



Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

12th December 2018

Newsletter #248



WANT TO READ A NEWSLETTER FROM FEBRUARY OF 2012?

824 / 27/01/12



**Sir Peter Leitch's
Mad Butcher Club
at Mt Smart Stadium**



NEWS 2012

Newsletter NO. 02

YOU CAN CHECK OUT MY BLOG on
<http://play.vodafone.co.nz/vodafonewarriors>



**NEXT
HOME GAME**

**Vodafone Warriors
v
Manly Sea Eagles**

**Eden Park
Sunday 4 March,
2pm Kick Off**



**ASICS SIGNED UP AS NEW FOOTWEAR
PARTNER**

Market-leading sports footwear manufacturer ASICS has joined forces with the Vodafone Warriors in a three-year sponsorship deal.

Renowned for its wide range of football boots, sports shoes and other accessories, ASICS becomes the club's new footwear partner through to the end of the 2014 season.

"Having ASICS on board to outfit our players with their footwear from next season is a highly significant step forward for the club," said Vodafone Warriors chief executive Wayne Saurah.

"ASICS have a fantastic reputation for producing footwear of the highest quality. We couldn't be happier to have them in our family of sponsors."

ASICS welcomed the opportunity to join the Vodafone Warriors after the hugely successful 2011 season.

"ASICS are extremely proud to be the Vodafone Warriors' footwear partner," said Chris Brittain, head of Brittain Wynyard, ASICS' long-term distributor in New Zealand.

"ASICS' technical range of boots are specifically designed for the intensity of today's game. They focus on injury prevention while providing the players with the comfort and speed they require to perform at their best."

"Not only will the Vodafone Warriors be wearing our boots, they will also be training off the field in our running and cross training shoes."

"We see the new partnership between ASICS and Vodafone Warriors as a natural fit. Bring on 2012!"

Brittain said ASICS boots had a reputation for assisting in preventing lower limb injuries which are so prevalent in today's game.



**Brian McClennan - Vodafone
Warriors Head Coach**

Things are heating up as the NRL season approaches. The Vodafone Warriors have their first trial on February 4 at North Harbour Stadium, where they will take on the Gold Coast Titans.

Then it is off to New South Wales to Coffs Harbour to front South Sydney in a game that kicks off at 7pm Oz time on February 11.

Seven days later the boys will be in Whangarei to play the Sunshine Coast Sea Eagles, with the Vodafone Junior Warriors also in action, against the Auckland Vulcans in the curtainraiser.

Another big day is February 20, when the club hosts its annual golf day at Titirangi. Last year the event raised \$22,000 for KidzFirst, and this year the chosen charity is Shine, who do outstanding work in the domestic abuse area. Just in case you think life sounds easy, with trips to NSW and golf days, keep in mind that the boys' training programme has them at work at 7am every day at the moment. Former referee Bill Harrigan is in town for a session with the players this week too. It was great to see Manu Vatuvei and Jerome Ropati among the 50 NRL players joining the Pacific Studies Community Leadership Camp. Both are fine young men and have lots to offer their communities.

And Manu has also been selected in the NRL All Stars team to play the Indigenous side shortly another great compliment for the big fellow.

Of course there was a lot of excitement around Brian McClennan's appointment to the club as coach, and I know he is looking forward to his first official NRL outing on March 4.

That Sunday pits his charges against the reigning champions, Manly, who beat us in the grand final.

The game is at Eden Park and is being billed as "Get Even at Eden".

The Juniors will get things under way, kicking off at 11.45am, and the first game of our NRL campaign kicks off at 2pm.

The club has got together with cricket officials and put together a special package that allows you entry to the game, and a ticket to see New Zealand in action against the touring Zimbabwe team the day before. That's quality sporting action on the Saturday and Sunday for as little as \$40. Check out the club website for details.

Brian will have a new football manager alongside him in Dan Floyd, who has risen up through the Auckland Rugby League ranks, so congratulations to him. And while there will be some new faces, an old one will be gone. This is the first year in a long while that Puma have not been involved with the boys, and I have to say I am sad about that because Puma were always outstanding to me in terms of looking after the Mad Butcher Club. Our new footwear sponsor is ASICS and I am looking forward to working with them too.

And many thanks to ADT Armouguard Security. They provide security for the museum for me and they are all top people to work with. You can check out their services at www.armouguard.co.nz.

And if you are looking for some new Vodafone Warriors gear to start the season with, visit www.sirpetersmuseum.co.nz and visit the shop. We have a range of new gear available online at good prices. And of course don't forget the museum itself is open every Saturday between 10am and 1pm.

Just a few weeks now before I can get my fix of league.

But before then the old Butcher is a busy boy. I am off to Napier on Thursday for a function and don't get back until Sunday. My old mate Sir Graham Henry - the former coach of the World Cup winning All Blacks - I never get tired of writing that sentence, is staying with me on Sunday night because we are up first thing for a flight to Christchurch. We will be doing a bit of a barbecue and function in the city for police, fire service and ambulance staff. What a fine job they all did in the wake of the earthquakes, and for that matter, continue to do, because things are far from settled in Canterbury.

Sir Graham did not hesitate when I asked if he was up for a trip down south, and that speaks volumes about what a great bloke he is.

The Mad Butcher and Suburban Newspapers Community Trust is raising money for Surf Lifesaving New Zealand to buy some essential rescue equipment.

It's auctioning off a big range of sporting memorabilia on TradeMe - including beautifully framed jerseys signed by the Rugby World Cup and NRL Grand Final league squads.

There are also a number of fantastic lots with no reserve going under the hammer so there's a chance here for sports fans to get some great collector's items at equally great prices while doing their bit for a fantastic cause.

Check out what's on offer online at <http://trade.me/aucksubs>

Auctions close on January 28 and every cent goes to Surf Lifesaving New Zealand.



Please forward this newsletter to all your mates

CLICK HERE



The final word

By David Kemeys

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



AND BEFORE you knew it, it was all over, the final Mad Butcher newsletter has dawned, and as Butch would say: What a Ride.

To all those I have amused with what passes for humour at my place, you need to get out more.

To all those who have been agreed with me from time to time, remember that old saying about fools seldom differing.

And to all those who have disagreed, and let me know about it, tough titty.

But most of all thanks to the Warriors, who have never held any of the rantings I have fired against me, cancelled my season ticket, banned me from the stadium, or got upset...or at least not that often.

So what is on my mind this last chance I get to have a say, well the Shaun Johnson squabble goes on, with SJ claiming coach Stephen Kearney didn't like him, and I was over it last week, and I haven't altered that view.

Come 2019 I will be in Mt Smart backing the team.

So instead I thought I would have a bit of Christmas fun and name a side for you I think would have been sensational if they had all been around at the same time.

Motu Tony, Awen Guttenbeil, Jerry Seuseu, Tyran Smith, Monty Betham, Russell Packer, Tui Lolohea, Simon Mannering, Sam Rapira, Jeff Robson., Tony Tuimavave, and unfortunately I have run out of bald players to pick.

How about best ever Aussie import...easy meat, get stuffed Steve Price, I would have Kevin Campion any day.

Worst, take your pick, we have had some real dungs, but I always had a special loathing for Jayson Bukya, who I considered barely broke a sweat the whole time he was here.

The best I've seen, Stacey Jones was a bit special wasn't he? Ali Lauiti'iti did things he had no right to be able to do, Manu Vatuvei at his best was always a delight, and Lance Hohaia was a much better player than anyone ever gave him credit for.

I always wondered what Frano Botica could have achieved but for a horrible injury. In the end he managed only five games but still scored two tries and kicked 19 goals.

The club is littered with players who managed just one game, and while it's tempting to single them out, it's still one more than I'll ever manage.

There are still only 220 Warriors to this day.

I've cheered for most of them, been on amazing highs because of them, been let down by quite a few more than once too, but I've also been privileged enough to know a good few of them, and while the detractors will always be able to point to a few bad eggs, generally speaking they were good blokes.

And best of all Vodafone Warrior No 19.

So thanks for the ride Pete. It's been a decent haul but I suspect few people know how much work is involved in this newsletter, and how much energy and commitment it sapped from you.

Happy to have been a help, even if I did leave you wondering from time to time what outrageous things I was going to say in any given week, and how much trouble it would get you in at the club.

See you in the lounge big man!



Message from Vodafone Warriors CEO Cameron George



WE ALL know no one supports rugby league quite the way Sir Peter Leitch does. He's on another level.

He just keeps on putting in so much effort and time for the good of the game he loves. That's especially true for his beloved Vodafone Warriors. He always makes time to pop in to support the players and staff, to make sure he says hello to everyone and to do whatever he can to promote the club.

One of his biggest passions has been his newsletter, which has been an absolute labour of love. We can only imagine how many hours Butch has devoted to producing it week after week, year after year. Believe me, it's a huge undertaking but, through it, Sir Peter has done a wonderful job pushing not only the Vodafone Warriors but all things rugby league – and a lot of other sports and causes as well.

I was looking back through some of the editions and came across one that ran to 41 pages. It's like an encyclopaedia. In season he'd often put out two a week because there was just so much news he had to put out, or to give an extra sales push for events.

Sir Peter has had a lot of support from so many people who have written columns and features for him or supplied photographs; and we've always been keen to support him in spreading the word to as many people as possible as he tried to build his base of subscribers.

So, it's sad that this edition of the Sir Peter Leitch newsletter is the 248th and last. Across the years, there would have been millions of words in total and tens of thousands of photos put out in the newsletter. Now it's over.

What you've done has been unbelievable Sir Peter. On behalf of everyone associated with the Vodafone Warriors, we say thank you. Once again you have selflessly given your time to help. No one does that better than you.

At least you'll have a lot more time on your hands now. Hopefully you take the opportunity to sit back and relax a bit but, knowing you, that won't happen,



IN CELEBRATION of Vodafone Warriors legend Stacey Jones, 'The Little General' jersey is limited edition - the design influenced by the masterclass performances in 1997 that led to his historic player of the year award. Celebrating 25 years in the NRL, the 2019 jersey range is all about the retro look - embracing the players, seasons and jersey designs that have made the Vodafone Warriors who they are today #WeAreWarriors



End of an Era

By David Jones (Ex Creative Director at Suburban Newspapers)



Dear Sir Peter

IT'S THE end of an era as the Newsletter's final edition goes to press.

It all started as a single sheet of paper, I think it was called Newsflash – with brief details about a forthcoming event. Later a couple of photographs were added and occasionally an extra page or two. From these beginnings it grew and grew – into a regular weekly bulletin and then became in turn a newsletter, a full scale newspaper, a magazine and an encyclopaedia of Sir Peter's adventures and encounters throughout the years.

Sir Peter was the driving force at all times. He was the reporter on the spot phoning in copy at all times of the day and night from here and around the world. He was the chief photographer, the editor, the publisher and it was always exciting to get a phone call or email from Sir Peter, sometimes at 4am, with a story from wherever he was at the time.

One of Sir Peter's great gifts is his ability to communicate. He is a natural reporter. You would simply have to write down what he said on the phone and you'd have great story – word perfect. With the excellent work of the artists in the SNAP team the stories and pictures he sent in were produced into the Newsletter which by now was regularly 20 plus pages or so each week.

With the rising popularity of email and digital photography, Sir Peter embraced the new technology. He may even have invented the selfie without knowing it – with thousands of pictures coming in of him with all the various people he met on his travels!

And it wasn't always about rugby league and his beloved Warriors. Sir Peter's commitment to the community and those around him was always evident in the Newsletter. Through its pages throughout the years he promoted many worthy causes, charity events and gave his full support to anyone in need. He was also adamant about always ensuring that the Newsletter sponsors got maximum exposure at all times.

So Sir Peter, we'll miss the all the news and updates from around the country – as well as the stories and pictures from Cuba, Croatia, Las Vegas and London and just about everywhere around the world.

But, never say never. If the Warriors make the Grand Final in 2019 we won't be surprised to see a Special Edition of the Newsletter in the inbox again.

Best Wishes

David

**Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year from the Newsletter
Team**



Signing Off: It Has Been A Pleasure

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)



SIR PETER Leitch might recall that when he first asked me if I would like to contribute to this newsletter I was somewhat less than enthusiastic. Apart from having spent a lifetime of writing stories that were published on newsprint or in book form and therefore being a little suspicious of the email format, I was also still working on centenary histories of some of our oldest rugby league clubs in Canterbury.

But having read copies of his newsletter and nearing the completion of my other projects, I later agreed to join his “team”. That originally meant supplying one story most weeks, sometimes two. Somewhere along the way that became two stories most weeks. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of finding something to comment on that has not already been fully covered in the mainstream media.

It enabled me to keep researching rugby league with a purpose, a decade on from when the late Bernie Wood and I produced our comprehensive centenary books on the Kiwis, New Zealand Maori and Auckland Rugby League, after which Bernie wrote centenary books on Wellington and the Petone club and I covered Canterbury, the Sydenham and Hornby clubs and the explosive 1926-27 tour of Britain.

My favourite single discovery was the story of Lawrence Otto Bensemman, who played one match for New Zealand against NSW in 1913. He will ever be listed as number 101 on the Kiwis Roll of Honour. When the list was approaching number 808 I decided to check out who had been 101, 202, 303 etc through to 707. Of them, Bensemman was the only one whose story I was not immediately familiar with.

I learned that Bensemman was the only Kiwi who could speak English and German fluently. His forebears emigrated in 1843 and he was raised in a small German community near Nelson. After showing promise in rugby union, Bensemman moved to Wellington, joined the Newtown rugby league club and earned national honours. When the First World War broke out in 1914 he and two brothers enlisted in the New Zealand army.

Sadly, the Bensemman family were regarded with suspicion by their “English” neighbours, who did not understand they were Hanoverians from northern Germany who had long been loyal to British sovereignty. Lawrence served in Western Samoa, which had been

a German colony since 1900, and his bilingual skills were invaluable. He also served in France, was promoted to lieutenant and returned to live out his life as an accountant and family man.

That was the kind of story I enjoyed researching but the internet can be a fickle assistant and I was fortunate to find reliable library sources to tell me the story of Lawrence Bensemman and his kin. Our latest Kiwi, Isaiah Papali'i, is number 817. There are probably many more intriguing biographies to be uncovered among the pioneering players but I doubt many will be any more diverse as that of number 101.

Not all of my articles have been as satisfying. There has also been a tinge of sadness when compiling obituaries of old acquaintances such as former NZRL president Gerald Ryan, legendary 1950s Test wing Tom Hadfield, and Phillip Orchard and John O'Sullivan with whom I had the pleasure of travelling around Britain and France as NZPA correspondent with the 1971 Grand Slam Kiwis.

On a happier note, it was great to chat with our most senior living Kiwi and 1989 Kiwis supporters tour co-leader Ray Cranch and former NZRL chairman Ray Haffenden, whose Linwood team beat my Marist side in the 1970 Canterbury club grand final. There have been articles on boxer Joseph Parker, 1956 Olympic yachting gold medallist Peter Mander and recalling my memories of the 1974 Commonwealth Games.

Occasionally I could be accused of climbing on a soapbox and editorialising about a touchy subject. Not unusual in New Zealand journalism. Was it the Grey River Argus or the Oamaru Mail who once gave the Russian Czar a “final warning” in the early 1900s? My demand was “Bring Back Bromwich” before the 2017 World Cup because “we can't afford to be out-muscled by Samoa or Tonga.” Enough said!

I don't know exactly how many stories I have written for the newsletter, but since I began making a list of them this will be number 232. That they have ultimately appeared in such a professional newsletter is very much to the credit of Sir Peter as editor, graphic designer Hayden Woodhead, editor in chief David Kemeys and the other contributors. Sir Peter and his crew have done a brilliant job.





NEW LOCATION

By Barry Ross



STORIES ARE circulating in Sydney that the NRL will soon move its headquarters around 25 kms west, from near the Sydney Cricket Ground to the region around ANZ Stadium at Homebush. This was take Todd Greenberg and his staff to near the geographical centre of Sydney. If this move is made sometime in 2019, their current building, known as League Central will be sold to the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust with a figure of \$25 million being mentioned for the NRL coffers. Long serving South Sydney player, John Sutton, now 34, is looking at the prospect of playing on when his contract ends at the end of the 2019 season. A South Sydney junior from the Kensington United./Coogee Wombats clubs, Sutton has played 309 first grade matches for the Rabbitohs, which is more than any other player, since making his first grade debut against the Broncos in Brisbane on 4 July 2004. If he plays a first grade match in 2019, it will mark his 16th season in the top grade. Wayne Bennett, next year, will be his seventh first grade coach. The other six are Arthur Kitinas, Shaun McCrae, Jason Taylor, John Lang, Michael Maguire and Anthony Seibold.

The new pay agreement between the Referees and the NRL could be settled before Christmas but if not, it should be completed early in the new year. If the current proposal is finalised the top rated whistle-blowers could be given a 25 percent increase during the next four years. Well known Sydney media man, Phil Rothfield echoed the thoughts of many of the game's fans, when he wrote in a story about the pay rise, " Let's hope their performances improve by a similar margin. "

Cronulla coach, Shane Flanagan will complete his current contract at the end of next season. He has coached the Sharks in 185 first grade matches and late next season, will surpass the club record of 206 first grade matches as coach, set by John Lang. With Flanagan as coach, the Sharks won their only first Grade Premiership in 2016. Now 53, Flanagan played 78 first grade games from 1987 to 1994 with St. George, the Wests Magpies and Parramatta. Flanagan's 20 year old son, Kyle Flanagan, recently signed a new three year deal with the Sharks. Kyle played his only first grade game late this season against the Newcastle Knights with his father as coach. A talented half or five eighth, young Kyle is set to increase his first grade tally in 2019, although he will be vying

for a first grade position with Chad Townsend and new signing, Shaun Johnson from the Warriors. With a first grade coaching success of around 55 percent plus the 2016 Premiership under his belt, it would seem just a formality for the Sharks to resign Shane Flanagan as coach for 2020 and beyond. But perhaps the club is waiting to see the result of the current salary cap investigation.

It will be interesting to see how the recently retired Billy Slater, goes when he makes his debut as a polo player at the Pacific Fair Magic Millions Polo on the Gold Coast in January. The former Australian, Queensland and Melbourne Storm fullback is no stranger to riding a horse, as in his teenage years, he intended to forge a career as a jockey.

As this is the final edition of Sir Peter's newsletter. I would like to thank him for allowing me to be part of his many talented and knowledgeable writers and contributors. I have only been on board for two seasons but these have been two entertaining and worthwhile years. I would like to also thank our readers, who make our efforts worthwhile. Hayden Woodhead is another who deserves praise and recognition for the outstanding work he does in putting the newsletter together. So Sir Pete, we will continue to stay good friends and with such a remarkable man, who knows what the future holds. There may be another newsletter down the track or perhaps he will take us with him on Sir Richard Branson's planned commercial space trip to the moon. With Sir Peter's love of Rugby League and the effort he puts into promoting our game and the Warriors, maybe he will arrange for the Warriors to play on the lunar surface or give a coaching clinic to the locals. While speaking of the moon, it is only seven months before we celebrate 50 years since the first men set foot on its surface. On 20 July 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the men who made that historic journey.





Its all over now Baby Blue...

By John Holloway



SO HERE we are, the very Last chance to have a crack in the mighty Mad Butcher Newsletter...As the man himself would say "what a great ride its been." Another of his favoured phrases is "The greatest gift you can give is your time" and he has certainly done that with the Newsletter. Only a few of us know how much time and effort and personal and financial sacrifice Sir Peter has given across the years to keep it running. I know that a whole bunch of subscribers including many of my mates will be mightily upset that the little acorn that grew into a huge weekly League/multi-Sports e-mag will be no longer. That said thank you Butch for allowing myself and my tipster mates the platform to have our say. Looking back, I had some worthy names on the Tipping panels and a lot of nous between them.

A huge thank you Guys n Gals. Mind you in more recent years the weekly results were about as predictable as the Auckland weather and our success rates reflected that! Most weeks produced a shock upset or turn-around in performance that could not be foretold and luck, good and bad rode regularly alongside ability in the Tipsters scores. Looking back much of my humble, tongue in cheek scribblings were about the Mighty Warriors and I guess we experienced more slide than ride until this seasons more successful and satisfying results. Entering the 25th season we now face "Life without Mannering..." If I were to list my standout memory over the years I guess the foremost is Simons contribution, standing tall year after year through thick and thin and there was plenty of thin in his 300 games. At loose forward or centre Captain Mannering was the eternal rock, thru injury and pain, tackle after tackle, hit up after hit up. I was always sorry for him facing the after-match press-corp grillings. He freely admitted that he was not a natural or confident speaker but time after time had to face the unrelenting media pressures to explain the unexplainable collapses or dissect and apologise indifferent displays and last gasp losses. "Little mistakes, handling errors, Back to the drawing board, have a look at ourselves" were often heard. I recall being secretly very pleased when his Captains armband was removed because it meant that he could shed the onerous weight of that debilitating shackle and just play footy for the team. Truly Mr. Magnificent. What about The Little General, the great Stacey Jones of course was and remains a major Warrior Ikon for his individual brilliance and leadership, that attacking spark and his still ongoing contribution in the coaching arena. Dean Bell was the ideal Captain for the start-up, a strong minded, hard running centre that had the Mana and ideal attributes needed to launch the Club, albeit nearer to the end of his playing days. Steve Price had that natural leadership stature and big engine that drove him to the forefront. The feared hard-men Betham and Campion, The villainous Villasanti, the True Warrior Wiki, QPongia, Big Joe Vagana, SeuSeu, Slammin Sammy Rapira, Took Took Tookey, Guttenbeil, Logan Swann, The Legend Lauiti'iti, The tackle machine Mickey Luck and the Silent Man Big Ben Matulino, they were the tough as teak up front brigade that made our opposition think twice. The outback stars Ngamu, Hoppe, Webby, Rock-solid Tate, The Utility specialist Hohaia, Nifty Nigel Vagana, Typhoon Toopi, Koopu, Ridgely, Meli, wiry Wade McKinnon, the rampant Ropatis and the Beast mighty Manu Vatuvei, all held sway in their day. A host of amiable Aussies and a Pom or two graced the stage at times. We had All Blacks as well Sir John Kirwan, Frano Botica, the 3 Marks, Carter, Robinson, Ellis and the hard-headed Matthew Ridge. Currently Ngani Laupepe flies that flag.

A couple of notable All Black coaches weighed in with the respected talents of John Hart and Sir Graham Henry on board at times. Two very notable players Ivan Cleary and Mooks Kearney went on to Coach us. Henry Perenara went on to Referee us and most sadly the shooting star that was Sonny Fai tragically left us. We went to the Big Dance twice but came away with the Silver both times. Some great days past and some even greater to come. A new group of young stars now looking to put their name in Warrior lights, Papali'i, Roache, Fusitua, Tevaga, Hot-stepper Hayze Perham, Harris-Tavita, Afoa, Maumolo and the current leaders Harris, Basher Blair, Blake, LukeStar and Captain fantastic Roger Tuivasa-Sheck. The elephant in the room is of course the mercurial homegrown star Super Shaun Johnson who so often brought the crowd to their feet with his epic talents. What great memories he leaves. My personal view is that out of his comfort zone and in a new environment where he is not the long time No 1 pinup he will drive to survive and eventually prosper, cream rises to the top.

Continued on next page...

The Sharks Coach Flanagan will put strong leaders Gallen, Lewis, Graham and former side-kick Townsend around him and in turn they will channel and demand his output. Naturally The Club, the Team and the faithful fans will miss him, he will be forever a favourite son. Balancing the equation the Warriors now have a clear-cut opportunity to embrace the change and progress a new game-plan. To be honest, same old same old just doesn't cut it, if we are to challenge the Premiership we need to click hard on the update button and I have no doubt that we will. Who knows what new and exciting names lie just around the corner.

The Club will still step into 2019 with confidence under the new ownership of the Carlaw Heritage Trust and long term League supporters Autex, On the well qualified Board, my respected Richmond mate ARL Chairman Cameron McGregor, the old warhorse Selwyn Pearson, Rob Croot and Mark Robinson (not the former Warrior) from Autex, Legal eagle Kevin McDonald (a talented winger himself, albeit for Ponsonby rugby) and The Bantam Bruce Cameron (yet another a Richmond product, Junior All Black, NZ Rep Weight-lifter and Commonwealth Games selector). The front office looks to have forthright guidance under Cameron George and cohorts. Coach Kearney remains focused and solid, The Corvo fitness effect is influential and GM Brian Smith and Recruitment Guru Peter O'Sullivan could be the vital difference that builds a premiership winning roster. Before I sign off a final salute to my own spiritual homies the Maroon and Blues, the Mighty Richmond Bulldogs. Like the Warriors some time has passed without the glory of title winning days but we remain NZs greatest Rugby League Club across our 105 years. Providing some notable Warriors including Big Joe & Nigel Vagana and Se'e Solomona plus many NRL stars alongside our record 55 Kiwi Representatives. We continue our contribution not just on the Board but into the new era of the Warriors Womens Team, providing players and the Coach and Manager who are both home grown from Grey Lynn Park, former Richmond Roses star and NZ Captain Luisa Avaiki and Liz Ah Kuoi from our treasured, multi-talented Ah Kuoi clan. Boom. There you have it...like the Newsletter I am retiring from the workforce myself this Xmas but already I have tossed a wee slice of the KiwiSaver at a Season Ticket for 2019. Come Kickoff I will as usual be enjoying a juicy White Lady burger and cold beer in Bay 33 with my Mokos, Whanau and friends, surrounded as always by the loud and loyal faithful. Bank on it. As they say it's been a great ride and to the non-stop do good guy, sausage sizzler supreme and undisputed numero uno Warrior fan Sir Peter Leitch.... Mate thank you for the newsletter, thank you for your friendship and thank you for your time. Look after yourself Butch.

Go the Mighty Warrriioooooors!!

Ka kite ano... John "High-Tackle" Holloway.



BEST WISHES for Christmas and 2019 from the Newtown Jets and their partnership club the Glebe Dirty Reds (also known as the Glebe-Burwood Wolves).



Thanks

By Hayden Woodhead



SO, I'M Hayden and I help put the newsletter together. Technically, I'm the graphic designer although there isn't a bone in my body that is any good at design. I am just good at computers, which is what Sir Peter originally had me doing, until one day he asked me if I would like to give this newsletter thing a go. I thought to myself, "hell yeah. How hard can that be?". Very, it turns out. This was back in 2014 when I was 17, I'm 21 now, and I have been doing it ever since. During this time, I have left high school and have been going to uni at Auckland University of Technology doing a degree in Computer Science (which I absolutely love). In fact, I will be graduating at 6pm on the day this newsletter goes out. I get somewhere between 30 to 100 emails in a week and I collate them together into the pdf file you receive. Sometime last year I also designed and built a new system to send out the newsletter 25x faster, which meant the content was still relevant when you received it. Working with Sir Peter has certainly been an interesting experience. He has his ways of doing things and ideas of how he wants things and he works bloody hard so he expects you to as well. The latter part has been pretty good; I have been known to be a bit slack. I've learnt how to deal with brands, marketing people and columnists as well as doing support to figure out why someone didn't receive their newsletter. I've learnt that you need to get people's attention with calls to action in advertisements. I've learnt that you really need to double check your work (sorry Barry and other contributors for forgetting your articles occasionally). I have definitely grown a lot and gained skills while doing this newsletter as well as an appreciation for all that Sir Peter does. Finally, I want to say thank you to Sir Peter as well as everyone who reads and contributes to the newsletter. It's been my pleasure to put this together each week, so I hope you enjoyed it.



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Just wanted to share a few nice emails I've had about the newsletter shutting down....



ISEE YOUR newsletter is going to be finishing up. Congratulations on the success you had with it and thank you so much for the experience (and even employment!) you gave me with the newsletter. I've mentioned to you previously what a positive impact you were able make on me - and I'm sure there are tons of others who've you've helped out in recent years with the newsletter - not to mention your other contributions to people's lives.

The trip to Australia with you for the Grand Final in 2015 was certainly a highlight from recent years for me - and also gave me more of a first-hand insight to how wide the impact you've had on rugby league in New Zealand has been.

I hope one less commitment each week enables you to also chill out a bit more and spend more time going forward focusing on your own health and that of your family - you certainly deserve it with the positive influence you've made on so many people like myself.

Cheers, John Deaker



To Sir Peter and his amazing team

I'M GOING to miss my weekly Newsletter, I just wanted to thank you and your team for bringing it to us all every week, have really enjoyed the stories and background on people and our players.

Thanks for all the wonderful memories and wishing you all a wonder Christmas and fantastic New Year ahead.

Regards

Lorraine House

Dear Sir Peter,

Will miss your 'sharing the love' and great newsletters. Stay well and keep smiling.

Kind regards,

Sharon Malloch





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By John Coffey

Kiwis, Ferns And Rugby League On Way Back

NZRL CHIEF executive Greg Peters believes the Kiwis and rugby league in general are already regaining respect in the minds of the New Zealand sporting public, rising from the depths of the shock early exit from the 2017 World Cup. He expects an attractive 2019 international programme involving matches against Australia, Tonga and the Great Britain Lions can be fully confirmed within the next few days.

In what many saw as a brave move, Peters left a 20-year administrative career in rugby union to take over a sport which was staggering from the backlash of the Kiwis' failing to make the World Cup semi-finals. Embarrassing losses to Tonga and Fiji on consecutive weekends at Hamilton and Wellington followed a less than satisfactory performance on and off the field in the Anzac Test at Canberra a few months earlier.

Peters was appointed in June. Rather than be overwhelmed by the task ahead, he saw it as "a massive opportunity to turn that around and get the game back on a positive footing." The mid-season Denver Test and financial debacle surrounding it – none of his doing, of course – will not be repeated. Peters has been negotiating with all interested parties to stage the first Lions Tests in this country since 1996.

"We are commercially testing the Great Britain Lions Tests on the open market," he said. "I am confident we can make a Lions tour work here in 2019. So far there has been a massive indication of support from central government, from the regions and cities that may host games and also from the venues themselves and the broadcasters. We have given ourselves a deadline to make a decision about mid-December."

The Kiwis are already locked in for the long-awaited Test against Tonga next June 22 and a match against the Kangaroos will be played in October. Australia and Tonga are also to play each other and the three results will count towards the Oceania Cup. Another Oceania Cup division includes Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Fiji. These games will also be played in New Zealand in the first season of the Cup.

The longer-term intention is to stage Oceania Cup games in all of those countries. While the priority is to restore both the Kiwis and Kiwi Ferns to World Cup holders, Peters is aware there is also great scope to advance the sport in the Pacific. The challenge is to create an environment where players who have dual nationality under rugby league's "unique eligibility rules" choose to represent New Zealand.

"It was interesting that 60 per cent of the Tongan team came through NZRL pathways and that demonstrates the wider responsibility we have to grow the game in New Zealand. Of course we want the Kiwis and Kiwi Ferns to be number one so our challenge is to create an environment where we are the first choice while respecting the growth of the game in the Pacific," he said.

Michael Maguire's new-look Kiwis made an immediate impact when they upset the world champion Kangaroos at Mount Smart before embarking on a three-Test tour to England. They narrowly lost the first two Tests before scoring an emphatic 34-0 victory in the third. Meanwhile, the Kiwi Ferns were very competitive against the Jillaroos and the Junior Kiwis showed character against the far more experienced Junior Kangaroos.

Continued on next page...



“I think the Kiwis and Michael were feeling they gave the Test series to England rather than England winning it,” said Peters. “We had a lead in both the first and second Tests without being able to close them out. There were pivotal moments just before halftime; that penalty try (in the first Test) certainly didn’t help. The Kiwis were probably the better team in both of those Tests and they showed it in the third.”

Peters knows the Kiwis and Kiwi Ferns need to be winning and playing regularly at home for the good of the game over-all. They provide the inspiration for youngsters to play and start their own pathways to the top. The success of the Warriors in reaching the NRL play-offs was a further boost in 2018. While more funds were needed to further invigorate the grassroots, he said that was a problem shared by most sports.

Aware this story was to be included in the final edition of this Newsletter, Peters said Sir Peter Leitch would always have access to a “Butcher’s Corner” in the NZRL’s own newsletter. “Sir Peter has given long service, and the gift of his hard work, to the NZRL and to rugby league in general. He’s a big part of what we do. While he has given up his newsletter to ‘retire’ we will make sure he stays involved.”

For his part, Sir Peter has urged all rugby league folk to get behind Peters and the NZRL and work together for the betterment of the game. Sir Peter said he has been impressed by the positive attitude of the new CEO since taking the helm of a ship which was noticeably listing after last year’s World Cup. That the Kiwis have already notched a victory over Australia and their second biggest Test win in Britain were favourable omens.

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



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JOHN SATTLER APPRECIATION DINNER

SATURDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2019 at 7pm at The Juniors Leagues Club, Kingsford Sydney Phone 93497555

COST \$150

MC - RAY HADLEY

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - ALAN JONES

Born at Kurri Kurri near Newcastle in July 1942, John played four Tests for Australia, three as captain. He toured England and France with the 1967 Kangaroos and also toured New Zealand with the 1969 (captain) and 1971 Australian teams. He also represented both NSW (4 games) and Queensland (3 games).

He joined South Sydney in 1963 and in 10 seasons with the Rabbitohs, played 195 first grade games. He captained South Sydney to four Grand Final wins in 1967, 1968, 1970 and 1971. He played around 77 minutes of the 1970 Grand Final against Manly with a broken jaw. John was inducted into the NRL Hall of Fame in 2008.

If you are in Sydney at this time, take the opportunity to attend this dinner. The who’s who of Australian Rugby League will be there.



John Coffey and Sir Peter

John Coffey Awarded NZSJA Life Membership

By Will Evans

JOHAN COFFEY has documented the rich history of rugby league in Canterbury and New Zealand more extensively than any other person, but he has also become part of its fabric himself.

In addition to Coffey being named a Life Member of New Zealand Rugby League earlier in the year, he was also recognised last night at the New Zealand Sports Journalism Association Awards with an NZSJA Life Membership.

New Zealand's most prominent rugby league journalist, historian and author, West Coast-born Coffey covered rugby league, cricket and other sports for The Press for 44 years (1963-2007).

He authored, among many other books and sporting biographies, the seminal work *The Kiwis: 100 Years of International Rugby League* (2007), which was part of a trio of tomes he and the late Bernie Wood painstakingly put together along with the histories of Maori Rugby League and Auckland Rugby League; *New Zealand Rugby League Greats* (1991); the brilliantly researched *Strike! The Tour That Died of Shame* (2012); *Canterbury XIII: A Rugby League History* (1987); and *The Hard Yards: Rugby League in Canterbury 1912-2012* (2012).

A keen club rugby league player and cricketer who played in the 1971 CRL grand final for Marist, Coffey covered the 1974 Commonwealth Games and many Kiwis tours to Australia, and Great Britain and France, as well as grassroots footy during its Canterbury heyday. Coffey was bestowed with the Queen's Service Order in 2012 for services to sports journalism and history, and still resides in Christchurch.

A long-time correspondent for iconic Australian magazine *Rugby League Week*, the esteem Coffey is held in beyond these shores was perfectly illustrated by the NRL inviting him to be on the voting panel for the recently revamped Hall of Fame this year.

Coffey has covered (and continues to, through his weekly contributions to the *Mad Butcher's Newsletter*) rugby league with integrity, style, humour and passion that earned him scores of fans but also the respect and friendship of the players and coaches he wrote about.

His journalistic example should be held up as a beacon for young scribes to follow.

As a historian Coffey's contribution cannot be understated. Without his immense dedication, as well as the efforts of the likes of Wood, Bud Lisle Carey Clements, and the NZRL Museum team, there would be cavernous gaps in our knowledge of the game's narrative.



CRL's Nga Puna Wai Opener On Track Despite Rain Delays

By Canterbury Rugby League

CANTERBURY RUGBY League's eagerly anticipated February debut at its new Nga Puna Wai home will go ahead as scheduled, despite the weather's recent attempts to throw a spanner in the works.

Twice the average rainfall in November threatened to derail the Rockcote Canterbury Bulls' clash with the Warriors' InTrust Super Premiership side, delaying the sowing of grass seed on Nga Puna Wai's fields.

But with fingers crossed for a let-up from the unseasonably wet weather, the decision has been made to proceed with the event on February 23.

In an additional coup, the Warriors Women's coaching staff have requested a trial between two teams made up of South Island players, which will be played before the Bulls-Warriors match at Nga Puna Wai.

Linwood Keas and Canterbury star Sui Pauaraisa was the sole South Island-based player in the Warriors' squad for the inaugural NRL Women's Premiership this year (Papanui Tigers duo Charntay Poko and Corrina Whiley were close to a call-up but injury ruled them out of contention). Pauaraisa appeared in all four of the Warriors' NRLW games before earning a Kiwi Ferns Test debut against the Jillaroos in October.

But the trial will give a host of the South Island's top women's players a chance to showcase their talents in front of the Warriors, which could potentially lead to a place in the club's squad for the 2019 NRLW competition.

Meanwhile, the showdown with the Warriors reserve grade team provides the Andrew Auimatagi-coached Rockcote Bulls with a rare early-season hit-out. The Bulls agonisingly missed out on the NZRL National Premiership final on for-and-against for the third straight year in 2018 but unearthed several exciting newcomers.

The Warriors have qualified for the last six ISP finals series, while many of their fringe players will be using the Christchurch road trip as an opportunity to press for a place in the club's NRL Round 1 squad just three weeks later.

The Nga Puna Wai opener is part of a jam-packed timetable before the CRL club competition gets underway in April. The 2019 rugby league calendar will again kick off with the Rolleston and Crosbie Nines tournaments, while the Manly Sea Eagles and Warriors descend on Christchurch for an NRL encounter at Rugby League Park on March 30.

Tickets for the historic rugby league event at Nga Puna Wai are \$10, with children under five admitted free.

CANTERBURY RUGBY LEAGUE – NGA PUNA WAI OPENER

February 23, 2019 @ Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub, Wigram

-11:30am – Women's trial match (Teams TBA)

-1.30pm – Rockcote Canterbury Bulls v Warriors ISP





Level Field

By Allen McLaughlin



THERE IS no such thing as a level playing field in secondary schools rugby union until such time as rugby league is given the same playing rights. The injustice, inequality and discrimination towards the rival code still exists. League was introduced into the schools system in Sydney 115 years ago..

There are more girls playing rugby union at secondary schools than boys playing league, in fact there are more waterpolo players according the New Zealand secondary schools sports council survey. League is the only major winter code that can't be played alongside rugby union / soccer(football) in organised Saturday competition. Soccer is given that privilege as it's not seen as a threat to the vast talent pool union dominates.

The so called pathways and freedom of choice for league youngsters is stymied by entrenched and unfair attitudes. How can people talk about corrupting the game of rugby, when some sections of the "soul of our society" continue to see the game of league as some sort of evil. The old boys network and many rugby indoctrinated Principals, Headmasters and Teachers are intent on keeping the status quo. This imbalance stretches to another major myth maker the media. Not ever boy dreams of growing up to be an All Black.

League administrators and not except from criticism, some like Richard Bolton made fantastic gains in developing a expanding national sec schools competition many play-the balls ago, before having the financial rug pull out.

If you think it's hard to win the NRL title, try breaking down our school system. The emergence of Tonga as a force at international level and the continued progress of other Island Nations will make it much harder for the Kiwis to have consistent success, especially with the talent pool cut off along with the growth in other choices.

You can't compare apples with apples if you only have one apple.



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Kiwis Reunion in Christchurch



Ray Baxendale, Skippy O'Donnell, Lew Hudson, Mocky Brereton, Eddie Kerigan, Gary Clarke Earle Pilcher, Jack Jones, Johnny Bond, Kevin Pearce, Ian Drayton, Ian Bond, Allan Amer

All Xkiwis Earle pilcher an international referee

Last Friday night the South Island Kiwi Association had a get together at Ex Kiwi Gary Clarke's premises (which act's as a Rugby League museum, check the ad below). Here are a few photos from the night.



Duane Fyfe CEO Canterbury RL, Gary Clarke and Justin Wallace from Walco events.



Earle Pilcher, Lew Hudson, Gary Clarke, Mocky Brereton.



Gary Clarke and Ian Drayton.



John Bond, Eddie Kerrigan, Jack Jones, Gary Clarke, Kevin Pearce.



Ray Baxendale, Gary Clarke, Frank Endacott, Tai Green.



Skippy O'Donnell, Ian Drayton and Gary Clarke.



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John Coffey enjoying a
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Kia Ora Warriors Masters RLC

By Niki Dalby

Kia Ora Warriors Social Team 2018 Smiles All Round

FIRST THOUGH a little history on our Club which is located in Palmerston North, Manawatu. Kia Ora Warriors Rugby League and Associated Sports Club founded in 1975. Long running history of family names Rata, Rongonui, Hekenui, Aumua, Butler, Sixtus, Turner, Steedman, Leota, Uluave, Sheen, Wilson, Nolan, Sharland, Uri, Timoti, Jarvis, Ponga, Wakely, Tautu, Paea, Lind, Lahina. these are just some of the Family names that have a history at the club as so do a lot of others.

As the normal for clubs we have a junior program and senior team. we have been operating for 43 years which also includes Netball, Touch Rugby. Some of our top coaches include Peter Sixtus, Mike Butler, Sero Aumua, Terry Clune, Lui Vete, Ben Uluave and Stalwart Sonny Rata Founding and Life Member.

Highlights for the club would be beating Hornby from Christchurch 1990 in Lion Red Challenge, winning Grand Finals for Western Alliance and Manawatu in same year 2007. We have had a huge number of representative players with Barter Card Cup, Regional Reps, District of Origin reps, Junior Kiwi Selection and Kiwi Player Honors. Also we have had a Seven Aside Kiwi Coach and other Representative Coaching and Staff Roles.

Just recently we participated in the Jupiters Pan Pacific Masters Games in Australia and have been doing so for the past 4 years, we had a number of players from NZ and Australia wide join us in what is becoming an ever increasing Tournament that we part take in. This Pan Pacs Masters had a participation number of some 15000 Players, Family, Friends Staff and Organisers this year. We at Kia ora Masters entered 2 Rugby League teams being Social and Competitive grade, players age were from 35 to 74.

For the Competitive Team Coach is Peter Sixtus and Team Manager Kevin Randell. Social Team Coach Andrew TeMoho and Team Manager Pat Tuatu.

This Years Pan Pacs Rugby League saw us with 35 social players and 30 players in the competitive. This Year also was a big Campaign for us as we had founding members also participate Alan Boyd and Rewai Teka both from the early days of Kia Ora Rugby League History. and we had 2 special members attend, we did a fundraiser for Ben Hekenui who is a double leg amputee and has represented NZ in the 2017 IWBF Asia Oceania Championship for Men and Women. The Other we did a fundraiser for was Barney Manuel who has Motor Neurone Disease. These two men have had a long history with our club and representative duties and we will endeavour to help and support both them and their families in the future to come.

We had a massive culture and family representation with two lots of brothers playing this year, their names are Sam Hekenui, Ben Hekenui (Double Amputee), Eugene Hekenui Social Team.

And Vilai Kelemete, Kele Kelemete and Sulemi Kelemete who played for the Competitive team.

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We Also had the honour and privilege to have involved two former ex-players from the Vodafone Warriors , being Kevin Campion and Clinton Tooti. Besides having 2 sets of brothers and founding members playing in the same teams these two legends made it a highlight for the boys to be playing beside them both. Our ex-Armed Forces brothers Linton Cobras that joined us again was massive, we respected you as adversaries and respect you as our Brothers in Arms Mark Martin and Neville Hinga Warriors for life. our Aussie battlers that joined us, you guys were hearty and are always welcomed and we would take the field with you anytime. Willz Niha Thank you brother for Training the boys and getting us all up to speed.

Theres a big shout out to the Families and wives that also traveled here to make this campaign a successful one, also we would like to thank the Manawatu Classics who attended and supported us you don't know how much your help and efforts were appreciated.

In addition we would like to thank our sponsors Hayden Kearney and Pacifica Trading PTY LTD. Aaron Wakely and ABW Industries PTY LTD. Julian West and North West Commercial Industries QLD. The Kumara Patch - Kiwi Cafe and Takeaway. Burleigh Bears RLC QLD. The Wallaby Hotel.

The Games were tough and very competitive in both divisions, 8 teams competitive and 6 teams in the social. And was hosted at the Mudgee Redbacks RLC, Gold Coast QLD. This Tournament is not your typical masters tournament as we have ex NRL players and teams train and play to bring home the Gold Medal. The Social Grade while social is still very competitive while the Competitive Grade is just all out open warfare! if you do not put any effort or training into building up for this tournament it is unforgiving as teams and players have found out. Our Team had prep and trained and in addition played a couple of hit out games as did other teams based here in Queensland for this, and as the tournament rolled on all teams were tired and sore, some even broken.

The Competitive Grade played a round robin playing seven pool games then the top four teams played into the finals. Due to unforeseen circumstances Competitive semifinals was played Northlakes (Defending Champs), Richmond Rovers, South East Brothers, Kia Ora Warriors. Northlakes vs Richmond Grand final winner being Northlake Roos.

The Social Grade was played 5 Pool games followed by a semifinal round seeing our Social team beating by 2 point for and against knocking them out of the semis. Semi finals were Ageing Stockmen, Arana Hills, Browns Plains and Burleigh Bears. Grand final Ageing Stockmen vs Arana Hills with Ageing Stockmen winning.

in 4 days we all played some hearty football some playing 7 games and other playing 9 games, those who were brave enough and dual registered to play both grades played more. Competitive team finished 4th and Social finished 5th in their grades.

We introduced 2 new trophies for our Masters one for each team, The SIXTUS "Most Valued Player" TROPHY for the Competitive Team and was awarded to Mark Martin. And The HEKENUI Social CUP which was presented to Eugene Hekenui. These Awards were very contested and come close to going to other players also. "Best Back" Jason Osbourne

(Competitive) and "Best Forward" Mark Graham (Competitive). Best Forward for Social Boys was Lawrence Latoa and Best Back Eugene Hekenui.

This year saw more coloured shorts being worn in the social grade while competitive there were and have never been any coloured shorts this far. In saying this the comradery and sportsmanship that was showing by all is a testament to the love of our sports code we play and participate in. Our sports code Rugby League brings the whole community together and it sees the best in people and how much respect as a whanau we have for all. Through this tournament we have reunited with friends of old and meet new life long friends, after the hard battles on the field there was always smiles and laughter around from all camps.

Kia Ora Rugby League is more than a sports club, its a whanau. It's home away from home as it doesn't matter where you go you always run into someone that is connected to the club and our league community or have played with us or against us. Either way you become part of our whanau and brotherhood of life long friends!

Preparations are under way for the 2020 Pan Pacific Rugby League Tournament and we invite all and look forward to seeing everyone in the near future.



Nga Whanau o Patea
Warriors



Master Warriors 2018

The Year It Was

*By the Patea Masters
Management*

WELL WHAT a year it was for the Patea Warriors Rugby League Organisation As we inform everyone about this mihi regarding to the small creation Sam Broughton the Executive Manager and Neville Hinga the liaison Coordinator thought up at the beginning, not knowing that after 21 years (the last official league game that was played under the Patea Warrior Brand) we would get a lot more support than expected he was pleased to announce this was for our supporters and the definition to those acknowledging the past, present, and future however we regret to apologies for those who did represent the team in the past for the club that he may not have known or who may have forgotten

We wanted to send our sincere apology for this, but we wanted to get the Patea Rugby League club back into recognition as it once was back in the day.

We received positive feedback from the local community and were greatly appreciated for the time and effort gone in to developing our small lil project that I know Sam and Myself are quite successful of been PROUD PATERIANS.

“TU TOA O PATEA”

The Sleeve Brand name:

Patea - Team of today

Blue and Yellow represent the original Playing colours for the team of Today. The front design represents who we are and where we come from "Nga Whanau Tu toa o Patea" (Family of the Patea Warriors) gathered together to prepare for what's ahead with the "Tu" (solider) advancing for battle.

The back design represents "Tawhirimatea" (Maori God of wind) for the air that travels thru us as a team to achieve what we need to achieve.

The overall main purpose of this jersey is actively known as "Te hiko o Hoia Pakeke toa" (The travels of the Senior Warrior) dedicated to those who have wore and played for Patea.

We must acknowledge these personal as well as those of the past. "Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou" (Respectively remembering those who have gone before us).

The current Patea Warriors Logo was designed by Parariki Whakatutu permission and consent was granted from the creator.

The korero was by Nev H in recognition of the Patea Warriors Rugby League organisation. Honouring all Players, members, supporters and those who have gone before us.

Executive Manager is Sam Broughton the developer behind the kaupapa.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

Along with Renee kepa the marketing consultant who's had me and sam on our toes throughout-the season. Between the 3 we wanted to bring the kaupapa abroad.

We would like to thank the following who kindly sponsored and supported the club throughout the 2018 Masters Event around Taranaki

Nicky Gray photography

Rosa Nui photographer

Taryn Luncheon photographer

Andy Katu Donation towards the club

Tuteri Rangihaeata express delivery's

Brendan Broughton and the 3B club

The Dinning Room Hawera Taranaki

Our board Members Ray Burke, Pat Hinga Ngapari Nui Marcia Broughton Sharon Bougen Jen Kahu

Sir Peter Leitch (for letting us post our articles on his news letter)

Sonny whakarau Special Guest Ref official

Uncle Barry B (R.I.P)-Head Coach for the mahi he done for the few games Patea warriors Played this year in March 2018

We will be preparing for next years Masters competition as well as promoting the All new Patea Juniors Taranaki Grade in to the competition.

So on behalf the Patea Rugby League Management would like to wish all you a very merry Xmas and a safe new year.

See you all in 2019.



Coach Broughton laying down the law to the Patea Boys..



The Patea Whanau.



Francis Katene Patea Warrior.



Neville Hinga with Sir Peter Leitch presented him with his official Patea Warriors Supporters Top..



Sammy B, Norm B Snr and Norm B Jnr.



The Official Patea Warriors 2018 strip.



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JOSEPH PARKER can't wait to enter the boxing ring this Saturday 15 December at Christchurch's Horncastle Arena. He faces the formidable American, Alexander "The Great" Flores (17-1-1) in what will be an epic battle of the heavyweights, trying to prove that they belong at the top of the world boxing rankings.

The action packed card features an impressive line-up of local and international fighters:

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Bout 1: Sam Watt (CHC, NZ) v Alistair Boyd (AKL, NZ) - Heavyweight

Bout 2: Michaela Jenkins (CHC, NZ) v Megyn McLennan (CHC, NZ) - PRO Box NZ Womans Welterweight Championship

Bout 3: Adrian Taihia (AKL, NZ) v Andrei Mikhailovich (AKL, NZ) - Catchweight 74kgs

Bout 4: Brown Buttabea (AKL, NZ) v Manu Vatuvei (AKL, NZ) - Heavyweight

Bout 5: Lance Bryant (PALM, NZ) v David Light (AKL, NZ) - Cruiserweight

Bout 6: Bowyn Morgan (CHC, NZ) v Sebastian Singh (FIJI) - PRO Box Pacific Super Welterweight Championship

Bout 7: Junior Fa (AKL, NZ) v Rogelio Omar Rossi (ARG) - WBO Oriental Heavyweight Belt

Main Event: Joseph Parker (AKL, NZ) v Alexander Flores (CAL, USA) - International Heavyweight Contest

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