



Sir Peter Leitch's MAD BUTCHER CLUB

AT MT SMART STADIUM, HOME OF THE MIGHTY VODAFONE WARRIORS



Newsletter

16 MAY 2014
#22

SPECIAL EDITION LEAGUE 4 LIFE



On Friday last, thousands of dollars were raised for the **League for Life** programme when former and current **Kiwis** gathered at a **Mad Butcher Suburban Newspapers Community Trust lunch**.

League for Life supports anyone from the league fraternity who has fallen on difficult times.

Great names from the league past turned out to support the event, including **Roy Christian, Des White, Bob Bailey, Graham Lowe**, father and son **Kiwi** internationals **James** and **Thomas Leuluai**, cousins **Howie** and **Kevin Tamati**, and most-capped **Kiwi** ever, **Ruben Wiki**.

League for Life is a great NZRL initiative and there's no doubt the 60-odd former **Kiwis** there was proof the love of the game doesn't end when you hang up your boots.

The audience was treated to a guest speaking role from Australian league legend **Ricky Stuart**, the current **Canberra**

Raiders coach, and he was superbly interviewed by **Martin Devlin** of **Radio Sport**, who even broadcast live from the event.

Our mate, **Sam Ackerman**, at **TV3** gave us great coverage that night, and it was a really great success all round.

Ricky was sensational, and a big thumbs up to the NRL for organising it all for us, and at no cost because of the good cause.

Ricky said he loves this country and our league culture. He was introduced to it many years ago by the **Kiwis** connection at the **Raiders** when he was a player.

Apparently, guys like **Johnny Lomax** and **Quentin Pongia** made sure he was a regular visitor. And he said he had always been treated with kindness despite the rivalry between our countries, so when he was asked to help me out he was really pleased to do it. That was quite a humbling thing to hear too.

There were a number of apologies from former players around the world who could not be there, and I thought the best was

from **Fred Ah Kuoi**. These days he is the the United States, but he sent us a great video message. It contained a joke at his former teammate **Dane O'Hara's** expense, about how Dane was going to shout all the **Kiwis** a round.

I have never seen a bloke turn so white so quickly.

New Zealand Rugby league boss **Scott Carter** was very good in his presentation about the vision of the NZRL too.

The whole exercise was about two things, firstly raising the profile of League for Life, and secondly, about getting together as many former **Kiwis** as we possibly could.

We certainly managed that, getting great exposure, and also getting the message out through our newspaper connections, and our partners at the **Radio Network**.

If you want to know more about the NZRL's ambitions, and League for Life, visit www.nzrl.co.nz

And it would be remiss of me not to mention the outstanding support I had for the event, from **Centra Print**, who printed the amazing posters featuring the greats of our game, from **Gary Clarke**, himself a former **Kiwi**, and who made the souvenir plates those who came received, and from the **Ellerslie Events Centre** and its people. Last but not least, and of course, **Lion**, the nectar of the gods!



COACHES & CAPTAINS: From Left to Right: Graeme Lowe, Hugh McGahan, Bob Bailey, Ron O'Regan, Bruce Castle, Don Hammond, Dean Bell, Roger Bailey, Ray Christian, Dane O'hara, Howie Tamati, Ken Sterling, Colin O'Neil, Duane Mann, Iva Ropati, Frank Endercot, Tea Ropati.



KIWIS CAPTAINS PAST: From left to right: Ron O'Regan, Hugh McGahan, Don Hammond, Dean Bell, Roger Bailey, Ray Christian, Dane O'hara, Howie Tamati, Ken Sterling, Colin O'Neil, Duane Mann and Bruce Castle.

Team Photos by





Our guest of honour, rugby league legend, Ricky Stuart, in full flight. He was fantastic!

Photos by 

The great Mark Broadhurst, Kiwi number 549.

At Left, Phil Holden, CEO of NZRL, who gave us a great insight to where NZRL is heading. Thanks Phil, job well done.



Peter Brown, Kiwi 600, is stoked to receive a Vodafone phone as a spot prize. Lucky bugger!



Dane O'Hara, Kiwi 528, helps out with the auction.



The Tamati cousins - Kevin, left, and Brian.



This jersey was donated by the Police Rugby League to support the day, so a big thank you to them.



The winner of the spot prize, which was a signed Vodafone Warriors jersey, donated by the club.



Sir Peter and Ricky with the jersey he donated to the luncheon which Sir Peter bought.



Derek, the winner of the spot prize, a Kiwis jersey donated by NZRL.



Philippa from NZRL helps with the draw of spot prizes.



Former Kiwi coach, Frank Endacott, presents Kiwi Mark Broadhurst with a special Canterbury RL jersey. In 2000, when the Canterbury R.L. Schoolboys celebrated its 50th Jubilee, Bill Whitehead designed a jubilee jersey with the names of the 17 players who had represented NZ at schoolboys and seniors levels and put the names of the DKs (Double Kiwis) with the years in white kiwis inside the V. Mark Broadhurst, who was a schoolboy Kiwi to Australia in 1970 (with Baxendale and John Smith) went on to represent NZ at the highest level from 1979.

The fifteen DKs are: Pat White (1954), Jim Fisher (1955/56), Garry Blackler (1955/56/47), Jim White (1955), Gary Clarke (1956), Graeme Cooksley (1962/63), Rod Walker (1964), Bruce Dickison (1968), Eddie Kerrigan (1969), Mark Broadhurst (1970), Barry Edkins and Gerard Stokes (1971), Ross Taylor (1976), Marty Crequer (1979), David Kidwell (1992). NB Fifteen DKs from Canterbury, NOT 17.

A big thank you to everyone for turning up on the day and for our great sponsors and all the good people that helped me with the day.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL

Sir Peter Charles Leitch KNZM QSM



Two guys who have done so much for our great game: Gary Whittle and Bob Best. Thank you, guys.



Our hall of fame we created for the day with posters of ex-Kiwis kindly printed by Sentra printing.

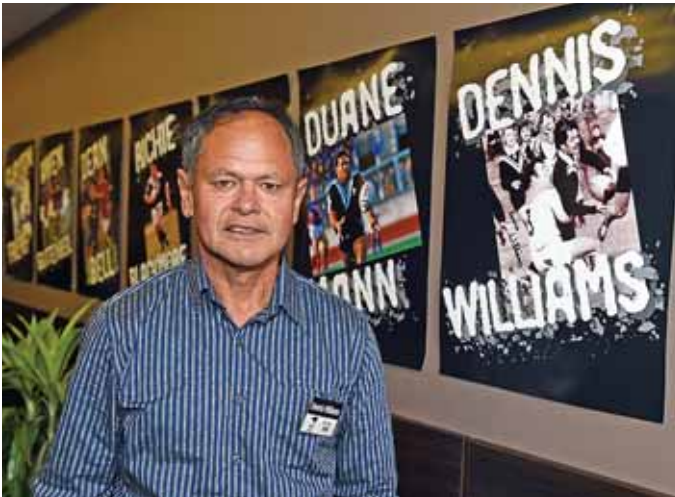


Former Kiwi coaches left to right Brian McClennan, Frank Endacott, Graham Lowe, Howie Tamati and Bob Bailey.



The great Graeme West, Kiwi 517, was only too happy to win a spot prize.

The photos below have been kindly supplied by PHOTOSPORT. If you want to see more, go to their website and check them out. If you want to order a print or use any of their huge range of sports images, just register, log in and follow the instructions. Remember, all photos are copyright and property of Photosport.



Dennis Williams, Kiwis #490.



Gary Prohm, Kiwis #542.



Jerry Seuseu, Kiwis #692, who now works for the Warriors as clun education and Welfare Manager.



Stacey Jones, #665 and his young son, William.



Wairangi Koopu, Kiwi #715.



Father and son, James (#547) and Thomas (#704) Leuluai.



Howie Tamati, #550, and James Leuluai.



Nolan Tupaea (#557), Des White (#323), James Leuluai (#547) and Francis Leota (#618).

Some Blasts from the Past!



5-year-old Robert Orchard is sure he is the luckiest lad in Rugby League. He went to Auckland Airport to farewell his father—Kiwi forward Robert Orchard—and finished up in the front row of a team picture of the whole New Zealand League side. The Australia-bound tourists are: Back row (from left)—Doug Galley, Tony Krietlich, Roy Christian, Lory Blanchard, John Greengrass, Jack Williams, Bob Paul, Warren Collicot, John Whittaker, Mockey Brereton, John O'Sullivan, Murray Eade, Angus Thompson, Jim Fisher. Front row: Richard Bolton, Dennis Williams, Philip Orchard, Dave Sorenson, Robert Orchard, Ken Stirling.

—Auckland Star

NOTES ON THE AUSTRALIAN TOUR

Much has been written, spoken or thought about the brief Tour to Australia in 1972 by a Kiwi side. The favourite adjectives regarding that venture have been "ridiculous, foolish, hopeless, suicidal, another Dunkirk," etc., etc. But nevertheless, when it was in the melting pot and on the drawing board, there was a two-fold purpose behind it.

Firstly there was a demand by the Rugby League Public to see the victorious 1971 Kiwis in action and secondly N.Z. was morally obliged to reciprocate the short 1971 Australian Tour to N.Z. Out of this second factor, both countries hoped to use these matches to more adequately prepare their National Teams for the World Cup series to be staged in France later in the year.

Well, the plan was laid and here were the dates:

Saturday June 17 1971: Kiwis v South Island at Christchurch.

Sunday June 18: Kiwis v North Island at Wellington.

Saturday June 24: N.Z. v The Rest at Auckland.

The Tourists were then named.

Tuesday July 4: N.Z. v N.S.W. Country at Canberra.

Saturday July 8: N. v Australia at Sydney.

Saturday July 15: N.Z. v Australia at Brisbane.

Manager Jack Williams and Coach Lory Blanchard discovered right from the outset that the path they were treading was very rough and very stony.

From their 1971 Champions, there were the following defections: Henry Tatana and Bernie Lowther had been exported to Aussie. Mike McClellan and Tony Krietlich had retired. Because of injuries, Bob McGuinn, Ray Williams, Ken Stirling and Robert Orchard were late scratchings, whilst Bill Burgoyne had been chosen as specialist hooker for the North Island and to pull him out of that side at the eleventh hour would disrupt that team too much.

So off they went with their remaining 17 players and after a testing first half against the South Island, the Kiwis eventually won by 20 to 10.

Points for the Kiwis were: Tries by M. Brereton 2, J. Whittaker, M. Eade, G. Smith, P. Orchard and D. Sorenson 2. Goals by P. Orchard 3.

South Island's came from tries by J. Hibbs and B. Bigwood. Goals by M. O'Donnell 2.

On to Wellington and we in the North watched on a T.V. link and saw a lively North Island team pressurize the Kiwis to such an extent that the final score was Kiwis 20, North Island 13.

North Island team was: J. Wilson, R. Cranston, P. Metete, J. Buchan, E. Wulf, F. Schulster, K. Barry, S. Brewster, B. Burgoyne, H. Paul, R. Tupaea, T. Chetham, R. Bolton, K. Pittman, P. Gurnick.

Kiwi's points were from tries by M. Brereton 3, D. Williams. Goals by W. Deacon 3 and J. Whittaker.

North's tries were scored by E. Wulf, S. Brewster and R. Bolton. Two goals by J. Wilson.

As a result of those games the N.Z. selectors Lory Blanchard, Travis Hardwick and Des Barchard lined out the following teams for the Final Trial at Carlaw Park:

N.Z.: J. Whittaker, R. Cranston, R. Christian, D. Williams, M.

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Visiting the South Island?

Make sure you see former Kiwi Gary Clarke's private RUGBY LEAGUE MUSEUM.

It's a real beauty.

Give Gary a call and he'll organise a tour for you

To organise your visit to the museum phone Gary on 0274145460 or 03 3654 812.



www.stuff.co.nz

Bartercard Tri Nations Series 1999 New Zealand Kiwis' Squad



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H Paul

R Paul

T Puletua

M Rua

C Smith

R Swain

L Swann

W Talau

J Vagana

N Vagana

L Vainikolo

R Wiki

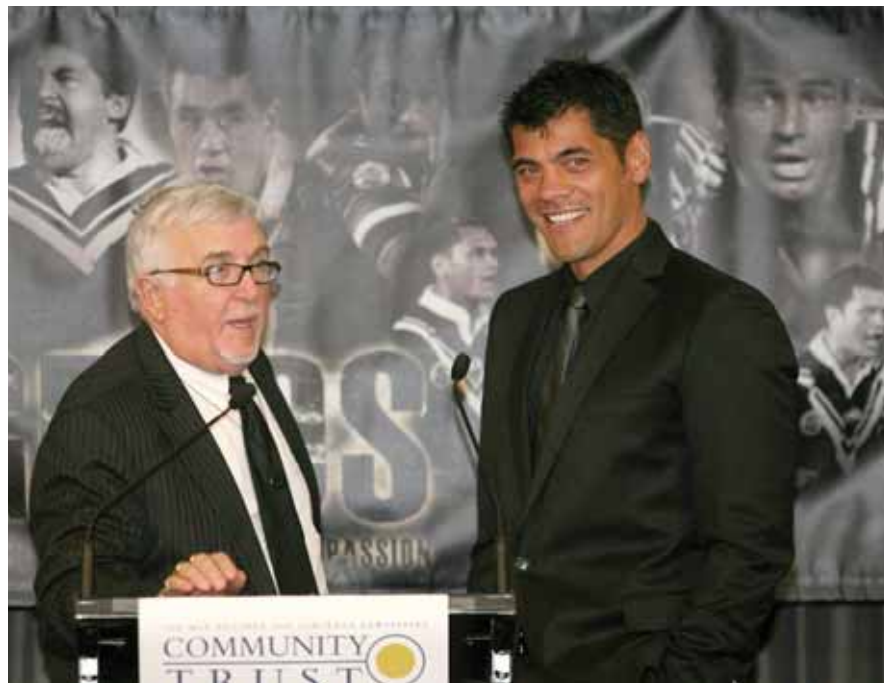
New Zealand's total number of *Kiwis* stands at 780 after the 2013 Rugby League World Cup.

<http://www.nzrl.co.nz/roll-of-honour.aspx>

Where are they all today?
Well, 7 of them were at our lunch last Friday!



Jim Doyle former NZ League CEO



Sir Peter introduces and chats to the Legend of League, Steven Kearney.



PIX FROM OUR 2010 LEAGUE 4 LIFE LUNCHEON



Let the auction begin.



Darren Bradly, a great league man, was a bloody great auctioneer for our charities.

At Right, Joe from Glengarry Wines hands over a giant check on behalf of the Trust, to Lance Hohaia, a League for Life Trust member.



Darren in full flight.



Me and Frank Pritchard wind up table 23.



Lance Hohaia mobbed by media.



Eden Park hosts some famous visitors

It's not often we get to see past giants of the game, but some of the guests from the League for Life luncheon turned up last Saturday for the great game between the Warriors and Raiders - ALLEN AMER and GARY CLARKE. A fantastic end to a fantastic week!



With Jacob Lillyman and Shaun Johnson.



With the great Steve Price.



With Chad Townsend and coach Andrew McFadden.



Allen, Nathan Friend and Gary in the Warriors changing room.

Siliva Havili, flanked by Allen Amer and Gary Clark, signed a new contract with the club.



I took two former **Kiwis** into the **Vodafone Warriors'** changing room after the game to meet the guys: **Allen Amer** Kiwi number 405 and **Gary Clarke**, Kiwi number 451, who has a rugby league museum in Christchurch and was a national **Kiwis** selector and coached Canterbury to beat Auckland at Carlaw Park.

To this day, junior secondary schools rugby league players compete for the Gary Clarke Cup.

Some LINKS for more League for Life Luncheon events - video and interviews

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBHyLzSy9t4&feature=youtu.be>

Radio Sport interview with Kevin and Howie Tamati

<http://www.radiosport.co.nz/listen-on-demand/weekondemand/>





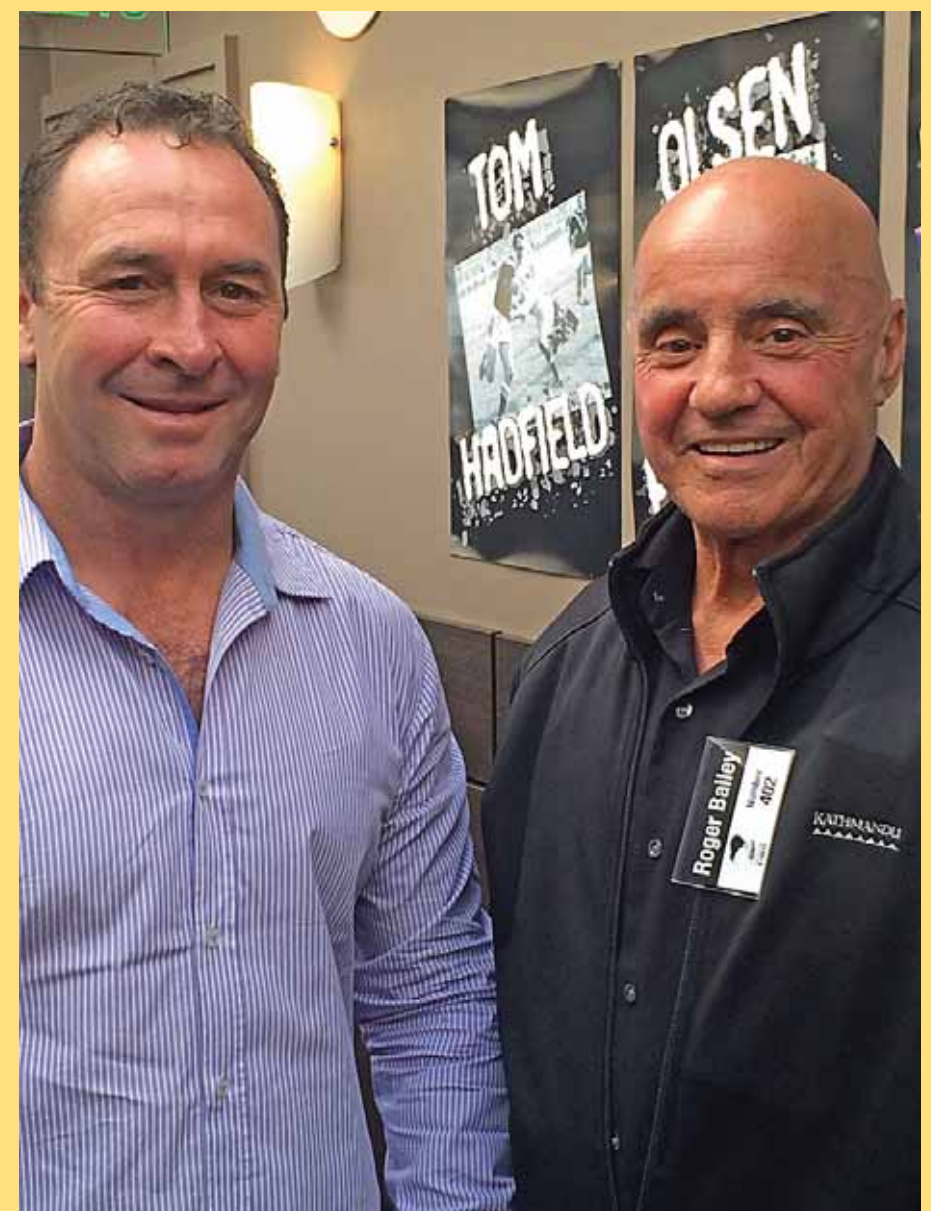
Rugby league legend, Ricky Stuart, talks to Radio Sport's Kent Johns.



Former Kiwis great, Roger Bailey talks to Radio Sport's Kent Johns live on air.



Rugby league legends, Stacey Jones (Kiwi #665, 46 tests for the Kiwis and Ricky Stuart).



Former Kiwis great, Roger Bailey, Kiwi #402, who played 29 tests for the kiwis, and Ricky Stuart. Two legends of the great game of rugby league.

League? LOVE it!

Reactions to the Lunch from some of the guests...

It's always good to have feedback; it lets us know we're on the right track!

Kiwis newsletter

Sir Peter,

Words can not express my gratitude to yourself for help, your passion, continuous comitment and support for our great game supercedes all previous statesman truly honoured to be at your service

**Thanx again
Shane Varley**

Hi Peter,

Mate I would like this opportunity to thank you so much for organising a great Luncheon last Friday.

It was one of the most enjoyable days I have spent in a long time, to catch up with so many mates from the Kiwi Family was fantastic.

To see so many great Kiwis in one room and the stories which were told will have lasting memories.

Peter, you did a wonderful job in organising this event, you should be congratulated and I thought your Guest Speaker, Ricky Stuart, was very good also.

Thank you once again and I can't wait for the next one, well done mate.

**Kind Regards,
Frank Endacott. ONZM.**

Good Morning Sir Peter

Terry asked me to write to you firstly just to say thank you so much for such a wonderful weekend it was fantastic well worth the trip up. Terry thoroughly enjoyed catching up with everyone lots of laughs and reminiscing. I think it has motivated him to get up there more and see all his mates all on a regular basis.

**Thanks again!
Louise**

Hi Sir Peter

Don't know what you have done to my husband but he hasn't stopped talking since arriving home except for when he's either been eating or sleeping. He has asked me to write to you to thank you most sincerely for your kind hospitality along with the wonderful and happy weekend. Would you also thank your wife for either putting up with him or putting him up ---- not sure which.

**On behalf of Allan Amer.
Kind regards
Betty (his wife)**

Butch,

Just like to thank you for a great day yesterday I know the hard work it takes to put that event together and we are all very grateful it was one of the best I have ever been to. I know talking to all the ex-Kiwis, they were stoked to be there and seeing all the older players was very exciting even for me. So well done and appreciate your support especially for a great cause

thanks

**Peter Brown
Sports Agent**

Hi mate, thanks for yesterday fantastic luncheon. It was good to catch up with yourself and all the other guys! Need to do it more often. It was an absolute success - all the boys enjoyed it too. See you at the game.

Cheers Ron o'Regan

Dear Peter

I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the terrific lunch at Ellerslie.

I came up from Wellington hoping to meet childhood heroes armed with a few programmes I had collected as a kid in Greymouth in the 60s.

Roger Bailey and Colin O'Neill behaved like it was Christmas as they surprisingly had not retained any from their stellar careers.

I have been to the Hutt Valley Sports Awards run by Ken Laban and the NZ Dairy Awards at Sky City as well in the last week. The dairy awards night was \$195 plus cash bar and Ken kindly gave me a freebie.

You would score a 9, Ken's close behind as he had the most stunning female dancing troupe, and the dairy awards lucky to get a three.

At yours, Ricky Stuart and Martin Devlin could be listened to all day and the NZRL presentation was very good. Do another in Wellington.

**Kind regards
Gerry Morris**

Kiwis Newsletter

Hi Peter

Thanks so much for all the hard work you put in to make yesterday such an enjoyable time.

**Best Regards
Bruce Castle**

**Ex-kiwi luncheon
Hey Peter**

Mate, can I tell you the luncheon you put on last Friday was the best Rugby League function this country has seen, in my opinion.

That you were able to attract the fantastic numbers of people and also the greats of our game demonstrates the respect others have for you.

I was humbled to be there in such great company.

Thank you Peter you're a good man!!! We are all just guardians of the game and while you are around the game is in great shape!

**Cheers
Lowie**

Canterbury Rugby League and The Star join forces

The **Canterbury Rugby League** and **The Star** have joined forces for **The Star Secondary Schools Rugby League Cup**, a secondary school competition for years 9 and 10.

The League wants to increase the profile of the game in schools and address the drop in numbers of players once they they go to high school.

Hornby, Aranui and Hillmorton High Schools, and St Thomas of Canterbury College played in the inaugural Monday Night Lights alongside the Northern Bulldogs 14-year-old team.

The competition kicked off in front of a fantastic group of supporters.

Results: Northern Bulldogs 30 Hornby 22, St Thomas 72 Aranui 0.

The **Star Player of the Day** awards went to: **Taufale Belford** - St Thomas, **Josh Rawiri** – Northern Bulldogs, **Larenz Hepi** - Hornby and **Regan Roberts** – Aranui.

Canterbury Rugby League general manager **Craig Kerr** says it's tremendous to have **The Star** involved, and it's a board focus to have league played in as many schools as possible. Three more schools have expressed an interest in playing next year.

"The plan is to be able to feed boys wanting to play league that might not ordinarily have the opportunity, back into the club system."



Taufale Bedford from St Thomas and Regan Roberts from Aranui High School



Josh Rawiri from Northern Bulldogs



Larenz Hepi from Hornby High.

Olympic Gold-winning Kiwi coach running seminar in Chch this weekend

World-renowned Volleyball coach **Hugh McCutcheon** returns home to Christchurch May 17th for the **ThermaTech Volleyball Coaching Seminar** to be held at Burnside High School.

McCutcheon, Olympic Gold medallist with the 2008 USA Men's team, and Silver medallist with the 2012 USA Women's team, has made his home in the US since 1991 when he played for Brigham Young University.

The successful international coach leads a full programme of cross-sport presenters including **Dallas Seymour, Gilbert Enoka, Leigh Gibbs, Richard Smith** and **Graeme Steel** alongside some well-known Volleyball personalities.

Volleyball New Zealand Coaching Advisor, **Mike Dudson**, has been instrumental in capturing McCutcheon on his flying visit to Christchurch.

"Hugh is one of the best coaches in world sport. We are excited and honoured to have Hugh lead the coaching seminar, which will be attended by over 100 coaches from around the country", says Dudson.

McCutcheon will be presenting his story **"Brigham Young University to London"**, plus providing expert personal guidance on the "Principles of Coaching" in a high performance environment.

Hugh McCutcheon Profile

- Olympic gold and silver winning head coach
- Former head coach of the US Men's and Women's national volleyball teams
- Current head coach of the University of Minnesota's women's volleyball team
- Former New Zealand national team volleyball player
- Native of Christchurch, New Zealand

http://www.gophersports.com/sports/w-volley/mtt/hugh_mccutcheon_760747.html



Couple of Pics by Don Graham

Sharon & Shaun Cavanagh were happy with the big win.

Near the end of the game some younger lounge supporters jumped the fence to have a pic with the sexy Sky City Cheerleaders.





Our very own Manu Vatuvei has been voted the Harvey Norman Women in League's Favourite Son.

They call him "The Beast" but those who know him, and this was confirmed by his own wife on the TV, know he is just a big softie – off the field of course.

Manu is both feared and respected on the field but the giant winger's golden smile and compassion have won him the hearts of rugby league fans.

Manu won for his "efforts and attitude that inspire women to be part of the rugby league family at all levels".

"I am proud and humbled to receive this. It's an awesome award, not just for me personally but most of all for my club and my family," the big fella said.

"I'd like to thank all our members, fans, team-mates, friends and family for voting for me, and I also want to make a special mention of my mother, who has played such an important part in my life, as well as my

wife **Jen** and our girls - who are always there to support me."

Manu was third late last week but surged into a clear lead on the back of a a fantastic response to the **Vodafone Warriors' 'Vote for Vatuvei'** campaign.

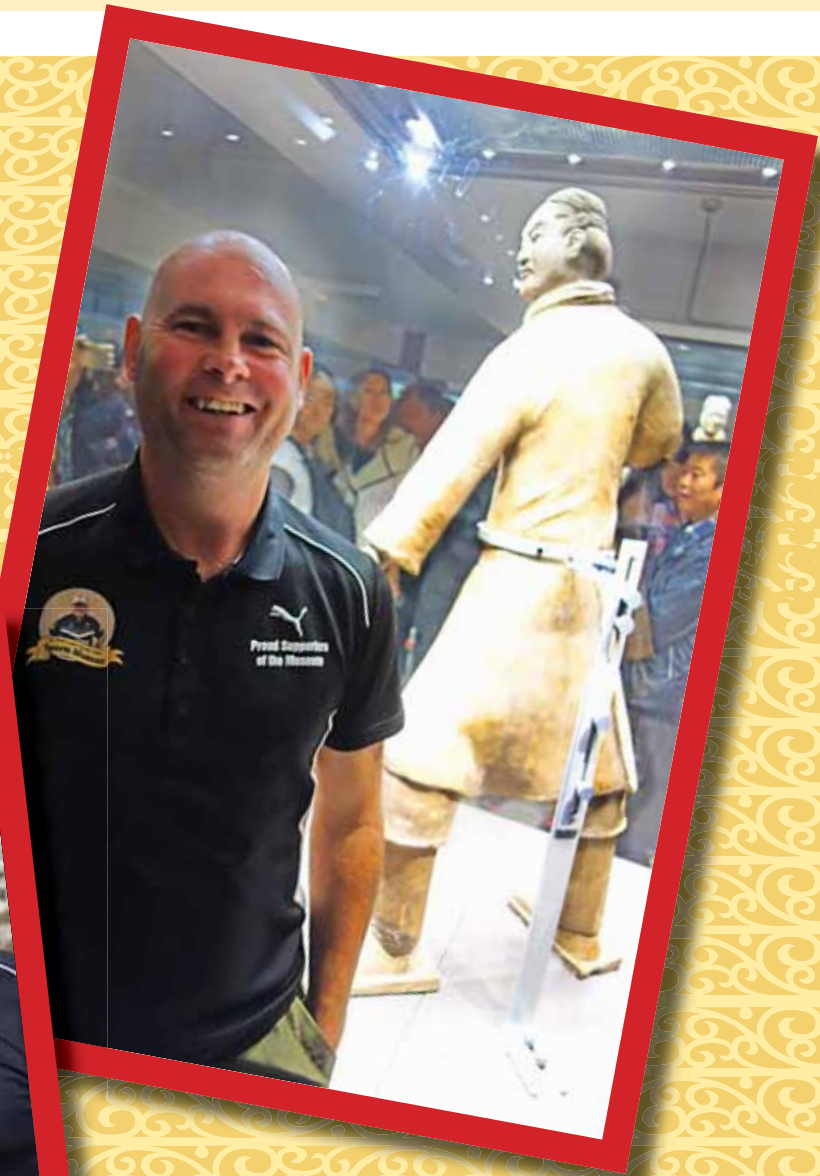
His wife Jen, was at the announcement, which sees him join previous winners: **Hazem El Masri** (2009), **Nathan Hindmarsh** (2010), **Petero Civoniceva** (2011), **Luke Burt** (2012) and **Anthony Minichiello** (2013).

Now in his 11th season, Manu plays his 180th game against the **Bulldogs** in Hamilton on Sunday.

With 125 career tries he has been the **Warriors'** top or equal top try-scorer each of the last seven seasons, and he is leading the charge again this year with seven in eight games.

Here are a few pics from my trip to China, where your 'World Famous in NZ' Sports Museum top enjoyed an outing. First 3 pics are from the Terracotta Warriors, and the final pic is from Tiananmen Square. Enjoy.

Cheers,
Kerry Pearce



Hope you are enjoying the newsletter. If you would like to receive the newsletter directly please email Amelia Wheeler at meelz_79@hotmail.co.nz Or if you would like to **unsubscribe** please **email Amelia** and she will delete you from the list.

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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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