



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



Newsletter

02 MAY 2014
 #19



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Captain Simon Mannering holding the cup at the NZ Warriors vs Melbourne Storm ANZAC day clash in AAMI Park.

Feleti Mateo is brought down by several Melbourne Stormers, but it didn't alter the final outcome.

Boy, what a week I have had. Let me tell you putting on lunches sounds easy, but it is anything but.

As you know, next Friday I am hosting, with the **Mad Butcher Suburban Newspapers Trust**, a **League for Life** lunch that will celebrate some of the great **Kiwis** of all time.

League for Life is an NZRL organisation that helps out anyone in the league family who may have fallen on tough times. The horrendous injury suffered by **Newcastle Knights** player **Alex McKinnon** shows that some terrible things can happen, so it is to the NZRL's credit that the scheme is in place.

But not matter how much organisation you put into these things, we still rely on fans of our great game supporting us by buying tickets.

To be fair, we would love to sell some more tickets, at just \$100 each, or get a group

of mates together and buy a whole table of 10 and I will throw in a two free tickets to see the **Vodafone Warriors** play the **Canberra Raiders** on the Saturday at Eden park.

It's pretty clear this will be one of the largest gatherings of former **Kiwis** internationals in some time.

It's a chance to mix and mingle with more than 60 former **Kiwis**, men like **Stacey Jones**, test cap record holder **Ruben Wiki**, the great **Roger Bailey**, **Hugh McGahan**, **Dane O'Hara**, **Dean Bell**, **Kevin** and **Howie Tamati**, **Dennis Williams**, **Des White**, **Tom Hadfield**, **James Leuluai** and **Tawera Nikau**.

We also have ex Kiwi coaches **Bob Bailey**, **Frank Endacott** and **Brian McClennan** attending, and although I am still to tick off the final arrangements, a pretty special mystery guest coming over from Australia.

NRL boss **Jim Doyle** will talk about

where the competition is heading, and NZRL boss **Phil Holden** will do the same for the game here in New Zealand, and no doubt have some insights into the **Kiwis-Aussie** test.

It's such a big deal that **Radio Sport** will be broadcasting live from the Ellerslie Events Centre, and **Sky TV** is sending along camera crews to do interviews for 40/20.

I think it says a lot about league that such a premier event is open to the public. Sometimes these sorts of gatherings in other sports are only for the "rich and famous" who stump up big money to get alongside the greats of the game.

It's going to be an unforgettable experience and I'd love you to be there. That \$100 ticket price covers a three-course meal, a chance to mingle with the game's greats, a special commemorative plate, and everyone goes in the draw to win a signed **Kiwis** or **Vodafone Warriors** jersey.

On top of that, everyone who comes gets a **Vodafone Warriors Proud Supporter** membership valued at \$29, so I tell you what, I know a bit about bargains, and I haven't seen a better deal in the sporting world ever.

There will be a cash bar available, so to book or buy a table contact **Philippa Ivory** at the NZRL on info@nzrl.co.nz or 09 571-3863 or 021-532-483. You can contact me too on pcleitch@extra.co.nz or 021 936 105.

Off to the **Blues** on Friday, and then the **Kiwis** of course.

Interesting that no one gives us a show, and that's perhaps understandable, but as I said when asked about it on radio, would I put my life-savings on the **Kiwis**? No. But I might have a sneaky little punt on our boys. There's nothing to lose and there are few things more dangerous than a Kiwi backed into a corner.



Photos supplied by Libby Gudmundsson

The Blues continued their fine form at home with a 21-13 victory over the Waratahs on ANZAC Day.

The spotlight was certainly on the under-siege **Blues**, but the team responded in emphatic fashion, beating up the Wallaby-laden **Waratahs** in a hugely physical encounter.

Coach **Sir John Kirwan** had demanded more physicality from his team and he certainly got that, with ferocious performances from **Jerome Kaino**, **Keven Mealamu** and **Ma'a Nonu**.

It was a fantastic occasion as we celebrated ANZAC Day, a nail-biting curtain raiser with North Shore beating Ponsonby opened the afternoon followed by the always impressive New Zealand Navy Band.

The boys return to the training paddock this week, preparing to host the **Reds** at Eden Park this Friday night (kick-off 7.35pm). With a perfect record at home this season, they certainly have everything to play for!

Make sure you Join the Game – to purchase tickets visit us at Eden Park or go online to www.ticketmaster.co.nz



<http://www.theblues.co.nz/>

The Mel Cooke Memorial Trophy has been donated by the South Island R L Kiwis Association for the CRFL Player of the Match in its Grand Final each year.

It mentions that Cooke played in Hornby's championship winning team (Masseti Cup) in 1958, was captain of Hornby's 1962 winner, captain-coach of successful Panthers in 1964, before leaving to coach in Canberra.

On his return Mel Cooke coached Hornby to win the Pat Smith Challenge Trophy as Grand Final winner in 1969, beating Marist WS 10-9.

Mel Cooke was selected in the first Kiwi Legends in 1995 and a Player of the Century (1907-2007). He represented NZ teams from 1959 - 1964, scoring five tries in his 22 consecutive tests.

The Association has also provided Miniatures for the first ten years, all assembled by master engraver, Fred Arnesen (Classic Engravers).

The trophy presented by the Association's Secretary-Manager (WAW) to CRFL Manager Craig Kerr on Presentation Night did not then include the photo of Cooke wearing the old style Canterbury jersey, which befits the trophy for Canterbury's premier Grand Final MVP (Player of Match).

We have suggested Frank Endacott (Kiwis coach 1994-2000) and John Coffey (covered over 100 tests when a senior Press scribe and all of Cooke's career) select the first player of match.

Phyllis Cooke and family to be invited to present the prestigious trophy and Miniature to the first winner.



Glory Middle Weight **Israel Adesanya**; Team Oyama bound pro boxer / kickboxer and MMA prospect, **Jamie van der Kuil**; 70 Kilo King in the Ring Champion, Strikeforce Champion and possibly NZ's next UFC fighter, **Daniel Hooker**; UFC Light Heavyweight contender, **Jamie Te Huna**; NZ Heavyweight Champion, **Tony Angelov**; **Mark Hunt Striking**, coach (trainer of Ray Sefo and numerous boxing and kickboxing champions) **Lollo Heimuli**.

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Girls having a well deserved beer in Shanghai before we fly to Amsterdam.



Ex all black jimmy Cowans baby.

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league fix link



CANTERBURY LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Celebration Lions 40 – Northern Bulldogs 16
Halswell Hornets 26 – Hornby Panthers 20
Papanui Tigers 28 – Aranui Eagles 20
Riccarton Knights 40 – Linwood Keas 28

Some surprising results especially Riccarton tipping up Linwood and the Papanui Tigers getting up over Aranui could also be seen as surprising.

This weekend's round is as follows.

Round 5 Massetti Cup 3 May 2014
Hornby vs Riccarton at Leslie Park
Linwood vs Papanui at Linwood Park
Northern vs Halswell at Murphy Park
Aranui vs Celebration at Wainoni Park
All Games kick off at 2.45pm

Hornby will be looking to right the wrong of last weekend against

Riccarton, however Riccarton are well known for getting up against the **Panthers** and their form of last weekend in dealing to Linwood suggests this will be a tough game to pick. As will the Linwood vs Papanui game. Linwood will also be hoping to bounce back following their upset loss to Riccarton whilst the **Tigers** will be out to continue the form that saw them beat a strong Aranui side.

Halswell should be too strong for a battling Northern even out at the Bulldogs' home ground in Kaiapoi.

The final game sees near neighbours Aranui, host Celebration. This should be the match of the round. The Eagles will be stung by their result against Papanui and looking to get back on track. To do that they will need to be at their best against a **Lions** side that is travelling very well.



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RD 10 SUNDAY MAY 18 | WAIKATO STADIUM | 4PM

The Rugby League function of the year

NOON FRI 9 MAY

Level 3 - Ellerslie Events Centre - the Guineas Room

Mix and mingle with more than 60 former Kiwis internationals and Warriors greats, men like **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 Guttenbiel, Logan Swan, Bruce Castle, Kevin Tamati, Don Hammond, Erin Wigs, Dennis Williams, Des White, Owen Wright, Howie Tamati, Mark Broadhurst, Clayton Friend, Wayne Wallace, Tom Hadfield, Tony Kemp, James Leuluai, Nick Wright, Gary Bailey, Ken George, Paul Matete, Roy Christian, Shane Cooper, Wairangi Koopu, Joe Vagana, Mike McLennan, Richie Blackmore, Richie Barnett, George Mann, John Ackland, Marc Ellis, Ron O'Regan, Dean Clark, Tawera Nikau, Francis Leota, Peter Brown, Emosi Koloto, Rick Muru** and many more greats of the game. We also have ex Kiwi coaches attending **Bob Bailey, Frank Endacott and Brian McClennan.**

\$100 a ticket includes:

If you buy a table of 10 you will receive 2 complimentary Vodafone Warriors tickets to the Raiders game the next day.
A Mystery guest speaker flown in from Australia, who could it be?
MC for the day Sir Peter Leitch (the Mad Butcher)



Here is what you get for your \$100

- 👉 Three-course meal
- 👉 Mingle with the game's greats
- 👉 A special Commemorative plate
- 👉 Everyone goes in the Draw to win a special signed Kiwi jersey plus a signed Vodafone Warriors jersey
- 👉 Everyone receives a Vodafone Warriors Proud Supporter membership (value \$29)



That's a whole lot of value in anyone's books!

Don't forget there will be a cash bar available.

Radio Sport will be broadcasting live, and SKY 40/20 filming on the day.

Plus hear from NRL boss Jim Doyle, NRL commercial head Paul Kind, NZRL boss Phil Holden.



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

THE MAD BUTCHER AND SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS
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THIS WEEK, IN THE REP ROUND ISSUE OF BIG LEAGUE...

SYDNEY HOSTS THE BULK OF THE WEEKEND'S REPRESENTATIVE ACTION, WHILE IT WILL BE A SPECIAL DAY AT DUBBO ON SUNDAY AS THE CRL CELEBRATE AND REMEMBER

FEATURES

- **Paul Gallen** knows there may not be too much time left for him at the top of rugby league and he's savouring every moment as part of possibly one of the best Kangaroos teams ever;
- New Zealand are looking to the future with some younger faces in their side this Friday night and **Shaun Johnson**, still young himself, is ready to take control;
- Rep weekend means State of Origin is just around the corner, we take a look at how it will affect your team;
- **Daniel Tupou** has a chance to shine for City Origin this weekend, but the towering winger's biggest hurdle is what you'd least expect;
- **Penani Manumalealii** dons the No.7 for Samoa in this weekend's Pacific Test, but he's hoping it will be the end to a very painful chapter in his life;
- It's 40 years since Western Division caused a huge upset and took out the AMCO Cup, Ian Heads reflects on that moment, as well as 80 years of the **CRL**.

PLUS

Kevin Walters explores the eligibility debate; The Top 8 bush footy towns; Adam MacDougall explains the importance of rep games; Australia v New Zealand *Big Clash* match preview by Warren Smith; the Round 8 Team of the Week and Round Wrap.

GAME DAY: Official team lists for the Trans Tasman Test, Under-20s State of Origin, Pacific Test, Country v City and lower grades; plus team posters for the Kangaroos, Kiwis, City, Country, Samoa and Fiji and profiles of the NSW and Qld Under-20s Origin teams.



THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from

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HOSTED BY
**RAY
WOOLF**

My mates on Waiheke
are putting on a show
to raise money for the
Coastguard. If you have
never been to Waiheke,
this could be a great
reason to head over.
Some of our greatest
rock stars will be on
show. Yes, the Butcher
will be there -
I wonder if Elvis will
turn up??

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C'MON!

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Te Huruhi School Hall

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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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