Madbutcher. A couple of season defining games over the next 2 Friday nights, so if you can't get to Auckland get to the Fox and support the boys in the run to the finals.

Picture 2

Noah Anngow. Just got an Auckland 9s Warriors signed Jersey thanks to the Madbutcher & Uncle Steve. On the weekend Noah scored the 1st try for West Coast u11s in the 18-16 win over Canterbury in Chch.

Well done West Coast & Noah





# BIG LEAGUE

ON SALE EACH WEEK!

INSIDE | TEAM LISTS | STAT ATTACK | NRL FANTASY | CLUB NEWS  
MITCHELL PEARCE | PETER BEATTIE Q&A | NATHAN HINDMARSH | RABBITS POSTER + MORE

ROUND 18

## BIG LEAGUE

Est. 1920

YOUR OFFICIAL MAGAZINE



Volume 8, No. 18  
July 2013  
\$5.99

### Adam Blair

Relishing his return to the Shaky Isles and ready to take down form

How the Warriors

Secret Weapon

RAKING IT IN  
Hodgson is back for a finals assault

BLACK CATS  
Will history repeat on Friday the 13th?

THE **ULTIMATE**  
NRL GUIDE

**SCORE!**  
ONLY  
**\$6**





**8PM FRIDAY AUGUST 24**

**MT SMART STADIUM**

If you wish to **subscribe** to the newsletter go to:  
[www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz](http://www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz)

## Our Sponsors

**A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTING BRANDS!**

Without the help of these brands the Sir Peter Leitch Club and Newsletter wouldn't be as fantastic as it is. If you do get the opportunity please support them whenever you can.



## 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