

VODAFONE



# Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

13<sup>th</sup> July 2016

# Newsletter #130

## Warriors on Report By David Kemeys



**I**T'S A bit cheeky to shamelessly base your column on the work of others, but hell, they get paid for it and I don't, so I'm sure the Herald's excellent league team of Michael Burgess, David Skipwith and Dale Budge won't mind.

The trio rated the season so far, and were pretty much of a muchness when they considered their own early expectations. Burgess and Skipwith rated a pass mark and 6/10 respectively, while Budge was harder, rating a fail given all the hype there was.

I can't disagree – though since the question required consideration of your own expectations, I might have to concede that I did not buy into the early “we're world-beaters” talk, mainly because you don't go from totally horrible (which we were at the end of last season) to champions in one leap – no matter who you bring in – although cheating the salary cap might take you close.

So we have done well to get back to where we were, when you consider the lows we have had to endure.

I was pretty pissed we lost first-up, just because I am so bloody sick of it, and the Raiders game in New Plymouth was a particular low. On the plus side, our revival has been excellent.

Having said that, it does feel like been there, done that, got the T-shirt, with the challenge now to run-in without our usual stutters.

Our three notables were also asked to name their best player, with Burgess clearly unable to understand the question and going for David Fusitua, Blake Ayshford, Simon Mannering and Albert Vete on the basis that no one stood out particularly.

Skipwith tipped Fusitua, while he was also Budge's man - alongside Mannering.

If you name that many guys you are almost certain to get it right, and I'd plump for Mannering. He is the best, most consistent, hardest-working, minute-eating, tackling machine and being there to see him clock up game number 250 was my season highlight so far.

All three had a little dig at the poorest performed too, and named pretty much the entire squad between them, for not living up to their reputation, going missing, falling off tackles etc.

I'm far too kind to single anyone out. Jonathan Wright.

The big question was would we make the play-offs? All three said yes.

And my praise goes to Burgess, who said we had to aim higher than that. Good on him.

*Continued on next page...*

But I confess it feels like so long since I've seen finals footy I'll take that first hurdle if it comes.

I won't bore you with trying to wrap up who said we'd beat who, but all three pretty much say we have to win five games – and hopefully even six.

This is where I will deflate you all – I do not expect to win in Perth. Mongrel of a trip.

We have four home games left - Rabbitohs, Eels, Tigers and Panthers – and we will not beat the Panthers.

So if we do lose to Manly at the weekend, we will need to win two in Australia – which has to be the Raiders and the Titans, because don't expect to win in Townville.

Budge says we'll squeak in and expects that to be all she wrote, and says given the hype that should be classed as a disappointment.

They might say you can't win the NRL early in the season, but you can certainly lose it, and I fear that horror patch is going to come back to haunt us.

Still if we make the eight, it is progress – of sorts.

### What's The Matter Parramatta?

**I**N THE longest running league soap opera of all time the NRL has at last stripped the Parramatta Eels of 12 points, fined the club \$1 million and given the boot to five officials, including one-time Vodafone Warriors and Kiwis coach Daniel Anderson.

NRL head honcho Todd Greenberg said he had considered responses from the Eels and while there were "points worthy of consideration", there would be no change to the penalties originally announced.

"The overall impression I got was that no one was taking responsibility for the deliberate, systemic and blatant breaches of the salary cap, so we have to take a stand."

So at long last the Eels have been docked 12 points, fans around the world have their hands down the back of the couch trying to find \$1 million to pay the fine, and the chairman, his deputy, a director, the CEO and Anderson are all gone-burgers.

The Eels also lost their Auckland Nines title. There's going to be no official winner at all.

Greenberg said he could not be more sympathetic for fans, the coach and players.

We'll just have to agree to disagree on that one.

I have zero sympathy, except hands up anyone who really believes it's only the Eels on the fiddle.

The Eels can still appeal, and given their performance thus far, you would not bet against it.

### Finals Will Get Extra Time

Extra time will be played in all finals games if the scores are tied, in 2016 and beyond.

The recommendation for a period of extra time before golden point has been officially ratified, so under the new rule, five minutes of extra time each way will be played, and only if the scores are still level at the end of that, will the game go to golden point.

"There was strong support for the change," NRL CEO Todd Greenberg said. "The stakes are high, so it makes sense to have extra time before golden point. It should mean a more expansive style of football, and it will be less likely a team is eliminated in golden point."

### Local League Backs Community

Take a bow the Glenora Bears because they had a special event for prostate cancer, which saw them produce jerseys and shorts for the game, and auction them in the clubrooms afterwards.

They carried the day on the field, beating the Howick Hornets 30-16, but the action was at the auction.

Coupled with all sorts of framed jerseys donated by Sir Peter, and plenty of product from sponsors and donors, their playing kit and the extras raised a massive \$17,175, and it is sensational to see a local league club stand up for its community.

The Papakura Sea Eagles, who are leading the SAS Fox Memorial at the moment, belted Northcote 68-10, but more importantly, are doing something similar to raise funds for bowel cancer later in the year, and we will keep you up to date on that one.

We hear a lot of negatives out of our game, and we deserve it, with some of the shenanigans that go on, but we hear a lot less about sensational things like those auctions, and that is a great shame because the vast majority of people involved in the game are great folk. So well done the Bears, and Papakura, and of course to all those who put their hands in their pockets to support the clubs and the causes.

#### **More Details from the Glenora Bears:**

“We get a 1 off jersey printed for the day which we auction off. So with that and kiwi and Parra jerseys kindly donated from your own collection we managed to raise over \$17000 to be donated to prostate cancer. It's the 4th year we've done it.

Previous charities have been breast cancer, kids canteen & say no to family violence which we raised nearly \$50000 over those 3 charities alone.

So that's nearly \$70000 over 4 years for 4 different charities.

We take our place in the community very seriously and one of our messages we try to install in our members is about giving back. I think as a club we need strong values to stand by and install in our coaches and players to create not just a better standard of player but a better standard of person.”

#### **Warriors Eye Pacific**

We take an NRL game to the Pacific after our Mt Smart deal runs out in 2018.

The NRL has been looking to make inroads in the Islands and given the number of Polynesian players, it would be a boost for the code.

Our current deal means we only allowed to play one other home game away from Mt Smart, so nothing can happen before that deal ends.

Big boss Jim Doyle says the club is working on a deal that will allow it to take two games away.

#### **Big Jake Shoots Straight**

There was a really good piece on nrl.com that featured our Queensland rep prop Jake Lilyman, and he did not hold back.

“We've come a long way. We took the Sharkies to golden point, and we could have won. We defended a lot and we did make a couple of errors but we defended well. We played tough and we can be guilty of not doing that, of drifting in and out of games and being mentally soft.”

Jake talked about not wanting to cop any more of the abuse that followed our dismal showing earlier in the year.

“We were copping it left, right and centre. Everyone was lining up to put the boot in. There was a conscious effort from coach Andrew McFadden to take a bit of pressure off at training and enjoy it a bit more. We did that for a few weeks and now we've started to refine it.

“What we went through is still fresh in our minds and we're appreciating things a lot more now with how well we're going. And we want to continue that. We don't want to go backwards.”

Superb to see a player fessing up and talking honestly because let's face it, that doesn't always happen.

#### **Cappy's Got A Plan**

Great to read the papers at the weekend and see coach Andrew McFadden have a simple idea –which I will paraphrase as – win and it will all be fine.

Cappy told David Long at Stuff that was the only way to silence critics.

We all know we have a reputation for falling off the pace, and McFadden is aware of that.

“We can't change it, that's the facts. But we're feeling pretty good about our game at the moment.

#### **Robson Can Play For Eels**

Apparently we have not blocked Jeff Robson from playing for the Eels against us in the last game of the season.

Robson was released two weeks ago and played for the Eels against the Roosters on Friday, and will be allowed to play against us.

Of course we all know Konrad Hurrell, who joined the Titans, was not allowed to turn out.

Coach Andrew McFadden said the situation was different because Robson was released on compassionate grounds.



*By John Deaker*

## Corbett's Fallen on His Feet at the Warriors Following a Knockout Blow

**L**EIGHTON CORBETT struggles to put into words how proud he is to work for the Vodafone Warriors in his role as their graphic designer. That's understandable considering it's a role that requires skills that combine two of his greatest passions: sport and art. It's made even more satisfying considering the road he travelled to find an appropriate career in his late 20's. Corbett hails from Dunedin and a few years after he'd finished school he moved north to Auckland where retail management with PlaceMakers was his job for 8 years. He then played rugby semi-professionally in Amsterdam for two years before receiving the knockout blow that forced him out of rugby and back to New Zealand. Corbett reckons he was knocked out over a dozen times playing rugby since he began playing as a 4 year old. Otago men have never been allowed to take the 'soft' option though and staying on the field was Corbett's natural instinct the day he was concussed so badly that he was forced to finally hang up his boots for good.

"It was a relegation game so I had to carry on playing after I was knocked out in the first half," Corbett recalls.

"I knew I was playing rugby but I didn't know anyone or where I was. About half way through the second half my girlfriend noticed I was away with the daisies and told the trainers who came on and dragged me off. Hers was the only face I recognised after that. I was just going 'Where am I? Where am I!?"

Corbett knew he didn't want to go back to PlaceMakers when he arrived back to New Zealand so he embarked on his graphic design degree at AUT. Getting through this successfully was made even more challenging because his concentration has been one of the main recurring problems he's battled with since he stopped playing rugby.

Corbett didn't walk straight out of University with his dream job. Before getting his break with the Warriors, Corbett gained some valuable experience working in the 'real world' practically applying his new skills. This included a tough period doing freelance work which has made him appreciate his role with the Warriors even more. He basically focuses on the creative design and art for all aspects of the Warriors' print, digital, communications and Stadium branding. He has to pinch himself the way things have turned out.

"It's the first job I've ever had when I'm not clockwatching," he says.

"I can wear a Warriors jersey to work and go for a kick on the main field if I want. It's a pretty plumb job and was just what I needed at the time."

Being a self-confessed sports nut has helped Corbett to fit into life in a professional sports club where he admits it was quite surreal initially getting shown round the Mount Smart Stadium facilities and meeting many of the players who he'd idolised over the years.

*Continued on next page...*

He's also found regular visits by Sir Peter Leitch through the office to be both entertaining and inspirational. One in particular he remembers fondly was the day that a "Knight introduced a Knight" : the day when Sir Peter introduced Sir Graham Henry to the Warriors' staff prior to Sir Graham's stint helping the club out as a mentor for coach Andrew McFadden.

When Corbett gets spare time he commissions artwork for people and designs tattoos as well. With his maori blood coming from his mother's side, that heritage is just another box Corbett can tick to confirm he has appropriate credentials to put the Warriors best creative foot forward going into the future. Considering what he's been through to get there, you suspect he's not about to take for granted the chance to continue working in a role he's so passionate about.

## NRL Super League Workshop



**JERRY SEU** Seu, Toafofoa Siple, Leslie Vanikolo, Joe Vagana, Ligi Sao, Julian O'Neil, Logan Swann, mason Lino, Nigel Vagana , Ali Lauitiiti, Wade McKinnon, Paul Rauhihi at the Superleague Transition workshop hosted by Nigel Vagana and Jane Lowder from the NRL Wellbeing and Education team.



**TOAFOFOA SIPLEY**, Leslie Vainikolo , Nigel Vagana, Ligi Sao, Ali Lauitiiti, Joe Vagana, mason Lino, Jerry Seu Seu, Julian O'Neill, Logan Swann at the NRL Super League workshop on Monday night.



# Minor Premiers

## By Barry Ross



**A**FTER THEIR excellent win against the Panthers on Sunday, the Sharks are on the way to the Minor Premiership. In their last eight games before the semi finals, they meet only two sides who are currently in the top eight. These two teams are the Raiders on Saturday 6 August and the Storm on Saturday 3 September. The Raiders clash is at Shark Park but the Storm game is in Melbourne and it could be one of the top games of the season.

Going into Saturday's game against Penrith at Penrith without their five State of Origin men, the Sharks were expected to have some problems. A great defensive effort was the key to their win. They did have a couple of lapses but on the whole, they kept turning up, especially in the first half when Penrith could have picked up two or three tries. In the first half, the Panthers were tackled 26 times in Cronulla's red zone but could only manage one try, which came three minutes before halftime. The experienced trio of Michael Ennis, Chris Heighington and Luke Lewis played major roles in the victory, as did the Sharks inexperienced bench. Heighington, now 33 and playing his 284th first grade game, worked non stop. He ran for the most metres with 174 and also made 24 tackles. Ennis, in his 263 rd top grade appearance, captained Cronulla for the first time. Ben Barba at fullback, also ran for 174 metres, made 4 tackles and collected two tries. Playing his first top grade game this season, 28 year old centre Mitch Brown more than justified his inclusion in the team. He ran for 138 metres, made 16 tackles and scored a try. Brown has now played 132 first grade matches, playing with the Sharks, the Bulldogs and the Wests Tigers over 11 seasons. Between them the four Sharks bench players had 128 minutes of playing time, ran for 141 metres and made 62 tackles. Kurt Capewell, 23, was making his first grade debut from the bench and in 50 minutes, he ran for 136 metres and made 18 tackles.

Coach Shane Flanagan, has complete confidence in all of his team, including the extended squad. Before the game, he said there would be no excuses if the Sharks were beaten, adding he was delighted that several players were getting their chance to play NRL football in 2016. The win over Penrith was Cronulla's 13th successive win. They are in the right place to take the Minor Premiership. Should they do this, it will be their third, after having won the Minor Premiership in 1988 and 1999.

Roosters coach, Trent Robinson, is feeling some heat from some of the club's supporters. Despite winning a Premiership and three Minor Premierships over the past four years, some sections of social media have turned on him, saying he can't coach. With only three wins this season and sitting at second last on the ladder will cause that to happen. Michael Maguire has also had his share of criticism this year and there will be more to come with Souths now with just a slight chance of making this year's top eight teams and having just five wins in 2016.

Ricky Stuart and his Raiders met the Cowboys at the right time. Without their State of Origin players and on a freezing Canberra Monday night, the Cowboys had nothing going for them, but they were not disgraced.

With the State of Origin series out of the way this week, all teams will settle down and work towards a successful end to 2016. Although not in the top eight at the moment, the Dragons, Titans, Tigers, Eels, Rabbitohs and Sea Eagles will still think they are capable of making the playoffs, but this is probably not realistic for the Eels, Rabbitohs and Sea Eagles.

All eyes will be on Perth this Saturday when the Warriors meet the Sea Eagles. It is a vital game for both teams, especially the Warriors. In Brisbane next Tuesday the draw for the 2017 World Cup will be made.

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



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

*The Mad Butchers Weekly NRL Tipping Comp.*

By John Holloway

## NRL Round 19

Date/ Venue		Game	Sue Phelan	Joe Vagana	John Coffey	Fast Eddie	Monty Betham	Bill Hayward	High-Tackle Holloway
			<i>Maloney's Barber Shop - The best haircut in town.</i>	<i>League Legend and Machine Lease King.</i>	<i>Newsletter Columnist and Veteran Leagueie</i>	<i>Devonport Dutchman - Takin it easy...</i>	<i>The Warrior Boxer - StepsForLife</i>	<i>Link Business - Buying or Selling a Business</i>	<i>Richmond Bulldog - Old School Richmond Leagueie</i>
15/07 - Jubilee	Dragons v Titans	Dragons	Dragons	Titans	Dragons	Titans	Titans	Titans	Dragons
16/07 - NIB	Sea Eagles v Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors	Warriors
16/07 - ANZ	Rabbitohs v Broncos	Broncos	Rabbitohs	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos
17/07 - Hunters	Knights v Storm	Storm	Knights	Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm
17/07 - Pepper	Panthers v Eels	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Eels	Panthers
18/07 - ALLIANZ	Roosters v Sharks	Sharks	Roosters	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks
Byes: Tigers, Cowboys, Bulldogs and Raiders									

### How they're traveling...

Picks last week	3/4	3/4	3/4	3/4	2/4	3/4	3/4
Total picks	76/132	79/132	88/132	81/132	85/132	92/132	93/132

**J**UST THE 4 outings last weekend in preparation for this Wednesdays final clash of the Bananabenders and the Cane-Toads which might be all done and dusted by the time you read this. I am thinking that even with Lozzas dash of Youth syrup the old firm will come thru again. What is it with our great game that we are continually in dramatic turmoils. One after the other the revelations of Salary cap or drugs or drunks or gambling overtake the positives of the terrific footy displays by talented individuals and teams. I live in the camp that says its flawed persona not the code that is to blame but that's a hard sell at times like this. I think the very high profile of the NRL in our part of the world highlights these issues. I can think of a few Rugga types that have erred in recent times but fair to say they are playing catchup in this area. Hockey and Netball appear relatively well behaved but who would know? The embattled Eels are currently the main provider of scandal and gossip but continue to defy the odds and chase a playoff spot. It's a longish chance but even with their various defections, points loss penalty and early in the game injuries to Radradra and De Gois and Mannah they followed Cory Norman to a come from behind win 22/18 over the ruefull Roosters. The Bondi Junction boys just can't take a trick with coach Trent Robinson keeping an eye on the Situations vacant column. The favoured Bulldogs also played the comeback card to get past Taylors depleted Tiger pride 32/22. Doggies man mountain Kasiano again a powerful interchange force and Hopoate continues to impress and influence. Deadpan Dessy looking to the finals with a quiet smile. Many pundits including moi assumed that 5 origin defections would derail the Sharkies charge, but I forgot about Barba!! In hindsight a look at the Cronulla lineup revealed a pretty good read with the experienced trio of Luke Lewis, Ennis and Townsend leading the way to win number 13 on the trot, a few more to come looking at their draw. Cartwright was good as usual but the blue mountain men lacked penetration, the loss of Moylan and Mansour made a large dent in the usually fluent Panther attack arsenal.

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The Cowboys travelled to Raider Country for the Monday niter without Cooper, Thurston, Morgan, Tamou, O, Neil and top drawer prop Scott. The Raiders for their part lacked strongman Papalii but still had enough to do the business over the gallant Cowboy crew pulling away at the end 26/12. Greenmachine now only 1 point from top 4. Sticky Ricky a happy man. A shortened round next week with 6 matches scheduled and on current form mainly evenly matched events excepting perhaps a full strength Shark attack versus the run-down Roosters. Gooo the Miggghhttyyy Warriioooors.. I would like to think our boys will take the lollies even though we are away to the Sea Eagles. NIB stadium perhaps a little kinder than The Brook eh! The bye rest should be a freshen up and Manu and The Hoff are back on deck if needed. A shout out to the Latest Warrior man just 19yrs old, Bunty Afoa who debuted v the Titans. McFadden building a handy roster of young guns with a taste of top grade, the go to guys of the future.

Tippin Talk. Only 4 points on offer and half underestimated the Sharks and the other half over estimated the Cowboys so basically 3's all round and no real change on the board. A shout out too for Montz who will be travelling to Rio for the games with the TV commentary team...way to go Monty Betham.

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**Two Auckland brothers have achieved a 109 year first for the Newtown Jets. [Check it out here](#)**

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*Celebrating Tradition  
Frank Hyde Shield 2016*



*Sunday 17th  
July  
3pm Kickoff  
North Sydney Oval*



**Frank Hyde was an Australian rugby league footballer, coach and radio commentator.**

# Warriors Claim Minor Premiership

By Ben Francis



**T**HE TAKAHIWAI Warriors have claimed the Minor Premiership in the Scott Electrical Premiership after beating the Moerewa Tigers 38-20. The Warriors led the Scott Electrical Premiership from start to finish this season, only conceding one loss (against the Moerewa Tigers 34-32)

The Warriors got out to an early lead scoring two quick tries and took a 16-6 lead into the break. The Tigers started the second half strongly scoring two quick tries of their own to tie the game up. Takahiwai then out-scored the Tigers 22-4 down the stretch to claim the vital win.

The two sides will face off again next week in the major semi-final, with the winner automatically qualifying for the grand final whilst the loser will play the winner of the Otangarei Knight and Portland Panthers.

The Knights have beaten the Panthers twice this season already claiming a 42-8 win back in round one along with a 30-16 win back in round eight.

Both games will be played at Toll Stadium in Whangarei on Saturday 16th July. The Knights vs Panthers game will kick off at 12:45pm and the Warriors vs Tigers will kick off at 2:30pm.

The Otangarei Knights won the championship back in 2014 when they beat the Hikurangi Stags 28-26. That was their first title since 1983, whilst the Warriors went down in last year's final 20-16 in a golden point thriller.

For more information on the semi-finals you can head along to <http://www.northernsworlds.co.nz/>

## Westlake Boys make Championships Top 4 - ARL

**W**ESTLAKE BOYS have done just enough to claim the final spot in the SAS College Rugby League Championships top 4, beating Wesley College 24-12 in the final round of pool play last week.

Westlake will join St Paul's who remain at the top of the Championship table after beating Avondale 26-12, Kelston who did just enough to get in front of Aorere 12-6 and Wesley in the semi-final playoffs.

Success for the hosts in the second-tier Plate group saw Southern Cross (16-12), Otahuhu (20-16) and Manurewa (22-16) win their games over Mt Albert, Western Springs and Tamaki. All three make the Pennant championship with Otahuhu in at fourth.

Meanwhile in the Bowl competition, Papatōetoe picked up a 22-20 victory over Sir Edmund Hillary, St Paul's B beat Lynfield 24-20 and Otahuhu B got over the top of Southern Cross 24-22. Papatōetoe, Sir Edmund Hillary and St Paul's B all qualify for semi-final playoffs.

The SAS College Rugby League semi-final playoffs will kick off in two weeks when secondary schools return from break - draw to be confirmed by College Sport.



# West Coast Rugby League Club Champions For 2016 By Brad Tacon

**T**HE SUBURBS Rugby League Club topped off another successful season winning both open grade grand final titles for 2016.

West Coasts youngest league club has had a year to remember with the under 18 team showing its dominance throughout the season winning their grand final 34-10 over the Brunner Bulls, followed the premiers winning 47-6 over Waro-Rakau Hornets.

Suburbs president and premiers coach Brad Tacon said both teams had shown a great deal of commitment and attitude to achieve the results this year.

This was the clubs 17 consecutive grand final, the premiers went through unbeaten scoring a total of 141 tries and 24 against.

West Coast club rugby league is struggling at present with 4 teams in the top grade and 3 in the under 18s and this is mainly due to a drop of in employment opportunities around the West Coast region.

The Suburbs Rugby League Club has 7 junior teams, based at Karoro Greymouth and are proud to fly the Rugby League flag as the champion West Coast club for 2016.



Suburbs 18s Team



Suburbs Prem Team

**Support the League 4 Life Charity and  
Score a Warriors Jersey Worn by Players in  
Simon's 250th NRL Game**



[Click here to view  
the Jerseys](#)





*By Glen Dwyer  
Newtown Jets Director  
and Media Officer*

## Courageous Win by Warriors ISP NSW Team

*Loose forward Jazz Tevaga was one of the Vodafone Warriors' two try scorers in their hard-earned ISP win over Illawarra on Saturday. Photo courtesy of [www.photosport.nz](http://www.photosport.nz)*

**W**ITH A line-up including seven NYC-eligible players, the New Zealand Warriors have muscled up to take out a tense contest 12-8 over competition leaders Illawarra in today's Round 18 In-trust Super Premiership NSW clash at Mount Smart Stadium #2.

The result leaves a three-way tie on 26 points at the top of the table, with the Warriors joining Illawarra and Mounties following their 11th win of the season.

Mounties will take the competition lead outright if they beat Newcastle.

It was the third time in four weeks that the Warriors have been involved in an arm wrestle after beating Newcastle 34-32, losing to Wests Tigers 16-18 and now taking out a low-scoring affair by just four points.

It was a terrific result for a young Warriors side against in-form Illawarra.

Coach Stacey Jones had two former NYC players in his line-up with centre Junior Pauga and wing Lewis Soosemea making their ISP debuts alongside other NYC-eligible players Ata Hingano, Nathaniel Roache, Bunty Afoa, Ofahiki Ogden and Erin Clark. Roache and Afoa have both made their NRL debuts this season, Afoa called up for his first match just last week.

It was clear from the outset that this would be a grinding affair with neither side able to break through in the opening quarter although the Vodafone Warriors applied ample goal-line heat in the

early stages.

It was the 23rd minute before the deadlock was broken with Dunamis Lui going across for a try Levi Dodd converted.

The Vodafone Warriors returned serve when loose forward Jazz Tevaga went over from close range following a great break by Hingano. Mason Lino converted to leave the teams level 6-6 at the break.

The visitors nudged ahead 8-6 with a Dodd penalty in the 54th minutes and there the score stayed closing in on the last 10 minutes.

Then the breakthrough for the Vodafone Warriors, wing Viliami Kaveinga collecting a short kick over Illawarra's defensive line to go over in the corner. Lino's conversion was brilliant and the home side had a 12-8 advantage.

The Cutters applied plenty of pressure in the tense final minutes, going close only for centre Taane Milne to loose possession near the line.

They couldn't find a way through, the Warriors holding on for a meritorious victory against a side including former Warriors hooker Siliva Havili.

With NRL travelling to Perth this weekend the ISP NSW and NYC Vodafone Warriors both travel to Brookvale Oval to play Manly on Sunday. The ISP NSW currently sit in third on the table after 18 rounds and travel to Manly to continue securing their spot in the finals with 6 rounds left.

# All Stations Go!

## By Shontayne Hape



**A**FTER A much-needed week off for the bye, it's all stations go here at Vodafone Warriors HQ as we prepare for a crucial – and defining - period in the season.

Having won four of our last five games, we are feeling confident about our fortunes but know the NRL is a tough competition and we have our work cut out for us if we want to be playing finals footy this September.

That starts with the longest road trip in the NRL when the boys board a plane on Thursday bound for Perth and a date with the Manly Sea Eagles.

While Manly have had a tough season so far, they are a dangerous side and nobody has forgotten that they beat us here at Mt Smart Stadium in round six.

A lot has happened since then, of course, and these are the games we need to win if we are genuine title contenders.

As I write this I'm in Sydney for the third State of Origin game. Hopefully I'll bump into a few of our diehard NSW members while I'm here!

Speaking of members and fans, this Friday we are joining forces with the Sea Eagles to run a development clinic at nib Stadium in Perth from 1pm to 2pm for the next generation of league stars.

Our players will also be on hand to sign autographs.

The clinic will be coordinated by the NRL's Game Development Officers so if you'd like to register your children, please contact Gus Marshall on [gmarshall@nrl.com.au](mailto:gmarshall@nrl.com.au) with their names, ages and a contact email.

If you just wish to attend the signing session, the Vodafone Warriors will be available from 1pm to 1:30pm.

To register your attendance, please also send your name and email address to Gus Marshall [gmarshall@nrl.com.au](mailto:gmarshall@nrl.com.au).

We look forward to seeing you there on the day.

Go the mighty Vodafone Warriors.



# POP UP STORE

HUNTERS PLAZA, PAPATOETOE

The Vodafone Warriors and Playbill NZ have opened a brand new Pop-Up Shop! Come down for a visit and grab a bargain or check out that special item you've been eyeing up. The Mad Butcher was super impressed!

# ARL Premiership Review Rd 13

**T**HE SAS Fox Memorial Premiership leaders Papakura have put together another convincing performance to crush Northcote 68-10 on Saturday, successfully defending the Konica Minolta Roope Rooster for another week.

Pt Chevalier kept up with a convincing victory of their own beating Marist 62-16 at Walker Park.

Glenora stayed on track with a 30-16 win over Howick in the featured TV game with Mt Albert effectively taking care of Richmond in a heavy 56-8 defeat earlier at Harold Moody Park.

Out south, Mangere have managed to keep ahead of Otahuhu smashing the Leopards 66-10.

Meanwhile down in the Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup, the Hibiscus Coast Raiders – who sit on the edge of the competitions top 4 - kept the Roosters on their toes with a 30 all draw at Jack Colvin Park.

Te Atatu's draw coupled with Ellerslie's convincing 66-0 win over East Coast Bays leaves them just one point in front of the Eagles.

Bay Roskill have moved into the top 3 after their 28-18 win over Waitemata.

## SAS Fox Memorial Premiership Rd 13

Mt Albert 56 Richmond 8  
Glenora 30 Howick 16  
Mangere East 66 Otahuhu 10  
Papakura 68 Northcote 10  
Pt Chevalier 62 Marist 16

## Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup Rd 13

Ellerslie 66 East Coast Bays 0  
Manurewa 32 Ponsonby 46  
Mt Wellington 6 Glenfield 58  
New Lynn 12 Otara 34  
Papatoetoe 32 Pakuranga 24  
Te Atatu 30 Hibiscus Coast 30  
Waitemata 18 Bay Roskill 28  
Manukau BYE

## SAS Fox Memorial Premiership Rd 14 Fixtures

Marist v Papakura @ Birkenhead War Memorial 11am  
Otahuhu v Pt Chevalier @ Bert Henham Park 2.30pm  
Northcote v Mt Albert @ Birkenhead War Memorial  
2.30pm  
Richmond v Glenora @ Grey Lynn Park 2.30pm  
Howick v Mangere East @ Paparoa Park 2.30pm

## Crown Lift Trucks Sharman Cup Rd 14 Fixtures

Hibiscus Coast v New Lynn @ Stanmore Bay 2.30pm  
Te Atatu v Mt Wellington @ Jack Colvin 2.30pm  
Otara v East Coast Bays @ Ngati Otara Park 2.30pm  
Manurewa v Glenfield Navy @ Mountfort Park  
2.30pm  
Ellerslie v Waitemata @ Ellerslie Domain 2.30pm  
Ponsonby v Papatoetoe @ Victoria Park 2.30pm  
Bay Roskill v Manukau @ Blockhouse Bay 2.30pm  
Pakuranga BYE

## ARL Games Televised Live Nationwide on Maori TV



Marist v Papakura to air on  
Maori TV Saturday July 16, 3.30pm.

Northcote v Mt Albert to air on  
Maori TV Sunday July 17, 3.30pm.



VODAFONE



POP UP  
STORE



## Vodafone Warriors - Pop Up Shop Hunters Plaza, Papatoetoe

The Vodafone Warriors and Playbill NZ have opened a brand new Pop-Up Shop! Come down for a visit and grab a bargain or check out that special item you've been eyeing up. The Mad Butcher was super impressed!

### School Holidays = Fun times @ Hunters Plaza

#### Week 1: 11 - 15 July

- Paint our Community - 11am to 3 pm
- Winter Wonderland - 11am to 3pm
- Animal Ride-ons - 11am to 3pm (Tues to Thurs)

#### Week 2: 18 -22 July

- FREE Ice Rink, Mon - Wed - 9.30am to 5pm
- FREE Ice Rink, Thursday - 9.30am to 8pm
- FREE Ice Rink, Friday - 9.30am to 7pm

FREE Skates, helmets and gloves. Kids allowed from the age of \*5 and over.

# Vodafone Fantastic Fridays rewards you

Enjoy amazing deals and exclusive money-can't-buy experiences any day of the week.



## MOVIES

See all the latest blockbusters with 2 for 1 movie vouchers, available at over 40 cinemas nationwide. You'll also get the opportunity to enter exclusive competitions. Sweet!



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THE  
**Post**

# Celebrity couch

WITH TIM GREGORY

## Q & A WITH SIR PETER LEITCH

- **Have you ever blown your voice box whilst recording a Mad Butcher ad?** Never mate. I can do them in my sleep!
- **If I said you could only ever eat either Chicken, Beef or Lamb - what would it be?** Beef. I love a good steak!
- **What type of music does the Butch listen to?** To relax, I listen to The Coast FM!
- **What else do you get up to in your spare time?** I love to kayak with my good mate, Sir Graham Henry.
- **If you could invite three people (dead or alive) to a "Mad Butcher Barbie" who would they be?** I would invite John Key, Stacey Jones and Dexter Trail
- **Have you got a favourite Warriors player of all time, and why?** I have many, but if I have to pick one it would be Stacey Jones. We share May birthdays - his is on the 7th, and mine is on the 8th. I saw him play his first games for the Warriors, Kiwis and also the Catalans Dragons in France. We have a pretty special bond.
- **Before the Warriors were founded in 1995, which other NRL team did you support?** The Manly Sea Eagles. They had plenty of Kiwi players and a Kiwi coach in Graham Lowe. But my real passion was for my local club, the Mangere East Hawks!
- **What is the first thing you think of when I say the word "Franklin"?** A place just out of Hamilton!



# Reader Mail



**A** BIG HELLO to all from Broome Western Australia. This is Marcia on the Cable Beach Camel Rides. I couldn't go cause had to take the photos! We have travelled 10,000 km so far, about half way into our drive around Aussie

**Marcia and Ian**

*Marcia & Ian are Stacey Jones Lounge members touring Aussie.*



**K**IA ORA koutou we are the Tautari whanau from Picton and would like to wish the boys all the best for rest of the season. Go hard, give it heaps and see yas in the final. UP THE WARRIORS!

Back row: Maddox Wolley Tautari and Clayton tautari

Front row: Tynisha Tautari, Charlie Tautari and Karlos Tautari



**C**AUGHT UP with Asarey a big Warriors fan at the pop up shop in Hunters plaza in Papatoetoe. The shop's so good been back twice!  
- Sir Peter Leitch



**Hi Sir Peter,**

**A**TTACHED IS a pic of Wade Templeton and his new born son, Beau Foster Templeton, about to watch his first ever Warriors game.

The true supporters are still out there.

**Andrea Foster**



# Beast Mode for Sea Eagles Match in Perth *by Richard Becht*

**M**ANU VATUVEI and Ken Maumalo will be teamed up on the wings for the first time since last August when the Vodafone Warriors face Manly in Saturday's 19th-round NRL encounter at nib Stadium in Perth (3.30pm kick-off local time; 7.30pm NZT).

The 30-year-old Vatuvei returns after being sidelined since a hamstring injury forced him off the field early in the second half of the 50-14 win over Newcastle on June 11.

Maumalo, who turns 22 on Saturday, has filled Vatuvei's regular spot on the left wing in the Vodafone Warriors' last three matches against the Sydney Roosters, Cronulla and Gold Coast.

The reunion of the two giant wings comes more than 13 months after they were first used together, ironically when the Vodafone Warriors were last in Perth facing the South Sydney Rabbitohs in June last year.

Vatuvei resumes his 2016 campaign needing just one more try to become only the 11th player in the competition's history to score 150 tries.

In his absence, Maumalo has left an indelible mark in his first three NRL appearances of the season, making 183 metres from 19 runs against the Roosters, 197 from 25 against the Sharks and 146 from 14 against the Titans.

### Vodafone Warriors

- 1 David Fusitu'a
- 2 Ken Maumalo
- 3 Blake Ayshford
- 4 Solomone Kata
- 5 Manu Vatuvei
- 6 Thomas Leuluai
- 7 Shaun Johnson
- 8 Jacob Lillyman
- 9 Issac Luke
- 10 Ben Matulino
- 11 Bodene Thompson
- 12 Ryan Hoffman (c)
- 13 Simon Mannering

### Interchange

- 14 Tuimoala Lolohea
- 15 Sam Lisone
- 16 Bunty Afoa
- 17 Charlie Gubb
- 18 James Gavet

## VODAFONE WARRIORS

v

## MANLY SEA EAGLES

*nib Stadium, Perth*

3.30pm, Saturday, July 16



# BIG LEAGUE

## THIS WEEK IN BIG LEAGUE'S HUGE ROUND 19 ISSUE...

Jam-packed with FEATURES and NEWS, plus columnist BRENT TATE and game analysis by BEN IKIN; plus NRL, HOLDEN CUP, NSW CUP, QLD CUP and RON MASSEY CUP team lists and a FULL NRL DRAW.

### FEATURES

- Penrith and Parramatta have always produced classic matches and this Sunday's is another belter – for different reasons. We detail the Eels' horror year and talk to club captain **Tim Mannah** about what's kept them playing so well, as well as profile **Dallin Watene-Zelezniak**, one of the great young hopes of the struggling Panthers.
- Manly utility **Jamie Buhner** had to have three bouts of surgery within a year but it's watching Manly lose that has hurt him the most. After his length-of-the-field try and win against the Dragons, he thinks the Sea Eagles have a shot at the top eight.
- Our columnist, former NRL star **Brent Tate**, says that we should cut footy players more slack when it comes to bad behaviour. He says people are often quick to judge young players who have had tough upbringings and the game should be more supportive instead of quick to condemn.
- Also, **Tariq Sims** talks us through his move to the Dragons; we go inside **The NRL Bunker** and bring you the facts, figures and reality; **Craig Wing** defends **Trent Robinson** and backs the Roosters to come through tough times and **Ben Barba** says his role at the Sharks has helped him become a better, more well-rounded player.

**PLUS...** The Analyst says the **Dragons** could make the top eight with the lowest average pointscore tally in history we look back on the Top 8 **most ill-fated first-grade debuts**.

**AND:** Little League, lower grade previews and a Sione Mata'utia poster.



### THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from

**Thursday, July 14**

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The kids at the Suburbs Rugby League Club on the coast enjoying the Big League magazines.



Big League  
Runanga Gulls  
U6



Hokitika Taipos  
U6 team

# These Kids Love their Big League Magazine

If you wish to **subscribe** or **unsubscribe** please email Stephan Maier at [stephan.maier@medstar.co.nz](mailto:stephan.maier@medstar.co.nz)

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

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