



Sir Peter Leitch's
MAD BUTCHER CLUB
AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS



Newsletter

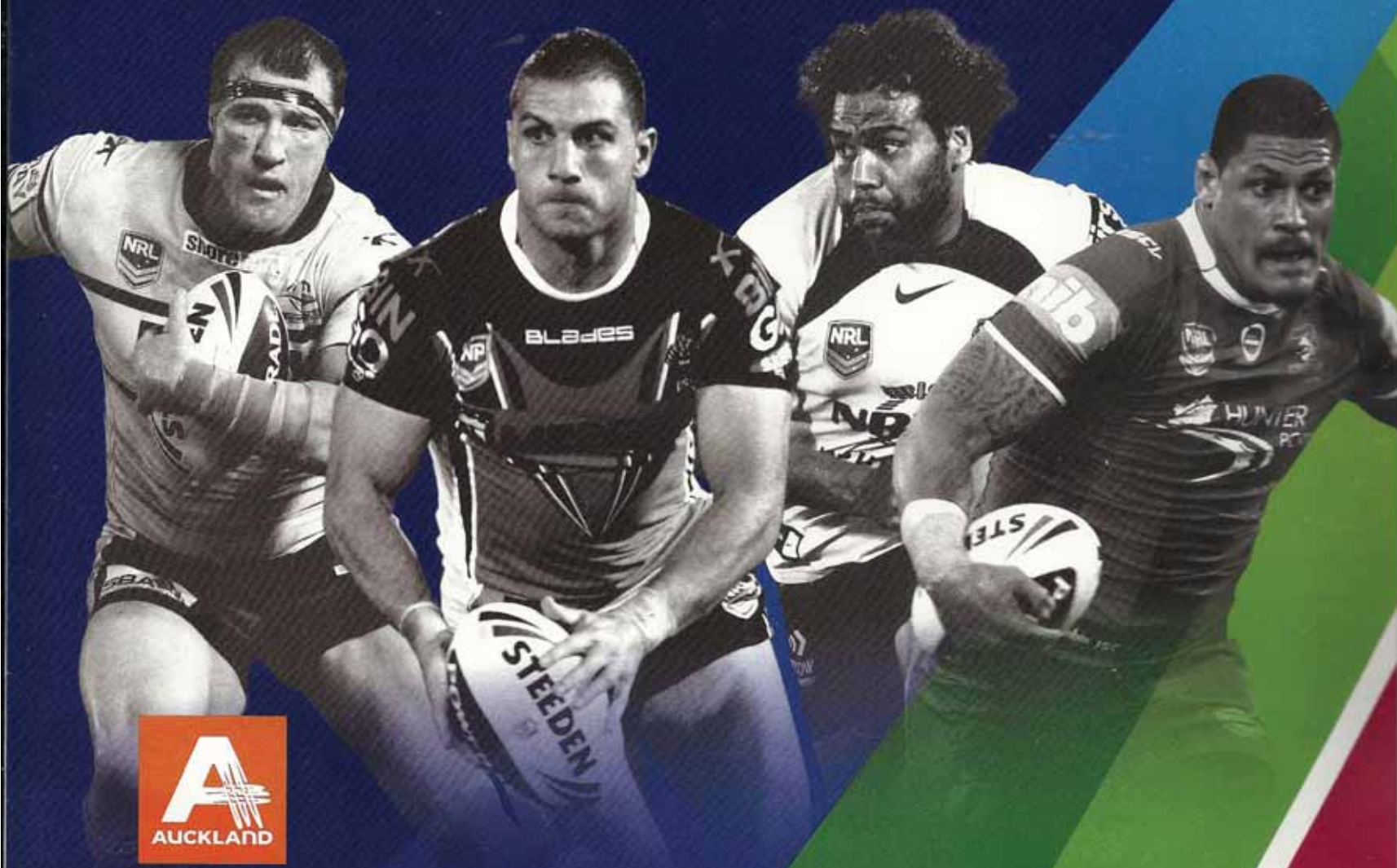
20 FEB 2014
#07b



WITH SO MUCH
ACTION OVER THE
WEEKEND, THERE
WASN'T ENOUGH
ROOM IN ONE
NEWSLETTER!
ENJOY THIS
BONUS EDITION!

COACHES AND CAPTAINS BREAKFAST

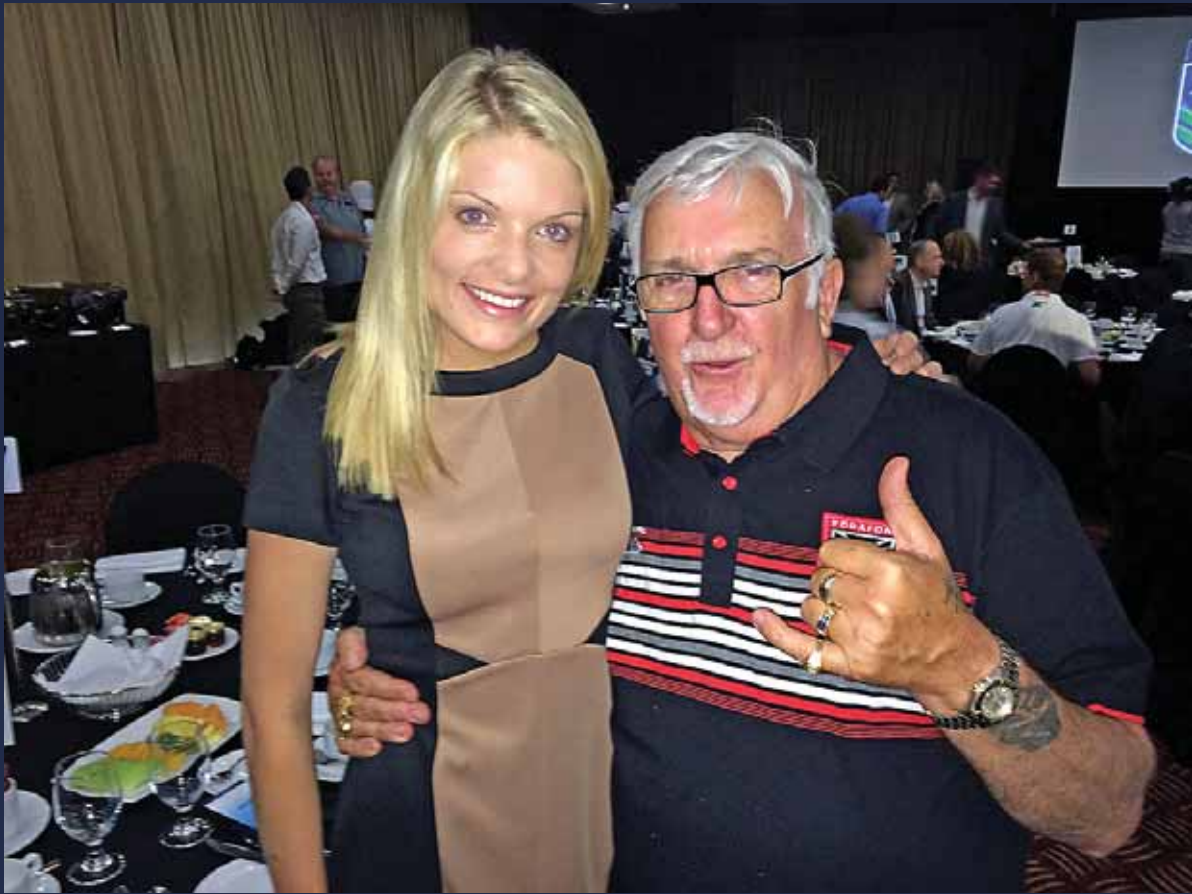
14 FEBRUARY 2014, PULLMAN AUCKLAND



On **Friday** morning I had to be in town for the NRL breakfast for the players. I was supposed to do some live crosses to One's **Breakfast TV** with my mate **Sam the Weatherman**, but a glitch meant that wasn't possible. But the breakfast was great. It was a pleasure to run into so many old friends, but I have to tell you I got a serve from the best league coach I know, the super-coach **Wayne Bennett**. He walked in and said he had been reading the **Mad Butcher Newsletter**, and how all his mates were coming to town for the **Nines**, but he had not got a mention. So yes, even the best there is, the mighty Wayne Bennett is reading the Newsletter. Good on ya Wayne!



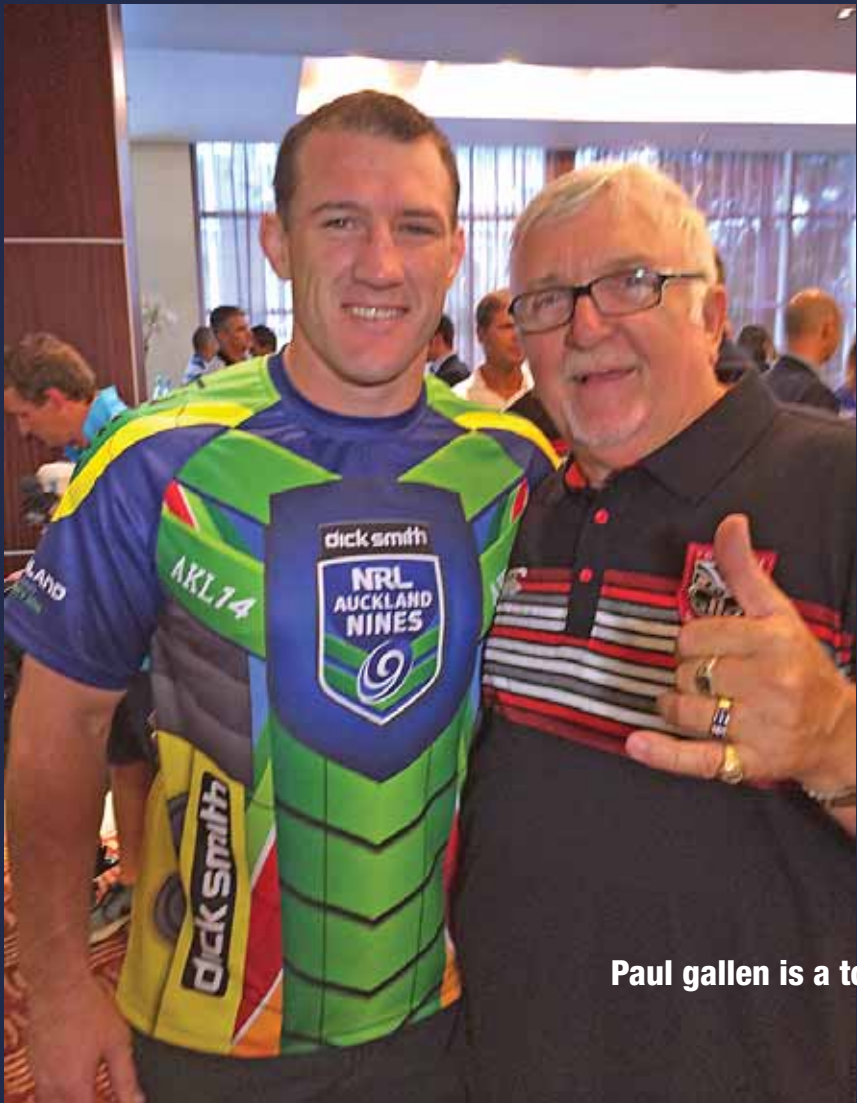
I had a hectic Breakfast, interviewing a number of celebrities including: *Roosters* captain, Michael Pearce, *Sharks* captain, Paul Gallen, NRL CEO, Dave Smith and *Titans* captain, Greg Bird. Paul Gallen was buzzing about the Nines and his first professional fight on Wednesday this week



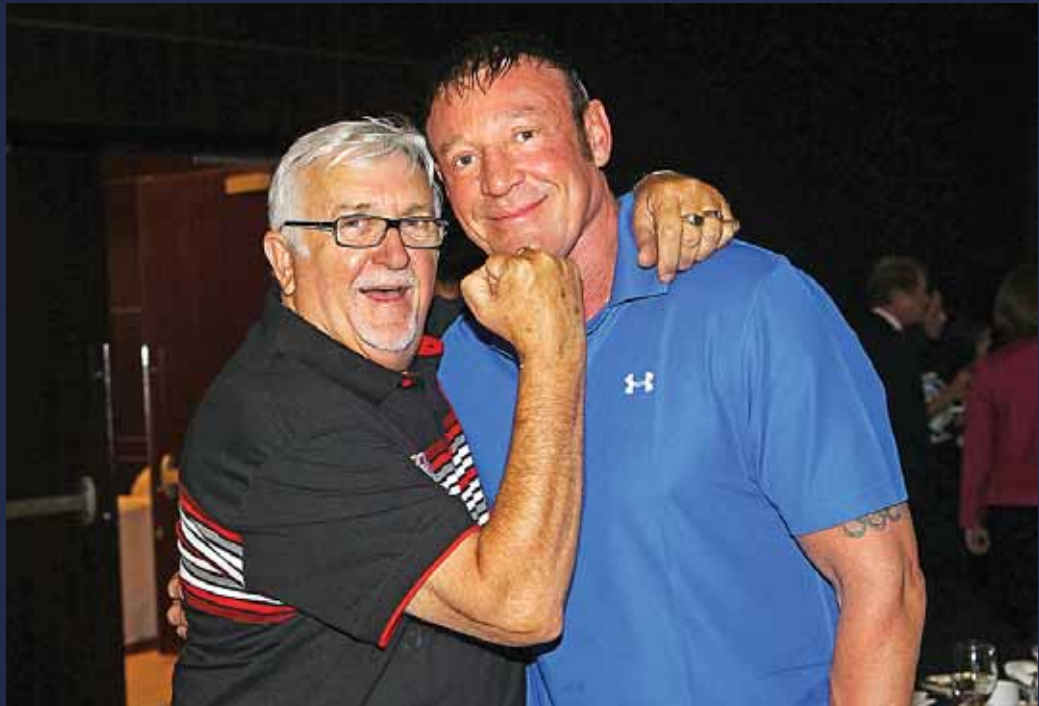
I even caught up with my mate Erin, from Channel 9 in Sydney and the Footy Show top lady!



And of course I caught up with *Panthers* coach and good mate, Ivan Cleary



Paul gallen is a top bloke!



Me and Kevin Barry at the Breakfast.



Anthony Griffin, coach of the Broncos. All the coaches I know are top blokes!



It's always great to catch up with Dave Smith, the CEO of the NRL.



The Duco girls did a great job at breakfast.

Off to Dunedin

I am as excited as a dog with two tails because I am off to Dunedin to watch the **Mighty Vodafone Warriors** play in their final trial before the NRL season proper kicks off.

There is silverware on the line, with the game against the **Brisbane Broncos** played with the teams contesting the NRL Trans-Tasman Cup.

It will be interesting to visit the new Forsyth Barr Stadium, which is a wonderful facility.

But if you are reading this and down in the deep south there are loads of opportunities to get up close and personal with your favourite players.

On **Friday** the teams are at the Golden Centre Shopping Mall in George St, which is in central Dunedin, from 6pm – 6:15pm, when I have the honour of delivering the NRL Trans-Tasman Cup to the captains.

But more importantly for the everyday fan, the players will be there for a signing session, and for photos, from 6-7pm. And no meet the player event would be complete without loads of giveaways too.

On the **Saturday** from 10am until Noon, fans can join an

NRL South Family Fun day at Logan Park for a morning filled with drills and skills and family fun.

And you can check out the **Vodafone Warriors** during their captain's run., when there will again be time for autographs at the end of the session.

Come **Sunday** there will only be one place to be at 3pm, and that is Forsyth Barr to enjoy all the action as the two mighty teams square off.

Make a weekend of it

The **Vodafone Warriors** go up against the **Brisbane Broncos** as we know, and there is still time to get down for the game. Of course on the Saturday night you could also see the **Highlanders** take on the **Blues** at Forsyth Barr.

Dunedin turns it on

Fair play to them, they have a bit on down south for the weekend too. The biennial **Wings and Wheels** festival will be held at Taieri Airfield on Saturday. Take a joyride in a helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft and check out the amazing array of aircraft.

You could also explore the **Otago Farmers Market** - renowned as the best in New Zealand, and sample the

unique flavours of the region, meet the growers and producers, and sample their wares. The Dunedin Railway Station is the venue.

You could always tuck in at the **Dunedin International Food Festival** at the Otago Museum Reserve on the Saturday too. There's free entertainment and a huge range of food from around the world.

Kicking off at 7.35pm on Saturday night, as I say, is the first 2014 Super Rugby game for the **Highlanders** and **Blues**. They had one win each when they met last year, and they tell me the area of the ground they call The Zoo should be humming, because all the students are back.

The historic rivalry between Australia and New Zealand continues with the **Vodafone Warriors** against the **Brisbane Broncos** in the Trans-Tasman Cup at Forsyth Barr at 3pm on Sunday.

Visit <http://www.dunedinnz.com/visit/home> for information about accommodation and must-sees in Dunedin.



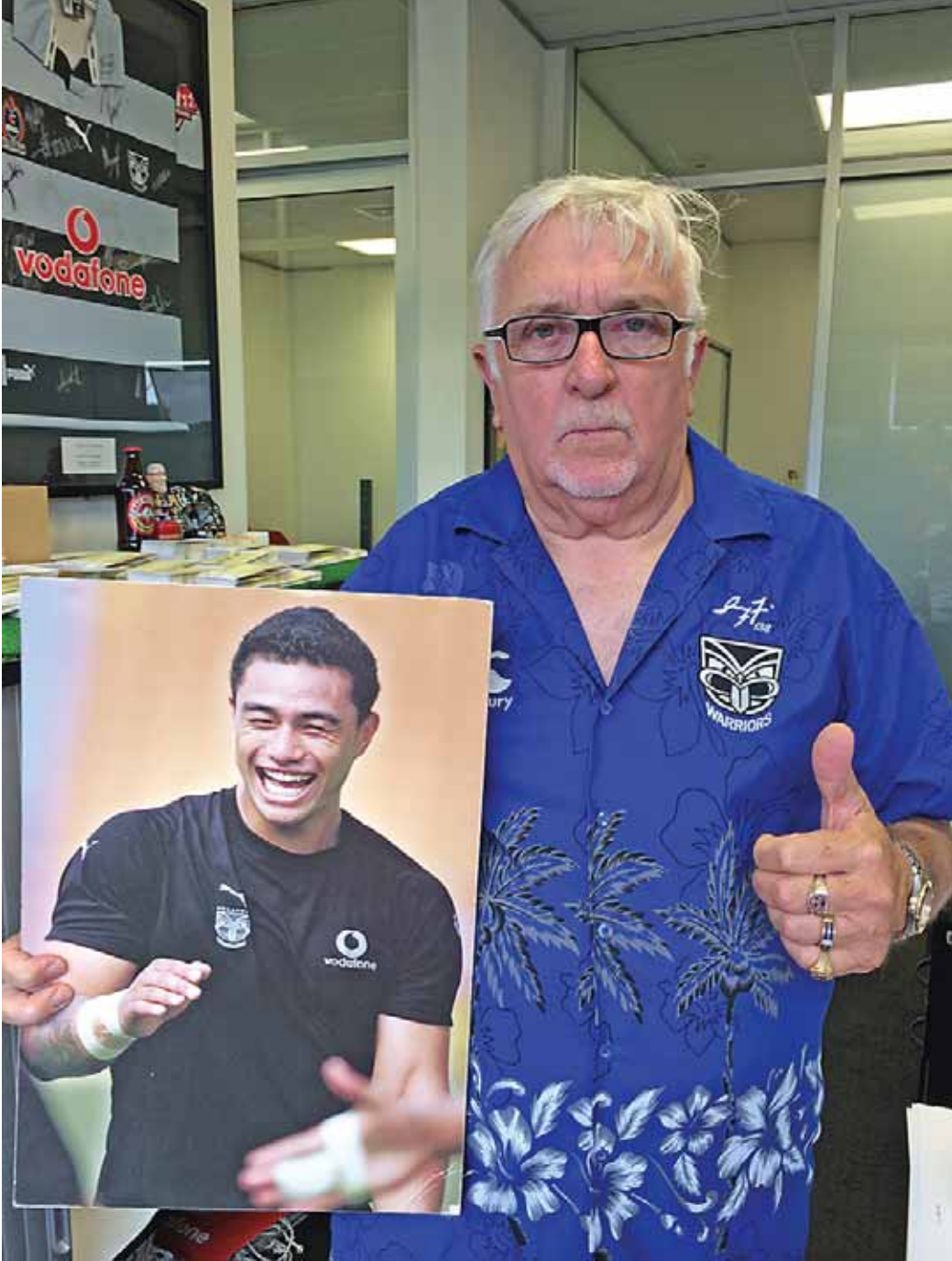
On Tuesday I was privileged to have lunch with Sir Ralph Norris at Depot. He is a legend in Business around the world and a top bloke! 2 knights dining together.

This happy chappie won himself a signed jersey!





Michael from Swift Roofing gave me a \$1000 for my Jersey that I wore over the weekend. A big thank you to the *Vodafone Warriors* boys for signing it straight after the game, as the \$1000 went to the young lady with cancer. Well done team!



A lot of folk have asked me about the this shirt. It's a shirt the Warriors had done to pay respect to the late Sonny Fai, Warrior Number 138. He was a top guy; one of the best and sadly missed by all at the club.



Caught up with two of NZ's top chefs at Sky City; Sean Connolly and Peter Gordon and gave them a few tips on BBQING. Yeah, right!



At the Nines aftermath they were all smiles!

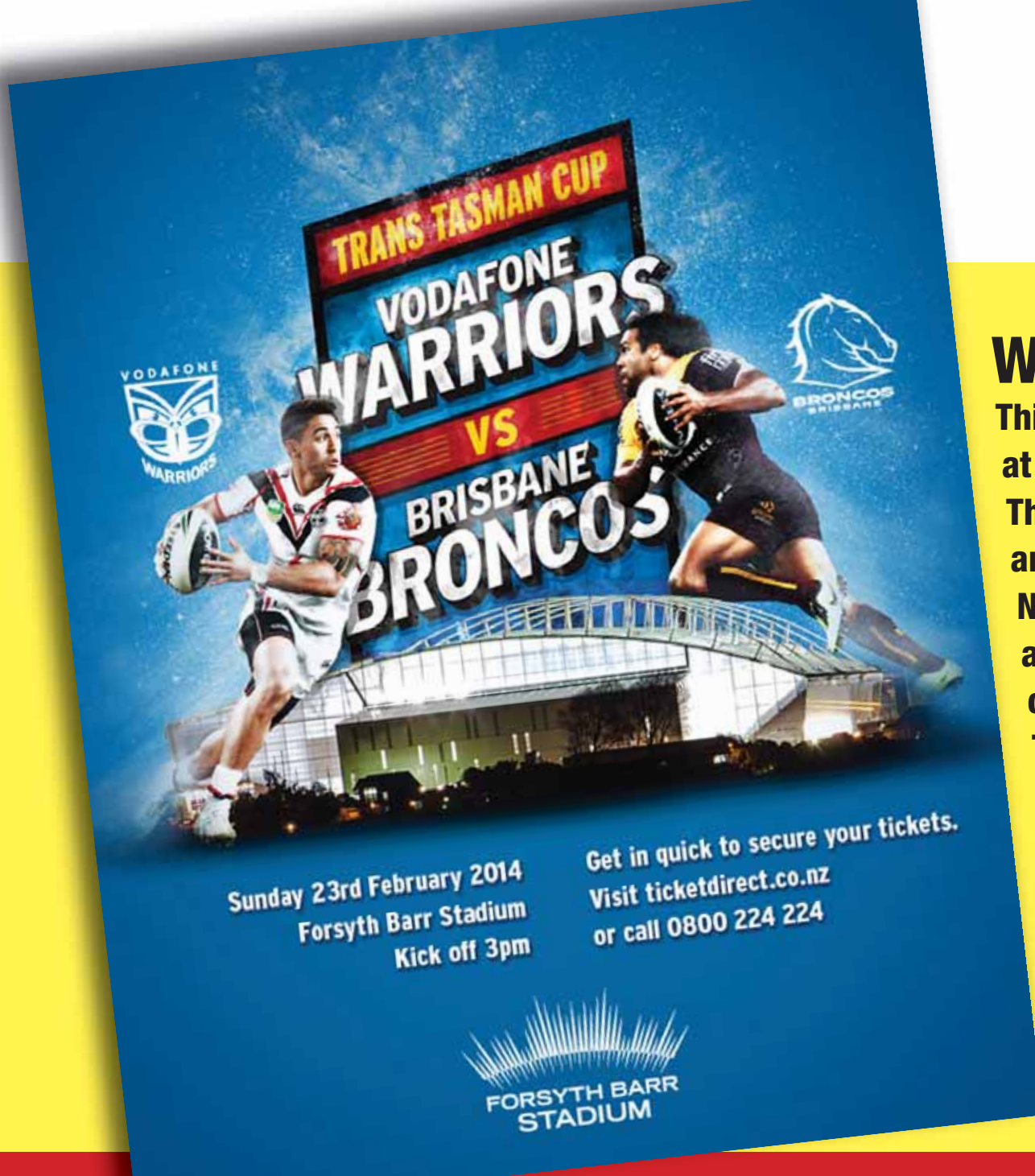


**The
manly
boys
showed
some
skin
for the
girls
and
they
loved
it!**



**The coaching staff Matt, Ricky
and the would-be-coach me, and
the legend Stacey Jones!**





Want more League?

This SUNDAY - 23rd February -

at the Forsyth Barr Stadium

The historic rivalry between Australia and New Zealand is set to continue with NRL Football returning to the South as the Mighty Vodafone Warriors take on the NRMA Brisbane Broncos in the Trans-Tasman Cup.

Join us under the roof to witness the super stars of the NRL premiership battle it out in Dunedin in what will be a fast and furious encounter.

Click on the link below now to get your tickets

<http://www.forsythbarrstadium.co.nz/event-day/upcoming-events/vodafone-warriors-v-brisbane-broncos/>

Dear Sir Peter,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to win a ticket to the Auckland Nines.

I was there from beginning to end - saw the opening ceremony and the presentation of the trophy to the North Queensland Cowboys.

What an event! It far exceeded my expectations. I was very relieved that I had a seat out of the sun with the spectacular weather we had for both days. I was apprehensive about attending such a big event at Eden Park after the experience I had at the double header test match a few years ago, when the behaviour of the crowd was atrocious. There was no comparison.

The only thing that could have made it any better was if the Vodafone Warriors won the Grand Final!

It was great to see the fans give support to every team over the 2 days (apart from when they played the Warriors, of course). What a reception they got from the 45000 people who attended each day!

Dan Burton sent an email out to Members which was very useful and informative. In his email, he advised that the Mt Albert Rugby League Club was offering a \$10 champagne breakfast and a shuttle that would drop people off at Eden Park and pick them up again each day. They got a much bigger response than they had hoped for and were very happy. The breakfast was indeed a "Big Brekkie" and if anyone wanted to leave Eden Park before the day was over, all they had to do was text and Jason or Tim would collect them. What a fantastic service!

Once again, thank you very much for my ticket. It was a privilege to be there!

Kind regards

Christie McNeil-Melville

PS I LOVE GETTING THE NEWSLETTER

***From A
Happy
Winner
from our
Newsletter***



The Newsletter Team

Here are the team that help me make the newsletter each week. Between us we make the newsletter happen - and like everything it is a team effort.



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