



Sir Peter Leitch's MAD BUTCHER CLUB

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS



Newsletter

13 MARCH 2014
#11

Warriors suffer first-up hoodoo again!

I was chomping at the bit to see the **Vodafone Warriors** play and 80 minutes later all I could think was how I was going to have to suffer through endless talkback radio about it was a case of the same old thing.

A first-up game against lowly-rated opposition, high expectations, four new signings on debut, all the promise and excitement, and nothing to show for it. Beaten 36-16 we were a poor second in every area, there is no going back on it.

Parramatta's wingers both scored a hat-trick, and you do not need to be any kind of league expert to know that is not good.

It was disappointing and coach **Matt Elliott** will be scratching his head about how a side that looked so good pre-season against Brisbane, can have turned in what was at best a lacklustre performance on opening night.

The **Eels** scored off kicks, after we coughed up possession close to our line, and at will out wide.

In the last 12 seasons we have won only twice on opening day, and frankly, I'm sick of it.

It would have been nice to go into next weekend's home game against St George off the back of a good performance, but that is not to be.

Back with a bang

But how good is it to have NRL footy back on the box? I'm loving it. Week one and there have already been plenty of surprises. It opened with the **Bunnies** beating the reigning champion Roosters 28-8, the Broncos nailed the **Doggies** 18-12, Penrith hammered the **Knights** 30-8, **Cameron Smith** got the **Storm** home 23-22 over Manly in extra time with a field goal, and it took some **Jonathon Thurston** magic to get the **Cowboys** home 28-22 over the **Raiders**.

The real surprise to me though was St George. Last year they couldn't score points, and plenty of people were saying it was going to be hard for them to turn that around. Well they hammered the **Tigers** – who I thought were awful – 44-24. Not bad!

Juniors go down

No joy for the Little General **Stacey Jones** in his first outing as coach of the NYC Holden Cup **Vodafone Warriors Juniors** either. The youngsters were soundly beaten by a pretty fired-up Parramatta side.

Slow start proves costly

A slow start cost the **Vodafone Warriors** in their first New South Wales Cup outing, going down 38-24 to Wentworthville in Sydney.

It was a pretty decent comeback by the boys, and the score only blew out when Wentworthville scored a couple

of late tries.

The Aussies bolted out to 16-0 inside 10 minutes but the boys clawed it back to 24-26 before Wentworthville had the final say.

Good to see **Ben Henry**, back on the park though, and he scored on his return.

What a week

Talk about good fun. I had the pleasure of attending the Barfoot and Thompson Auckland Cup during the week, and fair play to Peter Thompson and all his team at Auckland's leading real estate outfit, they did a superb job on the day.

I love going to Ellerslie, and as you will know, have held many functions there,. They do a first class job with the food, service and entertainment, and Cup Day was no different.

I was invited along by Lion, some say the nectar of the gods, and who am I to argue. Me and Dexter had a great day and I even managed to back the winner of the cup.

Stars turn out

It was a pleasure to see some famous faces at Ellerslie. **Vodafone Warriors** hooker Nathan Friend was there with his charming wife Kelly. And I caught up **Stephen Donald** – the man who landed that wonderful Rugby World Cup penalty that brought the trophy to New Zealand, and his mate for the day, fellow **All Black Ma'a Nonu**.

Super Rugby winning coach **Dave Rennie** of the **Chiefs** was trying his luck with some of his management team, and ever the gentleman, **Warriors** legend and 313 game NRL veteran **Steve Price** gave me a tip or two – though I won't say how they went.

Time for some R&R

Managed to get across to Waiheke Island for the weekend too, for some much needed rest and recreation. Fitted in a couple of kayaks and must say I enjoyed it very much, but my mind was very much turning to the weekend and the kick off to the NRL season on Thursday night then the **Vodafone Warriors v Parramatta** on Sunday night in Sydney.

Blues pipped

What happened to my **Blues**? They went down in South Africa and there was lots of moaning on the radio about the manner of the loss. They will be right next weekend, and **Sir John Kirwan** can take comfort from the fact he

is not in charge of the **Hurricanes**.

Mark Hammett, the former **All Black**, has lost three from three this year's coach, and if you take last season into account it is eight from eight.

They want to change the name from **Hurricanes** to **Gentle Breeze** if you ask me.

Good to see the **Crusaders** get a win though.

Super excited

I am totally charged up about our first home of the year next weekend, against the **Dragons** at Eden Park.

The team with the Big Red V will be spoiling for action after sticking 44 points on the **Tigers**, and they will be a tough proposition at Eden Park, where of course we have traditionally struggled to win.

But I can't wait.

In fact I got so excited that I decided to book a nine-piece band from Taranaki to perform in the lounge.

And – as far as I know anyway – the world's only Maori Elvis impersonator.

He's called **Terry Tamati** and he is the brother of **Kiwis** legend **Howie**.

Your chance to win

Don't forget to enter our competition. To celebrate our first home game of 2014, we are giving away two one year subscriptions to **PACIFIC POWERBOAT** magazine, which is a great read.

Send your entry today because it **closes on Monday, March 24**, with the winners phoned that day. Details are in the newsletter, and check out our special offer for Christchurch residents!

DYSLEXIA WEEK

As most of you know, I have dyslexia. When you have dyslexia its always a lot harder, but I've never let that stop me. The **Dyslexia Foundation** wants schools in New Zealand to do a bit more, and parents to feel that they can ask for the help their child needs. There is no shame in putting your hand up and asking for help – I have done it many times in my life. If you don't put your hand up and ask for help, you only make life harder for yourself and your loved ones.

Its **Dyslexia Advocacy Week** next week - check it out at www.dfnz.org.nz

A DAY at the RACES



Had my photo taken with two of the lovely hostesses at the Lindauer Style Stable on Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup Day! Check out the rest of the photos on their Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/LindauerNZ

And take a look at their website: www.lindauer.co.nz



I had a great day At the Barfoot & Thomson Auckland Cup Day. I was hosted my my mates at Lion along with Dexter, my shadow. I even backed the winner in the Cup!



The winning bet ticket!



The great Peter Kean, from Lion, and me holding the Super Rugby trophy.



Stephen Donald, that guy who won us the Rugby World Cup in 2011, with Chiefs coach, Dave Rennie.



Dave Curran, the Vodafone Warriors finance & operations manager, joined our CEO Wayne Scurrah, and were both hosted by Vodafone.



It was great to catch up with rugby league legend, Steve Price, who had a great day as well.



Nathan and his lovely wife, Kelly, who was looking great in green, had a ball on Cup day.



Nathan Friend & Auckland Blues' Ma'a Nonu, were also having lots of fun.



Peter Thompson, the boss of Barfoot & Thompson, surrounded by a bevy of beautiful ladies, including his wife! Thanks for the sponsorship, Peter, it was a great day!



Sean Connolly, renowned chef, who has just opened a new restaurant called GUSTI, in the Sky City Grand Hotel Lobby, loved holding the cup.



My great mate Danny Bucalo, General Manager Food & Beverage, enjoyed holding the cup and meeting Dave Rennie, the Chiefs coach.

A DAY at the RACES

To celebrate our first home game of 2014, we are giving away 2 one year's subscription to **PACIFIC POWERBOAT** magazine.

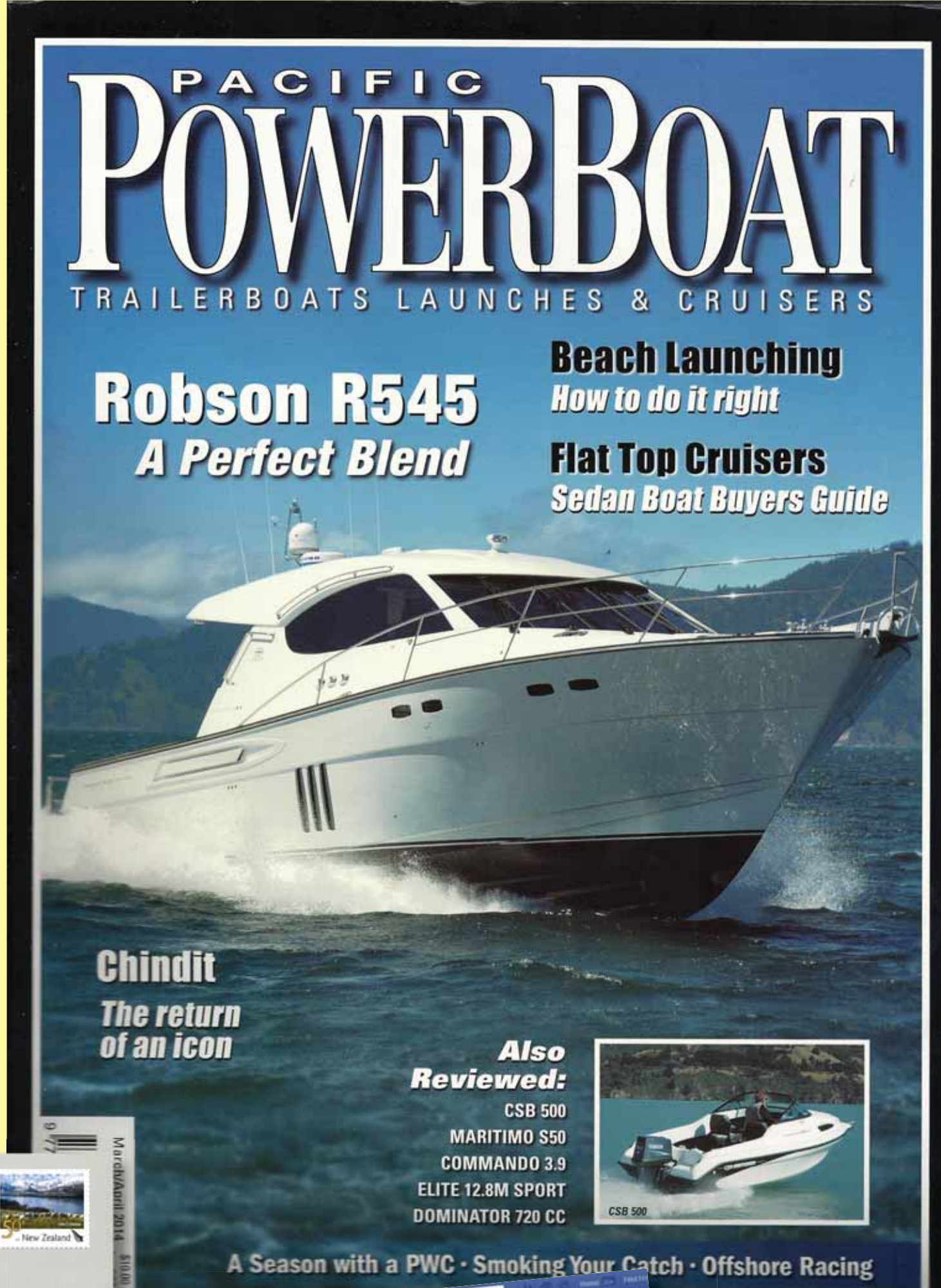
It's a great read so send your entry away today. Closes Monday the 24th of March. Winners phoned that day.

All you have to do is send a **STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE BEFORE 24 MARCH, 2014** to this address:

PACIFIC POWERBOAT
P.O. Box 54295,
The Marina 2144, Manukau,
Auckland

AND ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE write your name and address... AND PHONE!

Your Name: _____
 Your Address: _____
 Your Phone: _____



Closes Monday 24th of March.

Subject: from Phil Gifford re Valerie Adams

Six reasons why Valerie Adams is the best she at what she does.

My congratulations to a very special person, my dear friend **Valerie Adams**, who won her third world indoor championship in the weekend, and is about to become the athlete with the longest unbeaten streak in history. A good mate, **Phil Gifford**, first met Valerie when I got him to interview her for a Suburban Newspapers Christmas charity lunch in 2009. Phil wrote Valerie's book and I asked him if he'd like to say why he thinks Valerie is such a great athlete, and such a great person.

He came up with these six reasons:

One. She makes the most of her gifts. The very first time Valerie threw the shot she was 13 and she broke the record at Southern Cross campus in Mangere East by two metres. If you were designing a female shot putter it would be someone like Valerie, tall, very strong, while still quick and explosive. But what's made her a legend is how much effort she puts in to stay the best in the world.

Two. She made a commitment. Valerie's mother Lilika died in 2000 when Valerie was only 15. Already she had instilled in Valerie the determination to be an Olympian. Her mother remains a massive influence in Valerie's life to this day.

Three. She has an amazing work ethic. Valerie likes a party as much as the rest of us. But for about 50 weeks of the year alcohol doesn't pass her lips. Her training is constant, and massive. At the level athletes like her are at, they train right on the edge of breaking down all the time. Nothing stops Valerie training. Just before the London Olympics she tore a muscle in her back. Three days later she was having five physio sessions a day, but she was back in the gym.

Four. She does it clean. When the drug testers knock on her door at 6am (and they do) it's an inconvenience for Valerie. The urine collection is embarrassing. But because she has never cheated she never has to worry about what the results will show, she never has to lie, and at night she can sleep with a clear conscience

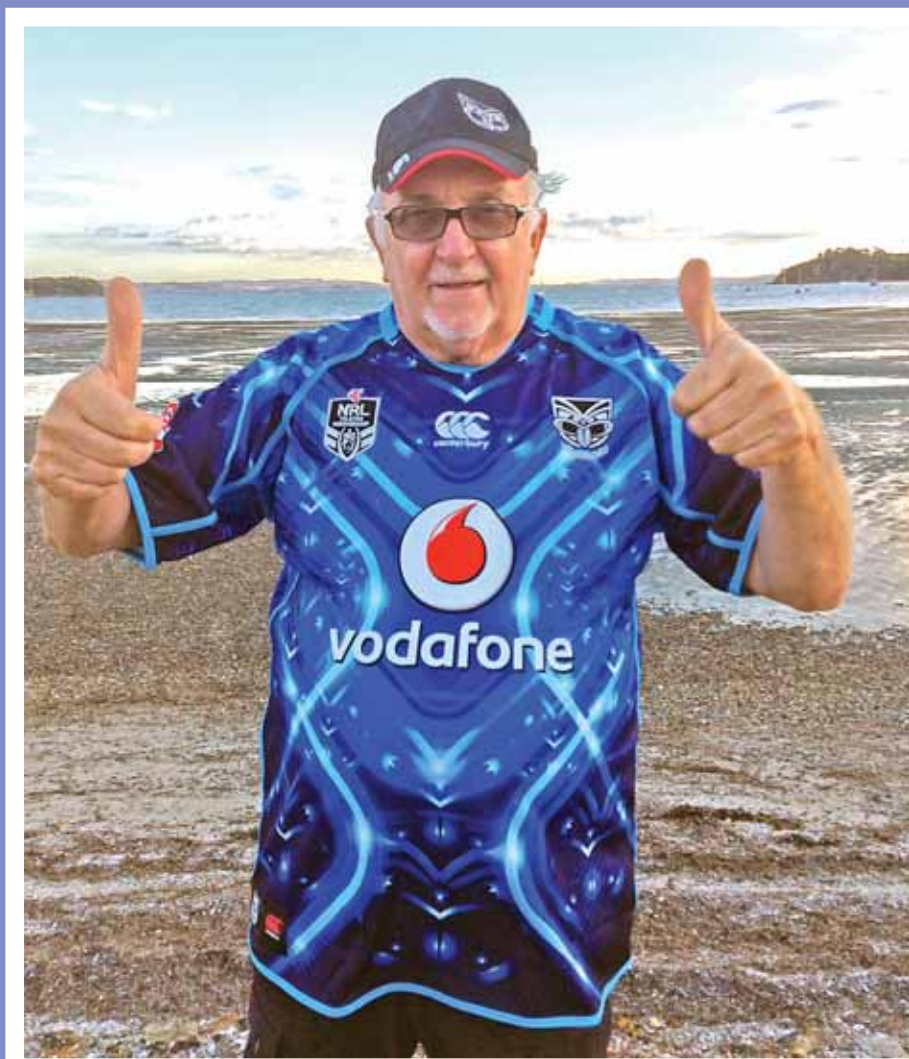
Five. Her family is her rock. Valerie's a true citizen of the world now, living in both hemispheres, speaking English, Tongan, and French and learning German. Her life involves jetting to Rome, New York, and Moscow. But her sisters, bother-in-law, nieces and nephew in South Auckland remain the dearest to her. When your family is so close to your heart there's never any chance you won't stay grounded.

Six. She hasn't forgotten to have fun. When she competes Valerie puts on what she calls her "Don't eff with me" face. But when it comes time to celebrate, nobody enjoys happy times more than she does. As a role model in all aspects of her life they don't come any better.

Special offer to all our mates *in* Christchurch

We have 50 double passes for our first game at Eden Park the first 50 people to email reception@warriors.co.nz with details, i.e. name and ChCh address plus copy me on pcleitch@xtra.co.nz and we will have a double pass for you at game to pick up. **THIS IS ONLY FOR CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS, NOT FORMER; YOU MUST BE LIVING IN CHRISTCHURCH and its only for tickets to the game and my lounge.** Special thanks to the **Vodafone Warriors** for making it happen. Our way of showing some support for our mates in Christchurch.

Sir peter Charles Leitch KNZM,QSM
Vodafone Warriors Ambassador



The Mad Butcher turns model for this special edition jersey (collectors' edition) This jersey is a one-off for the 3 Eden Park Games and is **ONLY AVAILABLE AT THE GAME, PLAYBILL/WARRIORS MT SMART SHOP - Hours 10am - 3pm MON -FRI** or go on line to www.warriors.co.nz
Price: **\$185 each.** Woman's and kids sizes available.
Members' Special Price **only \$150**

Warriors Forever Season Guide



If you would like to receive the 2014 Vodafone Warriors poster and a copy of the 2014 season guide then post a **self-addressed - and with postage - A4 envelope** to:

Vodafone Warriors
 P O BOX 54259
 the Marina 2144
 Manuaku
 Auckland

The Vodafone Warriors Forever season guide magazine is now available online by clicking the following link:

www.oliverlee.co.nz/warriors2014



RD 1	Sun	Mar 9	V Eels	6.30pm	Pirtek Stadium	RD 9	Sat	May 10	V Raiders	5.00pm	Eden Park	RD 17	Bye					RD 25	Aug 28-Sep 1	V Titans	tbc	Mt Smart Stadium
RD 2	Sat	Mar 15	V Dragons	5.00pm	Eden Park	RD 10	Sat	May 18	V Bulldogs	4.00pm	Waikato Stadium	RD 18	Sat	Jul 12	Eels	7.30pm	Mt Smart Stadium	RD 26	Sep 4-7	V Panthers	tbc	Sportingbet Stadium
RD 3	Sat	Mar 22	V Cowboys	8.00pm	1300smiles Stadium	RD 11	Sat	May 24	V Titans	5.30pm	Robina Stadium	RD 19	Sat	Jul 19	Broncos	7.30pm	Suncorp Stadium					
RD 4	Sat	Mar 29	V Tigers	5.00pm	Westpac Stadium	RD 12	Sun	Jun 1	V Knights	4.00pm	Mt Smart Stadium	RD 20	Sun	Jul 27	V Sea Eagles	4.00pm	Mt Smart Stadium					
RD 5	Sat	Apr 5	V Sharks	3.00pm	Remondie Stadium	RD 13	Sat	Jun 7	V Rabbitohs	7.30pm	nib Stadium	RD 21	Sat	Aug 1-4	V Raiders	tbc	GIO Stadium					
RD 6	Sun	Apr 13	V Bulldogs	4.00pm	Eden Park	RD 14	Bye					RD 22	Sat	Aug 8-11	V Sharks	tbc	Mt Smart Stadium					
RD 7	Sat	Apr 19	V Dragons	5.30pm	WIN Jubilee Oval	RD 15	Sat	Jun 21	Broncos	7.30pm	Mt Smart Stadium	RD 23	Sat	Aug 14-17	V Knights	tbc	Hunter Stadium					
RD 8	Fri	Apr 25	V Storm	6.00pm	AAMI Park	RD 16	Sun	Jun 29	Panthers	4.00pm	Mt Smart Stadium	RD 24	Sat	Aug 21-24	V Roosters	tbc	Mt Smart Stadium					

2014 FINALS SERIES:
 QUALIFYING FINALS: SEPTEMBER 12-14
 SEMI FINALS: SEPTEMBER 20-21
 PRELIMINARY FINALS: SEPTEMBER 27-28

2014 GRAND FINAL
 SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER
 ANZ STADIUM SYDNEY

2014 VODAFONE WARRIORS: (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Back Row: Ngani Laumape, Ben Henry, Siliva Havili, Jayson Bukuyu, Raymond Faltala-Mariner, Sione Lousi, Tuimoala Lolohea, Thomas Leuluai, Chad Townsend, Carlos Tuimavave, Sebastine Ikahihifo, Konrad Hurrell, Suaia Matagi, Dominique Peyroux, David Bhana, David Fusitua, Nathaniel Peteru, Albert Vete.
 Front Row: Charlie Gubb, Nathan Friend, Sam Rapira, Feleti Mateo, Sam Tomkins, Manu Vatuvei, Jacob Lillyman, Simon Mannering (Captain), Ben Matulino, Shaun Johnson, Dane Nielsen, Glen Fisiiahi, Sam Lousi, Kevin Locke, Jerome Ropati and John Palavi.



TICKETS FROM: WWW.TICKETEK.CO.NZ OR 0800 TICKETEK AND FROM THE GROUND ON MATCH DAY. CHECK WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. WWW.WARRIORS.CO.NZ

This is an awesome poster! At 841mm x 594mm it'll look amazing on any wall!



2014 LICENSED MERCHANDISE RANGE



MAIN JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Ladies...\$165 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL, Ladies 8-18 and Kids 6-14	ALTERNATE JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL and Kids 6-14	HERITAGE JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL and Kids 6-14	HIGH VOLTAGE NRL TRAINING JERSEY  Adults...\$165 • Kids...\$110 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL and Kids 6-14	WOMEN IN LEAGUE JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Ladies...\$165 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL, Ladies 8-18 and Kids 6-14	HIGH VOLTAGE EDEN PARK JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Ladies...\$165 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL, Ladies 8-18 and Kids 6-14	NYC HOME JERSEY  Adults...\$185 • Kids...\$120 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL and Kids 6-14	STREET WARRIOR NYC TRAINING JERSEY  Adults...\$165 • Kids...\$110 Sizes: Mens 8-4XL and Kids 6-14			
TRAINING SINGLET  Adults.....\$70 Sizes: Small - 3XL	TRAINING POLO  Adults.....\$90 Sizes: Small - 3XL	TRAINING TEE  Adults.....\$80 Sizes: Small - 3XL	CLUB HOODIE  Adults.....\$120 Kids.....\$100 Sizes: 8 - 4XL and 6-14	WARRIOR TIKI TEE  Adults.....\$50 Kids.....\$40 Sizes: Small - 3XL and 6-14	WARRIORS STRIPED POLO  Adults.....\$90 Sizes: Small - 3XL	WARRIORS SPRAY JACKET  Adults.....\$90 Sizes: Small - 4XL	BASKETBALL 95' SINGLET  Adults.....\$90 Kids.....\$70 Sizes: 8 - 4XL and 6-14	Lethal Flash DS 3 IT  RRP.....\$170	Lethal Stats 3 SK  RRP.....\$220	
MAIN SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	ALTERNATE SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	HERITAGE SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	HIGH VOLTAGE NRL TRAINING SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	WOMEN IN LEAGUE SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	HIGH VOLTAGE EDEN PARK SHORTS  Adults.....\$70 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: 30-44 and 6-14	NYC HOME SHORTS  Adults.....\$80 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: Small - 3XL	GYM SHORTS  Adults.....\$100 Kids.....\$60 Sizes: Small - 3XL	TRAINING TRACK PANT  Adults.....\$60 Kids.....\$40 Sizes: 8/M and L/XL	CAMO TRAINING CAP  Adults.....\$30	GRADED SNAP BACK CAP  Adults.....\$60 Kids.....\$40 Sizes: 8/M and L/XL

CHECK OUT OUR NEW OFFICIAL ONLINE STORE @ WWW.WARRIORSSTORE.CO.NZ - THE RANGE IS AVAILABLE ON GAME DAYS AT EDEN PARK, WESTPAC STADIUM AND MT SMART STADIUM - FROM THE TEAM STORE LOCATED IN THE SKY TOWER GIFT SHOP - OR VISIT YOUR NEAREST CANTERBURY STORE!

www.facebook.com/vodafonewarriors
@NZWarriors @NZWarriors

A first-look at the great range of Warriors merchandise for the 2014 season.

Calling all Vodafone Warriors Supporters

Wellington

What could be better than hanging out with your mates, having a few bebies and watching NRL?
Not much, we think, so join us on our very own same day return fan flight and you can be part of the crowd that witness the **Vodafone Warriors** take on the **West Tigers** at the impressive **Westpac Stadium on Saturday 29th March 2014.**

Oh, and on the flight home the whole team will be joining us!

Our package includes:

- Return flights from Auckland to Wellington, tickets to the **Vodafone Warriors vs West Tigers** game
- Return transfers from Wellington airport to Westpac Stadium.

Price: \$249 per person

Return flights to Wellington on Saturday 29th March (seat only)
Depart Auckland 12.45pm
Arrive Wellington 1.45pm

Depart Wellington 9.00pm
Arrive Auckland 10.00pm

Melbourne

After winging your way to Wellington with a bunch of like minded fans, how about a quick trip across the ditch to Melbourne for the **Vodafone Warriors vs. Melbourne Storm Anzac Day Clash!**

Our Melbourne package includes:

- Return flights from Auckland to Melbourne, tickets to the **Vodafone Warriors vs. Melbourne Storm** game, and two nights at **Hotel Ibis Little Bourke Street.**

Price from: \$949 (based on 2 people travelling)

Friday 25th April 2014
Depart Auckland 8.30am
Arrive Melbourne 10.30am

Sunday 27th April 2014
Depart Melbourne 11.45am
Arrive Auckland 5.15pm

For more details and to book online visit our website:
www.grabaseat.co.nz or contact grabaseat@airnz.co.nz if you have any queries.





URGENT MESSAGE

Anyone that may think they have a kidney problem, please spread the word re this:

All this week get your kidney warrant of fitness kit free from any Mad Butcher shop (in Auckland only). Use the quick, easy do it yourself kits at home. If you, or someone you know could use one, get to a Mad Butcher Auckland store.

For info visit kidneys.co.nz or call **0800 KIDNEYS**.



Are you ready for 2014? These kids are. Bring it on!

GRACE FEASEY, wearing **Koni Hurrell's** NRL9's jersey. The jersey was presented to her dad, **Tony**, by **Dan Floyd** after the Nines for his help as the Police Liaison officer for the team.

When asked where the **Warriors** would finish this year, of course her reply was number 1! Her brother, **COOPER FEASEY**, didn't want to miss out either. His favourite player is **Shaun Johnston** - Cooper also reckons the **Warriors** are NUMBER 1!!



Just One More

Big Sam Tomkins like you have never seen him before! *The Caring Bloke!* He loves having his photo taken with babies.

Hope you are enjoying the newsletter.

If you would like to receive the newsletter directly please email Amelia Wheeler at

meelz_79@hotmail.co.nz

Or if you would like to **unsubscribe** please email **Amelia** and she will delete you from the list.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORSHIP PARTNERS!

Without our sponsors' fantastic support the Mad Butcher Club wouldn't be as great as it is. If you get the opportunity to support them please do whenever you can!



Shore **Times** Harbour **News** Nor-west **News** Western **Leader**
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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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Peter Leitch
Editor



Rex Harrison
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Amelia
Circulation

