



Sir Peter Leitch's **MAD BUTCHER CLUB**

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS



Newsletter

11 APRIL 2014
#16

BREAKING NEWS: From Matt Elliott

Sir Peter

Matthew Elliott has authorised me to send this to you.
It speaks volumes as to the quality of the man

Regards Bill Wavish

For the Record

I sat with Chairman Bill Wavish & agreed on the press release. At the end of the day the Club would have preferred this didn't happen & I'm in the same place. In these difficult situations it's not about wording, it's about being respectful & I very much appreciate Bill for his sensitivity.

For what it's worth I really believe Andrew McFadden is more than ready and has what it takes to lead the Club to sustained success. Conversations lead by myself had already taken place regarding Cappy taking over next year.

My desire to finish the process started was very strong however circumstances changed and in the grown up world you take this stuff on the chin.

I have absolutely no bitterness towards the Club, in fact I am very grateful for what they have done for me & my family.

The Team in my opinion will make the 8 at least this year and when the spine settles in will be a danger to all teams. Their best footie is definitely on the way. "Keep the Faith"

Finally I want to thank the extraordinary Warriors fans; I've been blessed to be involved in the NRL over a long period but have to say you guys are amazing.

Thank you

Matt Elliott



My thoughts go out to Matt and his daughter, Lucy, who are real good friends of mine...



Statement from Vodafone Warriors chairman Bill Wavish

In his most recent statement today Sir Owen Glenn said:

“Eric Watson has said that I had asked ‘not to be fully involved’ in the running of the Warriors and Bill Wavish claims that I ‘had previously asked not to be consulted directly on decisions’. This is an untruth. To the contrary, I agreed with Eric Watson that as shareholders we needed to be directly involved in major decisions regarding the Warriors management, selection of players and the coach. Eric Watson subsequently reneged on this arrangement.”

Sir Owen sent us the following email on 17 March 2013 (attached) and we have operated according to his wishes regarding not being communicated with directly. He is therefore incorrect regarding his statement that: “This is an untruth.”

As a board we are focused on supporting the Club and we want to return our attention to that. In the interests of our club, our members and rugby league in New Zealand we would also hope Sir Owen refrains from further damaging everything so important to us all.

Bill Wavish
Chairman
Vodafone Warriors



MY COMMENTS - SETTING IT STRAIGHT

I just need to set the record straight.

Yes, I appeared via telephone on One's **Breakfast** show on Thursday morning, giving my opinion on what has been called by the media **War at the Warriors**.

In truth, I did not want to do it.

But after the remarks by our co-owner Sir Owen Glenn in the media I felt I had to let people know my views.

I felt violated, and that is not too strong a word.

I am not actually interested in the politics that go on at the club – and indeed at any sports club. Nor do I particularly care if Sir Owen and Eric Watson are at odds with each other.

But I do believe if they are in disagreement, the proper place to sort it out is in the boardroom, not in the media.

So I thought Sir Owen going public the way he did was a real blow to the fans, ordinary supporters who are already

hurting at what has taken place.

I simply can not understand why any owner would do things in the public domain that would be against their own interests, damaging the very thing they claim to care about.

I can also tell you that my phone has never rung so much, not even when I was knighted.

Paul Henry, **One News, 7 Sharp**, the list goes on, all called wanting me to go, but I turned them all down, telling them I have said what I am going to say.

Instead, I will say this, and it is something I say as a fan. And at the end of the day that is what I am, just a fan like all of those who turn up to the lounge, and who sit in the stands.

I wish the club all the best, and I wish the players all the best. I am **Vodafone Warriors** until I die.

I will be at Eden Park on Sunday cheering my team on against the **Bulldogs**.

So go the Mighty Vodafone Warriors.



Subject: Warriors

Hello Sir Peter,

Thank you for speaking out this morning on behalf of all us fans, as a very dedicated fan of the Warriors I was gutted to hear Sir Owen Glenn's comments about what has happened this week. He is an owner, for goodness sake! He is supposed to support the Warriors not publicly shit on them. I just want

Andrew & the boys to do well on Sunday, although it has been a hard week for all parties - fans, players & admin staff. We will be there on Sunday giving our boys the full support needed by all us fans.

Go the Mighty Vodafone Warriors
Glenda & Robbie

Wellington hosts Four Nations finale

Whangarei, Dunedin and Wellington have early opportunities to show they're ready for 2017 Rugby League World Cup fixtures, when they host games in this year's Four Nations tournament.

New Zealand Rugby League will stage three clashes in the international showpiece, including the final at Westpac Trust Stadium on November 15.

The NZ Kiwis face a Pacific Island team – either Fiji or Samoa – at Whangarei's Toll Stadium on November 1 and England at Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin on November 8.

They will kick off their campaign against archrivals Australia in Brisbane on October 26, as a curtainraiser to England taking on the Pacific champions.

"Bearing in mind we will be co-hosting the World Cup with Australia in four years, this is a great opportunity for us to show our capability," says NZRL chief executive Phil Holden. "But it's also a huge challenge, both on and off the field.

"On one front, we may be up against the other three semifinalists from last year's World Cup, with England, in particular, itching to avenge their semifinal loss to us at Wembley.

"And then we're looking for Wellingtonians to show their

passion for rugby league and support what promises to be a memorable final.

"Auckland has already shown it's ready for major World Cup fixtures, after successfully hosting the NRL Nines. Wellington prides itself as a sporting Mecca and we're confident local fans can also support an international spectacle of this calibre."

Tickets will go on sale next month. Sign up to the NZRL database here to register for pre-sale information.

The full Four Nations schedule is:

October 26

Australia v New Zealand, Brisbane
England v Fiji/Samoa, Brisbane

November 1

New Zealand v Fiji/Samoa. Whangarei

November 2

Australia v England, Melbourne

November 8

New Zealand v England, Dunedin

November 9

Australia v Fiji/Samoa, Wollongong

November 15

Final, Wellington



Jerome Raemaki slides into second base during game three of the recent Trans Tasman Softball Series between the New Zealand Black Sox and the Australian Steelers at Tradestaff Rosedale Park in Albany, Auckland on 29 March 2014.

Photo: Jason Oxenham / www.photosport.co.nz

The family tradition continues with the naming of the **Black Sox** softball team today for their upcoming tour of Canada in June.

There are two sets of brothers, plus a number of surnames which have regularly appeared in the national team over the years.

The **Manly** brothers, **Jeremy** and **Regan**, are both in the pitching staff are selected. Regan currently plays for Canterbury, while Jeremy is based in Bloomington, Illinois in the United States.

Campbell Makea is in the team again, as the third of the Makea brothers, **Thomas** and **Fabian** have also been in the team on a number of previous occasions in the past. Thomas Makea was a corner stone of the **Black Sox** for many years while Fabian featured in the side on a number of occasions.

Team captain, **Nathan Nukunuku**, has his wife, **Katrina**, in the **White Sox** team for the World Championships in the Netherlands in August.

Auckland brothers, **Thomas** and **Ben Enoka**, are also named after starring in the 2-1 series win over Australia last month at North Harbour.

Two new caps are infielder, **Josh Harbrow** from Canterbury, and pitcher **Bailey Pearson-Hoani**, from Auckland who have both been members of the extended training squad previously, but will get their first outing with the team on this tour.

The **Black Sox** will play a large number of games and tournaments around Canada from Ontario to Saskatoon and Calgary over an intensive two week period starting June 14.

The coach for the team is multiple world championship winner, **Mark Sorenson** who will

take the team off-shore for the first time.

Softball New Zealand President **Lyn Lockhart** announced the following players to represent New Zealand on their upcoming tour of North America.

Pitchers: **Jeremy Manly** (USA based), **Regan Manly** (Canterbury), **Kurt Schollum** (Marlborough), **Bailey Pearson-Hoani** (Auckland).

Catchers: **Stephen Ratu** (Canterbury), **Te Wera Bishop** (Wellington).

Infielders: **Brad Rona** (North Harbour), **Thomas Enoka** (Auckland), **Nathan Nukunuku** (Auckland, Captain), **Jerome Raemaki** (Wellington), **Tyrone Bartorillo** (Canterbury), **Josh Harbrow** (Canterbury).

Outfielders: **Ben Enoka** (Auckland), **Campbell Makea** (Wellington), **Josh Tompson** (Canterbury), **Donny Hale** (Auckland), **Wayne Lauu** (Wellington).

The family tradition continues: Black Sox team for North America named.

The awesome photo on this page is courtesy of

photosport

Check out more on: www.photosport.co.nz

Ngahere Rugby League Football Club

Winners of Junior Knock Out Cup, 1928



Shot by J. Baker, Photo.

Greymouth.

Back Row: J. GILLMAN (F), J. DONALDSON (W),

Middle Row: W. HOLT (Pres.), W. J. ROSS (F), G. TAYLOR (F), H. SMITH (F), C. GILLMAN (F),
F. HOLLING (W), D. FARRIS (I), J. JOSEPHSONS (Coach).

Sitting: T. KELLY (F), R. J. WARE (I), J. THORNTON (Sec.), R. S. MAYNE (Capt., Centre I),
H. R. SMITH (Manager), R. DONALDSON (F.B.), V. F. NYBERG (Vice-Capt., Half-Back).

Absent: A. HILL, E. WHITE.

A blast
from
the past
from
former
Warrior,
Phillip
Berman

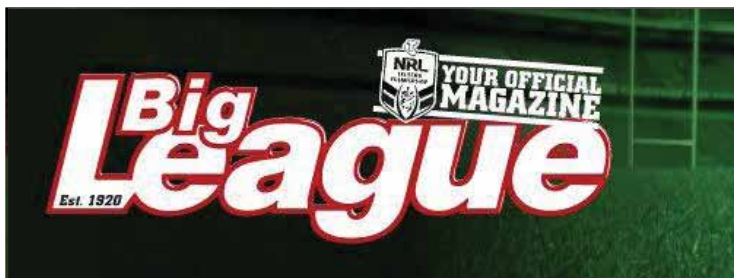
NEWS

SOUTH IS RUGBY LEAGUE KIWIS ASSOCIATION INC

NEW TROPHY. The Executive decided to memorialize the Association's most famous player, legend and Player of Century, **Melville Lance Cooke**. It was a unanimous decision to provide the trophy for the Player of the Match (MVP) in the Grand Final each year. Mel played in Massetti Cup winning teams in 1958, 1962 (captain), 1964 (player/coach), then coached them in 1969 to win the Smith Trophy in Grand Final (beat Marist WS, 10-9), after a stint with Canberra Workers in Aussie. Hornby won first Grand Final in 1967 (Coach Rex Woodgate), beat Addington, 17-10.

Pictured here is CRFL General Manager, Craig Kerr, receiving the handsome Mel Cooke Memorial Trophy from the Secretary-Manager of S.I. Kiwis Association at Awards evening 2013, the best yet, many said. The trophy was assembled by our good mate Fred Arnesen, Classic Engravers, 22 Aldwins Road. Linwood





THIS WEEK, IN THE ROUND 6 ISSUE OF BIG LEAGUE...

WE SPEAK TO SOME OF THE YOUNG STARS OF THE GAME, WHO ARE SURE TO BE THE BIG NAMES OF THE FUTURE.

FEATURES

- Fun-loving Warriors centre **Konrad Hurrell**, opens up about why he started the year in NSW Cup and how he keeps things lively around the Auckland club;

- **Luke Brooks** played his first NRL match at Leichhardt Oval last week – a dream come true for the Balmain Junior. Plus he talks about his close friendship with **James Tedesco**;

- Canterbury five-eighth **Josh Reynolds** is ready to take on more leadership in his play-making role. Does he have what it takes to reach the levels of Bulldogs great Terry Lamb?;

- We go behind the scenes at **The Matty Johns Show**, and what you see on the couch each Monday night is exactly what they're like off-camera ;

- **BIG READ:** How do you find the next best thing? We talk to some of the game's top player scouts about the whos, hows, whats and wheres of player recruitment.

PLUS

Mark Mexico scores an NRL contract; The Top 8 coaching blow-ups; Where to now for the Warriors?; **Big Debate:** Should tackling rules be reviewed?; Adam MacDougall wonders why anyone would be a coach; Anthony Minichiello says banning lifting in tackles isn't the answer; Jamie Soward *By Numbers*; Storm v Dragons *Big Clash* match preview by Warren Smith; *Who's That Kid?* Canberra's Andrew Heffernan; the Round 5 Team of the Week; Panthers Cheerleaders.

GAME DAY: Official team lists for Telstra Premiership, Holden Cup, VB NSW Cup, Intrust Super Cup, Ron Massey Cup; lower grade reviews; Little league; and Gold Coast Titans team poster.

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THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from

Thursday, April 10.

DIGITAL VERSION

Available via www.zinio.com

NOW AVAILABLE

Free 30-day trial on new subscriptions through Apple Newsstand and Google Play.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



Your Big League Read!

Volunteers change face of park

Hundreds of hours of hard work by committed rugby league volunteer **Jenny Nahu**, husband **Nick** and the team at **Bay of Plenty Rugby League** have delivered the district and wider community a top-quality local facility.

Puketawhero Park, which is owned by the Rotorua District Council and leased by Bay of Plenty Rugby League, now boasts a grandstand with covered seating for 200, plus a conference room (with indoor-outdoor flow), kitchen, four changing rooms and a communal shower block.

Nahu, who was named 2010 NZRL Volunteer of the Year, says the driving force behind the fundraising and resulting development was the popularity of Puketawhero Park.

"It's a beautiful park," says Nahu "We host lots of visiting teams and tournaments every year, and we needed to have something better for ourselves and for the teams when they come.

"We've got five full-sized fields and four mini grounds, which can be combined to add a sixth full field, and we needed the facilities to support them.

Nahu says their vision is for the park is to become the venue of choice for tournaments, as Rotorua boasts easy access from most parts of New Zealand and Australia, there are international flights from Sydney to Rotorua, and it's all supported by accommodation to suit most budgets and ample off-field quality activities.

"We won't have the new rooms open every weekend, but will keep them for representative games, our grand final days and other important events. We still have the two older changing rooms available for regular weekend footy," says Nahu.

As part of the project, the existing administration block has also been upgraded and now offers separate referees quarters, providing the match officials with their own changing rooms, showers and a meeting room.

Nahu retired from paid work some years ago and had plans to do something different with her spare time, but her involvement in rugby league has become more and more time consuming, and she and her husband are currently at the ground every day, keeping the build on track, and doing what they can to contribute and save money.

It hasn't been easy.

"We got a lottery grant in 2012, but not long after that, the contractor went bust," says Nahu. "The grants board were really supportive and held the money over until we were able to get started again.

"There are still things that we need to do to complete it. We've raised about \$400,000 for what we've done so far and probably need another \$30,000 to complete it all.

"In the meantime, we do things like buying a flat-pack kitchen from Bunning's and installing it ourselves to save money, as well to have it ready for the opening."

The official opening was held on Friday, April 4, and was attended by NZRL chief



executive Phil Holden, Rotorua councillors Charles Sturt and Karen Hunt, Peter McCloud of Rotorua Events, Upper Central Zone general manager Sasho Stosic and staff, and life members Ray Turton and Nick Nahu, who jointly cut the ribbon, along with members of Bay of Plenty District Rugby League.

The official occasion was also an opportunity to present the latest life membership award to former BOPDRL board member Roger Wallace, in appreciation for the many years of service to game in the district.

Check these out!



<http://tvnz.co.nz/seven-sharp/blokes-balls-and-beersies-na-mate-video-5898660>



<http://www.richmondroversrugbyleague.com/>

Click on the "Richmond club on Seven Sharp" heading to go to TV prog last nite (Wednesday) with Gus Fepuliae re our club "going dry" and also the Lowie comments. Also, when you have played that, other screens on TV 1 site come up including your stint this morning (Thursday) on TV1 .

Regards, JOHN HOLLOWAY

Sports fans – keep Friday, May 9, clear in your diaries!

FRI 9 MAY

The Mad Butcher and Suburban Newspapers Community Trust is hosting a special luncheon to lift awareness of the League 4 Life programme, which supports people involved in rugby league who have met hardship in their lives.

There will be a mystery guest speaker and the MC is Knight of the Realm, **Sir Peter Leitch**. Confirmed ex Kiwi players will be in attendance **Stacey Jones, Ruben Wiki, Roger Bailey, Graeme West, Hugh McGahan, Dane O'Hara, Gary Clarke, Monty Betham, Gary Prohm, Jerry Seuseu, Duane Mann, Dean Bell, Allan Amer, Jim Fisher, Awen Gутtenbiel, Logan swan, Bruce Castle, Kevin Tamati** and many more.

We also have ex Kiwi coaches attending **Bob Bailey, Graham Lowe, Brian McClennan**.

All the money raised by League 4 Life is used to support and meet the needs of people when they most need it. Players who suffer serious, permanent or life-changing injury are supported.

The event is at the **Guineas Room, Level 3, Ellerslie Events Centre from 12pm** and the \$100 per head ticket price covers a three-course meal. There will be a cash bar.

Buy a table and you'll get two complimentary tickets to the Vodafone Warriors game the next day at Eden Park when they take on the Raiders.

And as a bonus everyone attending will receive a Vodafone Warriors Proud supporter membership

A charity auction will be held that includes the boots Benji Marshall wore in his final Kiwis game, signed by the man himself, and the signed boots Michael Luck wore on his final Vodafone Warriors appearance. There will also be a one-off auction for a signed Vodafone Warriors jersey, with the winning bidder getting the opportunity to meet with their favourite player.

The proceeds of this special auction item will be used to support Newcastle Knights player Alex McKinnon, facing quadriplegia, after being severely hurt in a tackle last month.

To book your tickets contact Philippa Ivory at the NZRL on info@nzrl.co.nz or 09 571-3863 or 021-532-483.

This event will be broadcast live on Radio Sport



THE MAD BUTCHER AND SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS

COMMUNITY TRUST



radio network



For information on League 4 Life visit www.nzrl.co.nz

plus

WIN TWO FREE TICKETS TO THE LUNCHEON on May 9 and be flown anywhere from around New Zealand to the event. This includes transfer from the Airport to the Luncheon!





WIN FREE MEAT FOR ONE YEAR!

\$100,000

TOTAL PRIZE POOL

SHOP AT THE MAD BUTCHER OVER THE NEXT 2 WEEKS AND GO INTO A DRAW TO WIN **FREE MEAT FOR ONE YEAR** (MAXIMUM \$50 PER WEEK FOR 52 WEEKS)

THERE WILL BE 39 WINNERS NATIONWIDE (1 PER STORE). ALL WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED.

COMPETITON VALID FROM 7 - 20 APRIL 2014.

Vodafone Warriors v Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs

Sunday April 13th at Eden Park

Match Day Theme: Aloha April

Event Hashtag: #AlohaApril #NRLWARBUL

VODAFONE WARRIORS

ULTIMATE FAN PASS

5 TICKETS FOR \$50*

VODAFONE WARRIORS V BULLDOGS

BE THERE SUN 13 APR 4PM AT EDEN PARK.

BULLDOGS 1983

Aloha April

WIN WITH SKYCITY A TRIP FOR 2 TO HAWAII

FOR FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS GO TO WWW.SKYCITY.CO.NZ

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TICKETEK.CO.NZ *FEES APPLY FIRST OF 3 MATCHES STARTS AT 11:45.

vodafone SKYCITY CCC canterbury-bankstown gribusnet Wallys LLOYD SUZUKI SKYCITY MATCH DAY SPONSOR SKYCITY

Members Lounge:

"Get Leid" by the Vodafone Warriors. Free Lei's on entry.

- Aloha themed dress up photobooth
- Xbox games with players
- Arcade Games
- Roulette Table
- Pool Table

Chance to be upgraded to Best Seats in House (side line seating)

Other activities at the Match:

Red Zone (kids zone), themed surfing ride, bouncy castles, inflatable game development passing wall.

Half-time entertainment:

Island time performance featuring conche shell performers, island drummers, fire dancers, Tahitian & Cook island dancers with performances from Drew Neemia (main artist), Lavina Williams, Erakah, Grace Ikenasio (back up singers).

Competition:

Win a dream trip to Hawaii, simply turn up to the game, take a selfie and upload to Instagram with #AlohaApril before 4.30pm to be in the draw! Winner announced at Main Game Half-time.

Get involved:

Be a part of our Aloha April theme and dress for the occasion.

Ticket offer:

The ultimate fan pass, 5 for \$50, yes that's right 5 tickets in the East Stand for only \$50, bring your mates, your cousins, or your kids!

(booking fee applies)
Go to Ticketek to buy your tickets



Here's a GREAT FREE OFFER to you!

I am offering the **FIRST 20 PEOPLE** to send me a letter, TWO Books(not sold in NZ) plus a Vodafone Warriors poster **FREE**. Yes, at no charge to you! The **FIRST FIVE (5)** will get a Vodafone Warrior's scarf as well, so get posting and enjoy your weekend!



FIRST FIVE SELECTED ENTRIES GET THIS GREAT SCARF!

All you have to do is send a **STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE A.S.A.P.** to this address:

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

GREAT FREE OFFER!
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The Marina 2144, Manukau,
Auckland

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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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