

NEW ZEALAND
RUGBY LEAGUE™

Sir Peter Leitch Club

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS

14th December 2016

Newsletter #152



Joseph Parker WBO World Heavyweight Champion

My Grandson Matt



The 10,000 strong crowd on the night.



Joseph Parker with his hard earned title belt.



Joseph with Kevin Barry's wife Tanya (L) and Joseph's mother Sala (R).



Joseph Parker gives his Dad Dempsey (named after the famous boxer) a hug and a kiss.



Joseph Parker showing his very proud Mum, Sala, the trophy.



Parker lands a hit on Ruiz



Parker and the Duco team share the moment.



John Parker (Joseph's brother) set the tone for the night winning his fight against Ash McConville.



Sir Peter Leitch, right and Colonel Bob Sheridan, left. Can you believe Colonel Bob has called over 10,00 fights. Check out my interview with him on my [Facebook page](#).



Austina, Gretchen and my Daughter Julie.



Victoria Cross winner Willie Apiata and partner.



Dame Susan Devoy former International Squash player and former All Black Grant Fox.

At the Parker Fight



Caught up with Joseph's Uncle Sua Henry Fruean.



A blast from the past Alex Sua former boxer and a top man.



Good to catch up with Willie Apiata.



Got to catch up with Kiwi Actor Cliff Curtis. Real nice guy.



Great to catch the legend ring announcer Lt Dan Hennessy.



Kevin Barry giving Joseph Parker his final little pep talk.



Me and my grandson Matt Morton.



Nice to see Beaudan Barrett at the boxing.



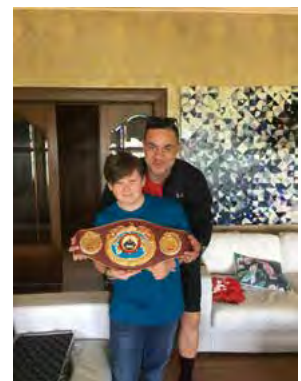
One very proud mum Sala Parker.



Ringside view.



The ring girls just had to have a photo with me.



My grandson Mathew with the WBO World Heavyweight champion Joseph Parker.

1111



MAD BUTCHER
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PLUS ALL NZ PORK AT REDUCED PRICES!

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COOKED ON THE BONE CHRISTMAS HAMS

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\$9.99
per kilo

TRY THIS DELICIOUS RICH GLAZED HAM RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

- Juice of 1 orange
- 2 Tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup Chelsea Soft Brown Sugar or Chelsea Dark Cane Sugar
- 1 cooked leg ham
- 1 Tbsp Chelsea Soft Brown Sugar or Chelsea Dark Cane Sugar

PREP TIME: 2HRS 20MINS
COOK TIME: 30MINS
SERVES: 8

METHOD

- Preheat oven to 220°C conventional or 200°C fan forced.
- Combine orange juice, mustard and brown Sugar to form a glaze.
- Remove the plastic bag from the ham. Loosen the rind around the edges of the ham with a small sharp knife, and using a larger long bladed knife, remove rind in one large piece. Score the fat diagonally at 2cm intervals and form a diamond pattern. Place the ham into a large dish with the glaze and allow to stand in the refrigerator for 2 hours. Turn twice to ensure the whole ham is covered in the glaze.

- Place ham fat side up onto a roasting rack over a baking tray. Fill base with ¾ cup water.
- Brush with glaze and cook for 30-40 minutes or until golden brown. Sprinkle with extra sugar in the last 10 minutes of cooking to achieve a golden brown surface.
- Legs of ham are preserved in brine, smoked and fully cooked.
- 3kg ham provides 10- 15 serves, 4kg ham 12-16 serves, 5kg ham 15 – 20 serves, 6 kg 18 -22 serves.

ALL MAD BUTCHER STORES ARE OPEN FROM 7AM - 7PM AND ONLY CLOSED ON CHRISTMAS DAY OVER THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD

Gubb Going Nowhere

By David Kemeys

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



GREAT NEWS the Vodafone Warriors are refusing to release Charlie Gubb from the option they have on him for next year.

Can it be any surprise that premiers the Sharks want to sign him – and for more money than he's on.

If anyone at the club wonders why the bloke is such a crowd favourite, it's not difficult.

Is he the best ball player? No. Is he the best tackler? No, Is he a stunning tactician? No.

But on the other hand, does he have massive heart? Yes. Does he always put in a shift? Yes. Does he leave the fans in no doubt the jersey matters to him as much as it does to them? Yes.

We surely want the 26-year-old prop, who got where he is today courtesy of being a non-contracted player and working his way up through the reserve grade, to be one of 17 each week.

If the Sharks, and others, want him, they obviously see a promise that I want fulfilled at Mt Smart and not in Sydney.

Charlie's contract runs until the end of the 2016 season but contains the option for next year.

When he signed he was unproven so the contract is not massive. But what's he worth now.

Apparently his manager Frank Endacott is trying to persuade the Warriors to let him go.

"It's not satisfactory but it's something we've got to work through. He's on that option year and I'm trying to sort things out, but it's not happening quickly. He's more than proved himself, but he's not getting the salary to match his ability."

We have Ben Matulino, Jacob Lillyman, Sam Lisone, Albert Vete, Bunty Afoa and Toafofoa Siple on the books, so it is not as if we don't have a few props, but let Charlie go and you are going to have a few disgruntled fans.

And speaking of people who have proved themselves, Rooster Sio Siua Taukeiaho has a contract extension, which given the knee injury he suffered, is a credit to the Sydney club.

The back-rower ruptured his anterior cruciate ligament and is projected to miss the first five or six rounds.

"I wasn't really expecting a new deal, but I was grateful for them to offer me a contract. I can see how much faith they have in me and I was excited to get another extension. I'm happy to be here for another three years."

The former Otara Scorpions junior won the NYC with us in 2011 and was also a Junior Kiwi. He only ever managed one first grade game for us, becoming yet another on the very long list of players we let go, then wondered why.

Mal Meninga To Coach World All Stars

Big Mal Meninga will coach the World All Stars team in Newcastle on February 10. He takes on the role after previous coach Wayne Bennett stepped down to concentrate on his Broncos and Rugby League World Cup commitments in 2017.

Meninga led the Kangaroos to world number one ranking by winning the Four Nations last month, and said he was looking forward to the opportunity.

"I thought the concept of a World All Stars team was a terrific step forward. The camaraderie not only between the Australian players, but also among the players from competing nations during the Four Nations was evident and I know the All Stars match is one of the highlights of the year."

Meninga joins Indigenous All Stars coach Laurie Daley in Sydney this week as they name their teams for the game at Hunter Jones Stadium in Newcastle.



Check out the Mad Butcher's Kiwi
Jingle Bells on his website

www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz



Thanks to a Good Man and a Good Mate

By Sir Peter Leitch



I AM JUST a humble butcher and two things you never talked about while I was in business were religion and politics.

What I know about politics you could fit on the back of a stamp and still have room for your name and address, but like many people, I was shocked when Prime Minister John Key announced he was stepping down.

When I got involved in Christchurch earthquake fundraising, I got to know him.

A young fella named Bradley Woon, who was suffering from a brain tumour, was my guest at a Vodafone Warriors game, as was the Prime Minister.

Bradley arrived in a wheelchair, and was not having the best of days. Key had been presented with a shirt with his name on the back, and up he comes, unprompted, and spends half-an-hour with Bradley. Then what does he do but take off his shirt and present it to Bradley.

Brad's mum says her boy, who endured a 10-hour operation, six weeks of radiation treatment and five months of chemotherapy remembers chatting about softball, and could not believe it when he was given the shirt.

Key's advice to Brad was to never give up the fight, and if you had the Butcher on your side he must be a great young man. That was a touching thing to find out.

Then there was the time I was fundraising for Kidz First Children's Hospital and things were not going well. Up steps the leader of the nation and puts himself up for auction, offering a morning tea at the Beehive. Not satisfied with the \$16,000 that raised, he whipped off his tie, signed it, and said someone was sure to buy it –and they did - for \$8000.



Bradley and John Key in the Stacey Jones lounge.

I tell you this for free. I will remember John Key as a great prime minister and a top bloke.

Well Done Joseph

I was in a dilemma. I had bought a ticket to see Joseph Parker take on Andy Ruiz but it was also the birthday of a good friend and league stalwart Gordy Gibbons.

I agonised about what to do but boxing won out. No disrespect to Gordy, I am glad it did. It was a fantastic night.

It is not like I am a Johnny-come-lately, I have been going for years and have sponsored the odd fight and fighter, and can recall watching guys like Alex Sua, Monty Betham, David Tua, Shane Cameron and more.

But on Saturday Joseph became a world champion, the culmination of a dream.

He is a tremendous young man, humble, polite and not at all like the loudmouths who usually hog the headlines.

Joseph is a credit to his mum and dad, who watched just along from me, first seeing their son John get a win, then watching as Joseph was made to work hard by the man from Mexico.



Continued on next page...

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The crowd was magnificent, 10,000 packing Vector, and they were right behind the boy from South Auckland.

And credit where it is due to Dean Lonergan. The former Kiwi got into boxing when a friend lost his house in a fire on Waiheke and he arranged a night to help him out, the Mad Butcher Big Banger!

From there he and his Duco partner David Higgins, have taken Joseph to the top of the world.

I am gutted some say the title doesn't mean much, the WBO isn't a real boxing organisation, and even that Joseph did not deserve to win.

Yes it was close, but he got the decision, and while the WBO is one of many organisations, it still has a heavyweight champion – and that man is Joseph Parker.

If you think the title doesn't mean anything, just look at how gutted Ruiz was.

Great Read

I had a wonderful email from someone, telling me something that made me feel very special. Have a read: Your book saved my mates boss's life...and his twin brothers too...he went for his first prostate check after I lent him What a Ride Mate...he was in the first stage, doctors said all the boys in his family should get checked...sure enough his twin was the same. Both in mid 50s and both still alive today. Legend Peter. Thank you. Read your book about 5 times now, and even got a signed copy now. Cheers to you.

My book is still available for purchase. Find out more on my website: www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz

2017 Downer NRL Auckland Nines Gift For Christmas!!

Are you're trying to come up with an amazing Xmas gift for your hubby, wife, boyfriend, girlfriend, son or mate? Why not choose the gift of 'The Greatest Weekend!'

With two day tickets from \$69 per day, the gift of an entire weekend experience at the Downer NRL Auckland Nines is something that will live on forever!!

With the greatest player in the world, Johnathan Thurston, big NRL star turned NFL star, turned NRL star again Jarryd Hayne and Nines King Shaun Johnson from the mighty Vodafone Warriors already confirmed to play, it truly is going to be the most star-studded yet!

Get your tickets today at www.ticketek.co.nz/nines

Single And Ready To Mingle?

I've heard a few stories over the years of couples meeting at sporting matches.

The NRL Auckland Nines team have come up with a novel idea of having a singles stand at the 2017 tournament! What better way to meet other like-minded fun loving singles!

If this sounds a bit like you, the Butcher has managed to get his hands on the link to get tickets in this singles area. Be quick, there are only 300 tickets in this stand available!

If I hadn't been happily married for 51 years, I would be in there for sure! [Check it out here](#)



THE GREATEST WEEKEND!

SAT 4 & SUN 5 FEBRUARY 2017
EDEN PARK, AUCKLAND

THE BIGGEST STARS ARE COMING!

» JARRYD HAYNE » SHAUN JOHNSON
» JOHNATHAN THURSTON

TO GO WITH THE STARS WHO HAVE PLAYED SO FAR

» 44 KIWI TEST PLAYERS » 48 AUSTRALIAN TEST PLAYERS
» 45 STATE OF ORIGIN STARS



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ON SALE NOW!

New Zealanders Fall For it Again

By Ben Francis



FIRSTLY I want to congratulate Joseph Parker for winning the World Boxing Organization belt in his bout against Mexican Andy Ruiz Jr at Vector Arena in Auckland.

It is such a massive achievement for the young man, who now holds the same belt that many legends of the sport have previously held.

But it could have easily been a different story on Saturday night.

Many people have questioned the decision that Parker actually won the fight, personally I would have said it was a draw, but if the judges did not want to have drawn rounds, I see why Parker's hand was raised at the end of the fight.

But this leads to a problem I have with New Zealand sports fans and I hope this decision will change the way people look at our opponents in future events.

Many times in sporting events we are quick to shut down the opposition and give them no shot at victory, perfect example was on Saturday night. Most people said Andy Ruiz Jr had no chance at winning, and then look what happened, he came so close to snatching the title.

We have seen this before when we have not respected the opposition, remember the 2011 Rugby World Cup final against France?

Many fans said the All Blacks would win by 40 easy, and we won by a single point, we still won but paid no respect to the opposition till after the game.

My big argument for Ruiz Jr heading into the fight was that he was ranked third in the world by WBO, so he must be somewhat decent to be ranked that high.

Secondly he is promoted by Top Rank and his promoter is Bob Arum, the most well known man in boxing outside of the ring, so he must be good to be promoted by Arum.

Lastly, I know it was only for six weeks but his trainer is Abel Sanchez, one of the best trainers in boxing, the man who trains Gennady Golovkin, the best middleweight boxer in the world.

For those reasons I think we underestimated Ruiz jr. Early in the fight, I believe Parker was surprised with Ruiz Jr and his speed/power which rattled Parker. I had never seen Parker look so nervous in the ring. But as the fight progressed, Parker grew in confidence and he knew the longer the fight went the better it would be for him. In the end it all went to plan and Parker is a humble champion. But we should be paying our opponents in sport more credit heading into games/matches whatever it is. Ruiz wouldn't have been the man fighting for the title if he wasn't any good.

Now as Top Rank is a promoter for Parker, it is time for the young South Auckland kid to be showcased all over the world and promote the sport to New Zealanders, similar to what Steven Adams is doing for basketball.

I am very proud of Parker and what he has achieved at a young age. He can only get better now, and I'm excited to see him defend the belt and hopefully one day have a fight against Anthony Joshua.



Subscribe to the newsletter at
www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz



George Gives League Some Good Medicine

By Barry Ross



George Peponis is truly one of the statesmen of rugby league ... premiership winning club captain, Test captain and head of club, state and World Cup organisations while also working as a doctor. BY BARRY ROSS



George Peponis is chaired off by teammates after leading the Bulldogs to the 1980 premiership.

NSWRL chairman George Peponis is recognised as the first doctor, and first Greek man, to captain Australia in rugby league – both culturally significant breakthroughs for the game that had previously been typecast predominantly as blue-collar Anglo-Saxon.

Yet it is little known that he is the only man to captain Australia and also serve as the Australian team doctor... at the same time.

As skipper of the 1980 Australian team to New Zealand, Peponis had to act as doctor for the last

match of the tour on 17 June after team doc Bill Monaghan had to return home early because of a family situation.

Instead of running on to the field with his team for this final match against Auckland, Peponis sat on the sidelines with coach Frank Stanton. Australia won the game 21-7 and although there were no serious injuries, George had his medical bag next to him through the 80 minutes.

Born in Tripoli in September 1953, George migrated to Australia with his family when he was eight months old. After a few years in Melbourne, the family moved to Sydney and settled in the Earlwood area.

Like former Prime Minister John Howard, George attended Earlwood primary and then Canterbury Boys High School.

At high school, he played some rugby union while he also joined the St George Dragons in the Canterbury junior league. After doing well in the 1970 HSC, Peponis began a medical degree at the University of NSW, graduating in 1977 – three years after making his first grade debut as a hooker for the Bulldogs in 1974 and playing in the grand final against the Roosters in his eighth first grade match.

He went on to play nine seasons and 132 games of first grade with Canterbury. He was captain in 71 of these matches including the 1979 and 1980 grand finals, the second which brought the club's first premiership since 1942 with an 18-4 victory over the Roosters.

In the early 1970s, Canterbury introduced a scholarship scheme to help their younger players complete tertiary studies while playing with the club. This scheme was of great benefit to George as it allowed him to focus on his medical degree while at the same time putting in the necessary work to succeed at first grade level.



Continued on next page...

The first of George's eight Tests came in 1978 at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the 24-2 win over New Zealand, with the doctor scoring a try in his Test debut as he did in his first grade debut.

After touring with the 1978 Kangaroos, Peponis captained the Australians to the first 3-0 Test series win over Great Britain. He was skipper in five of his eight Tests and also captained NSW in four of his eight games and City Firsts in two of his three matches.

Peponis began general practice in 1979 and he is still doing this, although not putting in the hours he did 37 years ago. He continued playing with the Bulldogs until April 1982 when an injury at Leichhardt Oval against Balmain saw him announce his retirement soon after.

A few years after retiring, he began serving the football and the leagues clubs as a board member and from 2002 to 2009 he was Bulldogs chairman, taking on the role shortly after long-serving Barry Nelson stood down in the aftermath of the salary cap scandal that saw the Bulldogs docked 37 competition points that season.

In 2010, Peponis was elected as chairman of the Canterbury Leagues Club, a role he continues in today, as well as being the NSW Rugby League chairman since 2012. In January this year, he became the chairman of the 2017 Rugby League World Cup.

"I am elated to be involved with the World Cup, as I have no doubt it will be a success," he said. "Australia is a co-host with New Zealand and there are 14 teams involved. For the first time, we are holding the women's World Cup at the same time as the men's.

"Participation levels in our game have decreased slightly over the past few years, but the women's numbers have increased greatly. The involvement of women in rugby league is vital as they are the mothers and sisters of our future payers.

"It is tremendous to see how women are taking bigger and broader roles in our sport. As I said their playing numbers are up and they are prominent in the media, while in administration, ladies like Katie Page, Raelene Castle, Marina Go and Rebecca Frizelle are wonderful assets.

"When Deborah Healey was appointed in June 2013, she became the first female to win a place on the NSWRL board. I believe in 2016, there are nearly half a million women directly involved in rugby league."

Peponis says that expansion of the game will play a part in future State of Origin venues.



George Peponis.

"An Australia-New Zealand Test match will be played in Perth later this year and there is a State of Origin game there in 2019. We believe that the attendance will be good, as it will be for the Test match."

A positive for the NSWRL is the television ratings for the Intrust Super Cup are now higher than the Holden Cup under-20 competition.

"There is plenty of interest in our Intrust Cup while the clash between the premiers of this competition against the winners of the Queensland competition on grand final day has become a popular addition to the rugby league calendar."

The other great development at state league level is the construction of a \$20 million Centre of Excellence at Sydney Olympic Park.

One of the most respected people on the Australian sporting landscape, Peponis was given an OAM in January 2013. He was named in the Berries to Bulldogs 70 years Team of Champions in 2004, was inducted into the Bulldogs Ring of Champions in 2007 and is a life member of the football club.

The doctor has provided some good medicine for rugby league's development over several decades now – from the improved 'branding' of the game by having a doctor and ethnic representative as national captain, to being a club, state and now international leader through the World Cup.

And he doesn't appear to be ready to hang up the committee-room head chair just yet.

THE WORLD'S BEST
ARE COMING TO NZ
ARE YOU?



RUGBY LEAGUE
WORLD CUP
2017

HAMILTON

WAIKATO STADIUM

SAMOA V TONGA
4 NOVEMBER

NEW ZEALAND V TONGA
11 NOVEMBER

CHRISTCHURCH

CHRISTCHURCH STADIUM

NEW ZEALAND V SCOTLAND
4 NOVEMBER

QUARTER FINAL
18 NOVEMBER

WELLINGTON

WELLINGTON REGIONAL STADIUM

QUARTER FINAL
18 NOVEMBER

AUCKLAND

MT SMART STADIUM

NEW ZEALAND V SAMOA
28 OCTOBER

SEMI FINAL
25 NOVEMBER



Season's Greetings from RLWC2017!

By RLCWC2017 NZ Team

IT'S BEEN an amazing year for the Rugby League World Cup team in New Zealand. We've announced our four tournament venues and tickets have gone on sale for all seven matches.

With fixtures up and down the country, New Zealand will come alive in a celebration of Rugby League. We've got plans to get out and see as much of the Rugby League Community as possible in the coming months, and we will keep readers updated along the journey.

If you're stuck for a Christmas gift, the Rugby League World Cup has got you covered. From \$20 you can pick up kiwis to see the Kiwis, Toa Samoa, Mate Ma'a Tonga or the Scottish Braveheart's in action! For more information visit: <http://www.rlwc2017.com/christmas>

Please note our office will be closed 23 December to 16 January.

Merry Christmas from the Rugby League World Cup!



From left:

Jo Coleman - New Zealand Operations Manager

Andrea Nelson - General Manager – New Zealand Operations

Harley Wall - NZ Community Engagement Coordinator

Luke Gates - New Zealand Host City Manager



Giveaway Winners

Signed Kiwis Jersey: Ro Pettigrew - Masterton

Signed Nines Shirt: Adam Nickles - Nelson

Nines Shirt: Benson Hayward - Auckland, Jordan Erick, Bob McRae - Auckland, Ben RzSoka - Auckland, Tim Milner, Christchurch

Mad Butcher Book: Andrew Merrill - Auckland, Sharon Furnell - Auckland, Jack Langji - Auckland

Consolation Price (Nines Shirt): Micheal Wood - Queensland

Most Artistic Entry (Nines Shirt): Christy Thompson - Waiuku



Most Artistic Entry



Look out! Your prizes are in the mail!

2016 NZRL Awards Finalists

By Grant Chapman - NZRL Communications Manager



NZ SKIPPER Jesse Bromwich faces challenges from Melbourne Storm club-mate Tohu Harris and Dally M Medal winner Jason Taumalolo for the 2016 NZRL Kiwis Player of the Year.

Finalists have been selected in all 12 NZRL Awards categories, with winners to be announced at an Auckland function on January 20.

Bromwich (Kiwi # 775) took out the prestige award last year and has since risen to the post of national team captain, leading the Kiwis in six tests over the past 12 months. He was also named Melbourne Storm Player of the Year and Dally M Prop of the Year in the NRL competition.

Harris (Kiwi #778) continued to make himself an indispensable component of the Kiwis side, turning out in three different positions - centre, five-eighth and second row - and extending his career to 16 tests.

Taumalolo (Kiwi #786) really came of age in the NRL during 2016, sharing Dally M Medal honours with Storm playmaker Cooper Cronk, while taking out the lock award.

Kiwi Ferns captain and twice previous winner Sarina Fiso will again contest Women's Player of the Year, after leading the national team to victory over Australia at both the NRL Nines and mid-year test in Newcastle.

She faces competition from Georgia Hale, named MVP at both international events, and Krystal Rota, who was MVP of the NZ Maori Tournament and scored the winning try in the NZRL national women's national final.

The Full List Of NZRL Awards Finalists Is:

Pirtek Female Volunteer - Alana Lockhorst (The Cooks/Southland RL), Nickie Tane (Mercury Bay Boars/Hauraki District), Dania Wood (Northern Wairoa Bulls)

Pirtek Male Volunteer - Tony Cuccurullo (Tasman RL), Jason Parata (Pikiao RL), Shane Price (Mt Wellington RL)

Grassroots Club - He Tauaa (Southland RL), Richmond Rabbits (Nelson RL), Takahiwai (Northland RL)

Domestic Coach - Andrew Auimatagi (Linwood Keas/Canterbury Bulls), Richie Blackmore (Papakura Sea Eagles), Rod Ratu (Counties Manukau Stingrays/NZ Residents/Southern Cross Campus)

Referee - Anthony Elliot, Chris McMillan, Shane Rehm

Domestic Player 16s - Taylor Fiu (Counties Manukau Stingrays), Jordan Riki (South Island Scorpions), Regan McClennan (Akarana Falcons)

Domestic Player 18s - Jesse Arthurs (Melbourne Storm), Chanel Harris-Tavita (NZ Warriors), Zae Wallace (Akarana Falcons/NZ Schools)

Domestic Player Premier - Tevin Arona (Canterbury Bulls), Daniel Palavi (Akarana Falcons), Nick Read (Waikato)

Junior Player - James Fisher-Harris (Penrith Panthers), Ata Hingano (NZ Warriors), Brandon Smith (North Queensland Cowboys)

Kiwis Rookie - Joseph Tapine (Canberra Raiders), Jordan Rapana (Canberra Raiders), Solomone Kata (NZ Warriors)

Women's Player - Sarina Fiso (Counties Manukau Stingrays), Georgia Hale (Akarana Falcons), Krystal Rota (Counties Manukau Stingrays)

Kiwis Player - Jesse Bromwich (Melbourne Storm), Tohu Harris (Melbourne Storm), Jason Taumalolo (North Queensland Cowboys)

Vodafone Warriors Adventures Up North



Ready to fly up to Kaitaia in the DC3.



Ata Hingano with Kaitaia school student.



Bodene Thompson and Kaitaia school student.



Bunty Afoa.



Current and former Kiwis with local sponsors.



Erin Clark.



Jazz Tevaga passes the ball.



Kaitaia College Haka.



Ken Maomalo and Jazz Tevaga.



Marae Group Photo.



Matt Allwood, Bodene Thompson and Cappy McFadden.



Matt Allwood and Bodene Thompson at Pompallier Catholic School.



Vodafone Warriors Travel Up North



RTS addresses the school kids at Arnold Rae Park.



Sam Lisoen with Kaitaia school student.



Team stretching in Kaitaia.



Team visit Folders.



Welcomed onto Waimanoni Marae.



Welcoming haka.

A promotional banner for the Vodafone Warriors Captains' Club. It features five men with red face paint, including a man in a suit. The Vodafone Warriors logo is in the top right corner. The text reads: 'CAPTAINS' CLUB', 'PACKAGES FROM \$80_{PP}', and 'Gordon Gibbons 09 526 8820 / gordon@warriors.kiwi or visit warriors.kiwi'.

Vodafone Warriors Members Christmas Function

By Aaron Lawton - Fan Engagement Manager

PLENTY OF hardy Vodafone Warriors members set their alarm clocks for an early start and braved the unseasonably bad weather last Saturday morning to attend the club's members' Christmas meet and great event at Bert Henham Park in Otahuhu.

Members were invited to watch the Vodafone Warriors train at 8am before getting the chance to mingle with the boys for photos and signatures afterwards.

Thanks to the Mad Butcher, they were also able to enjoy a bacon buttie or two, fresh off the BBQ, which was manned by Vodafone Warriors staff members.

Members were encouraged to get into the spirit of giving this Christmas by donating non-perishable food, blankets, clothing and shoes.

A massive carload of items was collected on the day and delivered to the Lifewise charity, which aims to combat homelessness, on Monday.

It was a great event and fantastic to see the players and members enjoying a good chat.



Three of the Warrior Boys Looking Forward to Christmas





LEAGUE 4 LIFE SUMMER FUNDRAISER

— FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2017 —

Come Racing! Join us at the League 4 Life Summer Fundraiser to be held at Ellerslie Racecourse on the Friday 3 February 2017 as part of the Barfoot and Thompson Twilight Summer Night.

By purchasing a ticket to the Summer Fundraiser you are making a generous donation to the League 4 Life Foundation.

Price - \$50 per person

For tickets or more details please visit

www.ellerslie.co.nz

Click on the League 4 Life file on the ticket store



ELLERSLIE
— HEARTS RACING —

League 4 Life Needs Your Support

The League 4 Life Foundation was founded to raise funds and distribute them throughout rugby league where they are needed most, offering assistance to all participants and their families who have fallen on hard times.

OUR CHARTER

The League4Life Foundation supports families of the rugby league community, who have met with hardship in their lives.

OUR MISSION

- To raise funds and distribute 100% of those funds to provide for the simple needs of our people when they need it the most.
- To provide assistance to rugby league players, who sustain serious, permanent and/or life-changing injuries in the sport of rugby league.
- To offer assistance to ALL rugby league participants and family members, who have fallen on hard times.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The League4Life Foundation will be here to help with, but is not limited to:

- Grants for rehabilitation or in home equipment
- Provide opportunities for people involved with rugby league that would otherwise be improbable due to injury and/or hardship
- Social contact through visits, cards, and telephone calls
- Promoting and supporting fund-raising events for rugby league people in need of help

**Learn more and find out how
you can help at:**

[www.nzrl.co.nz/community/
league-4-life-foundation/](http://www.nzrl.co.nz/community/league-4-life-foundation/)



League 4 Life are looking for an Administrator for 2017. Could it be you?

League 4 Life is looking for an administrator for approx. 20 hours per week at NZRL in Auckland. The League 4 Life Foundation Administrator is overall responsible for the administration of the League 4 Life foundation. This includes the following key responsibilities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manage the grants application process with League 4 Life board
- Membership database management
- Organise League 4 Life key fundraising events
- Communications strategy with key stakeholders, including newsletters and marketing of the Foundation
- Review and refine existing League4Life programmes.
- Utilise the NZRL web site to improve accessibility of League 4 Life grants, membership and donations process.



If this sounds interesting contact Sir Peter on 021 936 105

Reader Mail

Dear Team at the Mad Butcher ,

THANK YOU very much for your very generous support of SKY Sport Production Starship fundraiser held last week. It is hugely appreciated. We managed to raise \$1,120 for Starship Hospital with the sausage sizzle and a raffle.

Below are some photos taken on the day. Thanks again.

Kind regards,

Matt and the SKY Sports team





FUNDRAISING FOR KORU CARE KIDS



SUN 18 DEC 5 pm start

Christmas at the Beach 2016



**\$2 COIN DONATION
ENTRY**



JORJA ELLA



SUZY CATO



HBC COMMUNITY
BAND



NICK JONES



FILIPIANZ



FLEETWOOD DREAMS



AUTOMATIC 80's

ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD, MARKETS, RIDES, FIREWORKS



WESTERN RESERVE, OREWA

O.T.P. ART EXHIBITION

Felt Work

Quilting

Painters



Wood Turning

Ceramics



Garden Art

Bone Carving

**All Artists
Working Onsite**

Photography

Coffee & light food
EFTPOS available

**January 28th & 29th 2017
10am—4:30pm
One Tree Point Yacht Club
One Tree Point Road**

Follow the signs from the big roundabout on SH1 in Ruakaka
or from the Marsden Cove boat ramp near Marsden Point

O.T.P Art Exhibition - Looking for something to do this weekend? Go support local artists!

ON THE 28th and 29th of January 2017 a group of 9 emerging local artists are staging an Art Exhibition in the One Tree Point Yacht Club hall, situated on One Tree Point Road, near Ruakaka. People should just follow the signs from the big round a bout on SH1 near Ruakaka.

All the participating artists will be on site demonstrating their particular talents on both days and to answer questions. Each artist will have an array of their work on display that can be purchased, and Eftpos will be available for those who leave their wallet at home.

All the artists taking part are fine examples of their craft with their work already being sought after, so members of the public can be assured it is an exhibition not to be missed, whether they are decorating a new house or are avid collectors.

The art on display over Auckland anniversary weekend will include – Oil on canvas, Paint on glass, Acrylic on canvas, Pencil and water colour, Ceramics, Quilting, Photography, Felt art, Bone carving, Garden Art, Wood turning.

Coffee and light food will be available on site, so make it a destination.

This show is special and it's local, so be there.



Subscribe to the newsletter at
www.sirpeterleitch.co.nz

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



The Newsletter Team

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

Sir Peter Leitch - Editor
David Kemeys - Editor at Large
Colin MacKenzie - Assistant Editor
Hayden Woodhead - Graphic Designer
Stephan Maier - Distribution

John Deaker - Correspondent
John Coffey - Southern Correspondent
Barry Ross - Australian Correspondent
Ben Francis - Northern Correspondent
John Holloway - Correspondent
Lee Umbers - Correspondent