



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



# Newsletter

14 AUGUST 2014  
 #37



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**Top Far Left:** Suaia Matagi charges towards a try. Vodafone Warriors v Cronulla Sharks at Mt Smart Stadium, Sunday 10 August 2014. Photo: Andrew Cornaga / [www.photosport.co.nz](http://www.photosport.co.nz)

**Top Left:** Manu Vatuvei. Photo: Andrew Cornaga / [www.photosport.co.nz](http://www.photosport.co.nz)

**Bottom Far Left:** Ngani Laumape of the Warriors goes in for the try. Photo: Anthony Au-Yeung / [www.photosport.co.nz](http://www.photosport.co.nz)

**Bottom Left:** Ngani Laumape scores his second try. Photo: Andrew Cornaga / [www.photosport.co.nz](http://www.photosport.co.nz)

**Talk about hard-fought. If it was meant to be a cakewalk against the *Sharks*, no one told the bottom-placed side, because they hung on like a dog with a bone and the *Vodafone Warriors* only scrapped home 16-12 at Mt Smart on Sunday.**

I said all week it would not be easy and I was proved right. It was an odd kind of atmosphere, with 14,000 fans in, but they were strangely quiet, perhaps because they were struggling with what they saw.

But credit where it is due, the *Sharks* were amazing on defence, and I can't remember how many times they pulled off try-saving tackles. That meant the *Warriors* failed to score a point in the second half, which contributed to the grumbings.

We were without **Shaun Johnson** and **Konrad Hurrell**, but the *Sharks* copped a blow when inspirational skipper **Paul Gallen** was ruled out, so we can't use that as an excuse.

I was less than impressed with some of the tactics from the *Sharks*, with a couple of nasty incidents, one that left **Dane Nielsen** with a suspected concussion, and a pretty dirty swinging arm in the tackle that **Nathan Friend** did well to escape harm from.

New boy **Tui Lolohea** was also forced off with a

hamstring problem, which meant a big reshuffle, **Simon Mannering** and **Ben Henry**, going into the centres.

But if I have to take winning ugly, I'll do so. The *Sharks* have beaten us in our last five outings, and are a bit of a bogey team. If you don't believe me, just ask **Matt Elliott**, our last coach, who lost his job after we went down 37-6 to them in the first half of the season.

And you have to be able to take the positives. **Ngani Laumape** was outstanding, bagging a double, and **Manu Vatuvei** had one of his best games in a while. He did a lot of work, and still managed to bag a try – number 14 for the year.

## Bring on the Knights

This week we have the *Newcastle Knights* at Hunter Stadium, and it has banana-skin written all over it. We should win, with the *Knights* well below us on the table, but they have plenty to play for, and are fresh off one of the greatest Houdini acts of all time on Saturday, scoring

10 points in the last five minutes, including a try on the buzzer, to beat Melbourne 32-30.

## Sixth and it's as tight as can be

Our result moves us up to sixth, with six teams locked on 26. We are behind the *Cowboys* and *Roosters* but above the *Storm*, *Bulldogs* and *Eels*.

There has never been a tighter race, and the upsets keep coming. *Souths* flogged Manly 23-4, Brisbane belted the *Doggies* 41-10, both having been tipped by the TAB to lose, and the *Cowboys* humiliated the *Tigers* 64-6, and Penrith won 17-4 over the *Dragons*.

I love the business end of the season, so **Go the Mighty Vodafone Warriors!**

## Go the All Blacks too

It would be unpatriotic not to wish the *All Blacks* all the best against the *Wallabies*.

Those Aussies are crowing about being Super Rugby



champions, so they could do with being taken down a peg or two.

Juniors do the deed

The **Vodafone Junior Warriors** shut out the **Cronulla Sharks** 40-0 in their NYC match. That came on the back of a 54-6 romp over Canberra the week before, and saw us climb a spot to seventh. The first half, to be fair, was not up to much, but we looked a whole heap better in the second 40, and the points started to come. This weekend though they face Newcastle, who are leading the comp.

Hooter heartbreak

**Wests Tigers** scored the match-winning try after the siren to hand the **Vodafone Warriors** a 28-22 loss in the New South Wales Cup clash in Sydney. Bashed 42-4 the week before by the **Mounties**, it could not have been crueller, especially after leading 22-6 lead early in the second half. But the **Tigers** fashioned a comeback and tied it all up at 22-22 and a draw looked inevitable until a centre **Jy**

**Hitchcox** scored the match-winning try after the full-time siren had sounded. Having started in sixth, we slipped a place to seventh, one point ahead of eighth-placed Cronulla and only two ahead of Newtown, now ninth.

Kelston takes the final

**Kelston Boys' High School** beat **St Paul's College** 22-16 to win Auckland's **SAS College Rugby League First XIII** grand final at Mt Smart. It must have been sweet after losing the final to the same opponent last year. Kelston are also New Zealand champions, having beaten Mt Albert in the final earlier in the year. Kelston 22 (**Charlie Kaipati, Austin Masiutama, Sam Feleti, Peter Scanlon** tries; **Zion Ioka** 3 conversions). St Paul's 16 (**Xavier Rice, Vasi Leota, James Manoa** tries; **Beau Cordtz** conversion, penalty).

“Tommy” signs on

**Thomas Leuluai** has extended his contract to the end of the 2017 season. While he wasn't off contract until the

end of next year his manager, **Peter Brown**, has worked with the **Warriors** to secure a two-year extension, which will stretch his second stint with us to five seasons. Leuluai said it was important to settle his long-term future. “While I’ve had a frustrating season I couldn’t be happier being back home,” he said. “I always wanted to come back to not only play in the NRL but to play for my original club.” Mate, and we could not be happier to have you! Sunday’s clash against the **Sharks** was Leuluai’s fourth since returning from a three-month lay-off after issues with the groin complaint that ruined his 2013 Rugby League World Cup campaign. He played every minute of the **Vodafone Warriors’** 24 games last year – 1,920 in total – in what was an impressive return.

TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT

There are several line-up changes for Sunday’s game against the **Knights** at Hunter Stadium in Newcastle (4pm NZT). **Shaun Johnson** returns for his 80th NRL appearance after missing three games with a groin injury, and there are two other backline changes – both forced by injury - with **Dane Nielsen** (concussion) and **Tuimoala Lolohea** (hamstring) out. **Konrad Hurrell** is still unavailable so **Ben Henry** comes into the starting line-up and **David Fusitu’a** returns on the right wing. There are also four changes to the starting pack. **Thomas Leuluai** comes in at hooker and **Nathan Friend** goes to the bench. **Jayson Bukuya** and **Ben Matulino** make up the second row and **Simon Mannering** switches to loose forward. Shaun was close last week but coach **Andrew McFadden** didn’t want to risk him, and fair enough He says the changes are all about trying to lift our performance because he felt it wasn’t what it should be against the **Sharks**. The **Knights** have had two outstanding victories in their last two homes games beating the **Roosters** 16-12 and the **Storm** 32-30. And big **Ben Matulino** plays his 149th NRL match on Sunday, leaving him in line to play his 150th when the **Vodafone Warriors** host the **Roosters** on August 24.

LINE UP FOR THE VODAFONE WARRIORS v KNIGHTS  
Hunter Stadium, Newcastle. 4.00pm, Sunday, August 17

- 1 SAM TOMKINS
- 2 DAVID FUSITU’A
- 3 NGANI LAUMAPE
- 4 BEN HENRY
- 5 MANU VATUVEI
- 6 CHAD TOWNSEND
- 7 SHAUN JOHNSON
- 8 JACOB LILLYMAN
- 9 THOMAS LEULUAI
- 10 SUAIA MATAGI
- 11 BEN MATULINO
- 12 JAYSON BUKUYA
- 13 SIMON MANNERING (c)

- Interchange:
- 14 FELETI MATEO
  - 15 SAM RAPIRA
  - 16 SIONE LOUSI
  - 17 NATHAN FRIEND
  - 18 SEBASTINE IKAHIHIFO
  - 21 DOMINIQUE PEYROUX



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MORE SPONSORS ON LAST PAGE...

STACEY JONES LOUNGE  
LUNCH BUFFET MENU

Served from 12.00pm-2.00pm  
\$15.00 per person

COLD SELECTION  
Freshly baked bread roll and butter  
Mix leaf salad with tomato, cucumber, red onion and ranch dressing

HOT SELECTION  
Roast Lamb with garlic and rosemary gravy  
Roast Potato  
Garden peas and carrots





# THE GREATEST WEEKEND IS BACK!

31 JAN & 1 FEB 2015, EDEN PARK, AUCKLAND



**JOIN THE WAITING LIST NOW FOR FIRST CHANCE TO GET TICKETS**

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## DICK SMITH NRL AUCKLAND NINES

### Sat Jan 31 & Sun Feb 01, 2015

### The Greatest Weekend is back!

This two day, nine-per-side knockout tournament extravaganza is returning to Auckland's Eden Park on Saturday, January 31 and Sunday, February 01, 2015.

Witness the world's greatest rugby league stars live, in one place, over one stunning weekend, playing for \$2.6 million dollars in prize money. The games are shorter, the gaps are wider, the action faster and the on-field entertainment unstoppable! With the inaugural 2014 tournament a sell-out, the 2015 event is sure to sell out fast! So round up your friends and family and take your place on the waiting list for tickets to this must attend event now to ensure you too can be part of the fun, festival atmosphere at the Dick Smith NRL Auckland Nines.

**JOIN THE TICKETEK WAITING LIST TODAY for the very first opportunity to buy tickets in the very first exclusive 24 hour pre-sale.**

All you have to do is go to [www.ticketek.co.nz/nrlakl9s](http://www.ticketek.co.nz/nrlakl9s) register your name and contact details and you will be contacted with details of when you can access the exclusive pre-sale period and be part of this exciting weekend!

- *All 16 NRL clubs together in Auckland*
- *288 Star players*
- *31 action packed games over one weekend*
- *9 players per team, 9 minute halves*
- *\$2.6 million in prize money*
- *Star players guaranteed*

For more information on the Dick Smith NRL Auckland Nines visit

[www.nrlaucklandnines.co.nz](http://www.nrlaucklandnines.co.nz)

Follow them on Facebook [nrlakl9s](#) and twitter [nrlakl9s](#)

Laurie Daley, the NSW coach and former player spoke on the day.



Mayor Len Brown announces the Auckland Nines event next Summer.



Shaun, coach Andrew and Tuimoala answer questions from the media.



Len Brown looks up to Shaun Johnson at the press conference.



Shaun and Tuimoala lolhea hold up the banner for the press.



THE  
UNUSUALIST

THE  
DECEPTIONIST

THE  
FUTURIST

THE  
MASTER MAGICIAN

THE  
WARRIOR

THE  
TRICKSTER

THE  
MANIPULATOR

THE NEXT GENERATION OF MAGIC HAS ARRIVED



# THE ILLUSIONISTS 2.0

'UTTERLY THRILLING' The Daily Telegraph

***THE FUTURE OF MAGIC  
HAS ARRIVED!***

***2 to 13 September  
Live at The Civic, Auckland***

The next generation of magic is coming to town! ***THE ILLUSIONISTS 2.0*** – a stunning sequel to the box-office smashing 2013 season of The Illusionists – is announced for Auckland's The Civic theatre this September.

Featuring seven masters of mental and optical illusion, ***THE ILLUSIONISTS 2.0*** is a brand new production that will propel New Zealand audiences into the future of magic and illusion, using cutting-edge visual effects.

A fast-paced, high-energy powerhouse performance, ***THE ILLUSIONISTS 2.0*** gives audiences the chance to witness the magical genius of the world's greatest stars and their genre, each with a unique skill that has won them countless fans globally.

Whether it's the deadly arts of The Warrior, or the high-risk tricks and stunts of The Deceptionist, ***THE ILLUSIONISTS 2.0*** will leave audiences rubbing their eyes in disbelief. Edgy, exciting and most of all fun, it's the perfect live entertainment show.

***'Forget abracadabra and rabbits jumping out of hats because The Illusionists 2.0 will make you question whether Harry Potter really is the chosen one.'*** Adelaide Advertiser

PEOPLE WHO PURCHASED TICKETS TO THE FIRST SEASON OF THE ILLUSIONISTS WILL HAVE EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO TICKETS THIS FRIDAY. THE TICKETMASTER AND AUCKLAND LIVE PRE SALES START ON MONDAY 16 JUNE AND GENERAL PUBLIC CAN PURCHASE AS OF THURSDAY 19 JUNE.

**VENUE** The Civic

**SEASON** From Tuesday 2 September to Saturday 13 September

**TIMES** Tues & Sun, 6.30pm, Wed to Sat 7.30pm,  
Matinees – Sat, 2.30pm, Sun, 1pm

**BOOKINGS** 0800 111 999 or [ticketmaster.co.nz](http://ticketmaster.co.nz)

**TICKETS** From \$69.90\*  
Family and Under 16 ticket prices available.



# Meet the Magicians



## THE MASTER MAGICIAN – LUIS DE MATOS

He's the king of conjuring, a superhero of stage illusion. Prepare to be astonished as one of the most renowned magicians of all time pushes the boundaries of the believable with a series of spectacular tricks and stunts that will redefine your idea of what is real.

Hailing from Portugal, he's a multi-award-winning performer and host of the BBC's "The Magicians" – a superstar of sorcery and a maestro of mentalism with a flair for the theatrical. His use of cutting-edge video techniques makes him truly one of a kind. You'll be bewitched by The Master Magician!



## THE WARRIOR – AARON CROW

He's the ultimate strong, silent type – the man who has mastered some of the most dangerous acts of mentalism on stage without uttering a single word!

Using swords, paintball guns and highly powerful crossbows, Belgium's foremost international magic sensation creates acts that are as unusual as they are entertaining, leaving you on the edge of your seat in anticipation. Little wonder he took the planet by storm after winning first place at the World Championships of Magic. Prepare to defend

yourself against The Warrior.



## THE DECEPTIONIST – JAMES MORE

He's dark, handsome and a master of modern magic – combining a powerful stage presence with an outstanding talent for the art of illusion.

One of the rising stars of the scene, this British-born, enigmatic character has a smart, slick approach, delivering fast-paced, high-risk tricks and stunts that have been witnessed by millions of people around the world. His many charms have seen him win over international audiences through appearances on major television shows that include ITV's primetime entertainment extravaganza, Fool Us, where he performed for Penn & Teller and Jonathan Ross. Prepare to fall for the dark arts of The Deceptionist.



## THE MANIPULATOR – YU HO-JIN

He's renowned as one of the most masterful sleight-of-hand artists in the world, with dazzling dexterity and the ability to fool even the fastest eye. You'll never figure out how he does it, because he'll always keep his secrets up his sleeve.

Originally from South Korea, he has conquered stages

around the world, winning multiple international illusion competitions, the highlight being 2012's FISM – the Golden Globes of the magic community. His act has become the benchmark of illusion.

Now you see it, now you don't – meet The Manipulator.



## THE FUTURIST – ADAM TRENT

He's a star for a new generation of magic fans, fusing classic techniques, dancing, comedy and technology in a show that shatters stereotypes for those who think they've seen it all.

His edgy, fun style has been described as 'Justin Timberlake meets David Copperfield' and has put him on a fast-track to global fame. He's performed more than 300 live shows in 19 different countries over the past year and his star is still rising, with two major television shows set to air in the United States this October. He's the next big thing – bring on The Futurist.



## THE TRICKSTER – JEFF HOBSON

The showman of all showmen returns to Auckland, he stole everyone's hearts and a few watches last time and now he is back trickier than ever.

The host of Las Vegas and is the epitome of glamour and showmanship. He leaves audiences laughing long after

the curtain goes down. Don't be fooled by his innocent appearance.

The Trickster will get you every time...!

*"Hobson steals the show like a slick bank robber."*  
New York Daily News

*"A whirlwind of fabulousness that simply cannot be contained."* Las Vegas Review Journal



## THE UNUSUALIST – RAYMOND CROWE

He'll make you laugh, cheer and gasp. He's a home-grown hero – an entertainer extraordinaire of the most

unconventional kind. Magician, comedian, mime artist, inventor and master of illusion, he's a multifaceted Aussie genius who keeps you guessing until the last moment. He's performed alongside Bon Jovi and Russell Brand, and for David Letterman, earned a standing ovation from more than 3,000 magicians at an international convention, and was the only Australian chosen to perform on the famous NBC television special, *The World's Greatest Magic*. Expect a rare treat with The Unusualist.

# SUNDAY IN THE LOUNGE



Paul Chandrachul having a chat with Sir Peter.



Winner of the William Aitken Grocery Hamper. Greg Currie and Sir Peter.



William Liu and Paul Chandrachul with Sir Peter (for both, it was their first Warriors match).



Paul Chandrachul (An Indian living in China) and Sir Peter.





**Guests on the podium with Sir Peter: Gino...**

**Marcus...**

**and Dharam.**



**Keegan saying a few words....**

**Lorraine and Dave McKee with Bill Wavish...**

**Don Eagle with Sir Peter**



**Don Eagle...**

**Young Luke faces the mic...**

**the Mad Butcher from Mangere – Steve**



**Shane Boggs with Sir Peter**

**Peter Taylor and Peter Heron.**

**Luke and Emma with Sir Peter**



**Sir Peter with German girl Alina.**

**Arthur sings to Alina!**

**Sir Peter with Konrad Hurrell & Shaun Johnson**





A Cronulla Sharks supporter.



Shaun Johnstone with Sir Peter.



Mike Brown and Douglas West.



Shirley (Kerry's mum), Kerry and Gillian.



Kerry, Gillian and family.

Our man Dexter,  
looking fantastic  
at the Sharks game.



Dexter and the Police Choir.



Dexter leads the Police Choir.



## Hornby Panthers 13 yrs

Canterbury Rugby League 13's Grand Final  
Hornby Panthers 26 - 16 win over Aranui Eagles

The boys finished an incredible year winning the grand prize, with an amazing game, thrilling all the supporters  
Now with smiles and medals ablaze they are looking forward to their next game against the Papatoetoe Panthers when they head north in a fun filled weekend which will include the NZRL Museum and the **Warriors vs The Roosters** game

Cheers  
Woody





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# BRAVE HEART FIGHT NIGHT

**ASB STADIUM, KOHIMARAMA  
FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST 2014**

**DOORS OPEN 5.45PM \* FIRST FIGHT 6.30PM**

## FIGHT CARD

1. LOMITUSI LOMI (BLUE) vs ANTON BALSOM (FIRE)
2. DAN TOLOA (BLUE) vs ALEX SITEINE (FIRE)
3. DON TAUFA (BLUE) vs LOGAN MARTIN (FIRE)
4. TAKAO COCKER (BLUE) vs TAITO FEAGAI (ARMY)
5. JAMES RUSSELL (FIRE) vs TOM SUMNER-CUMMINS (ARMY)
6. MAHIA MORTON (NAVY) vs SAMANTHA SCOTT (ARMY)
7. LEON MALLARD (FIRE) vs ARAM RAOF-KARIM (ARMY)
8. BEVIN JAMES (FIRE) vs TREMAYNE BASSETT (ARMY)
9. ROSS COLLETT (BLUE) vs TOM COLLETT (NAVY)

**DRESS CODE: FORMAL GA TICKETS: \$25**

**VIP TABLES: INCLUDES MEAL & BEVERAGES**

**10 SEATS PER TABLE: SILVER: \$1200 & GOLD: \$1500**



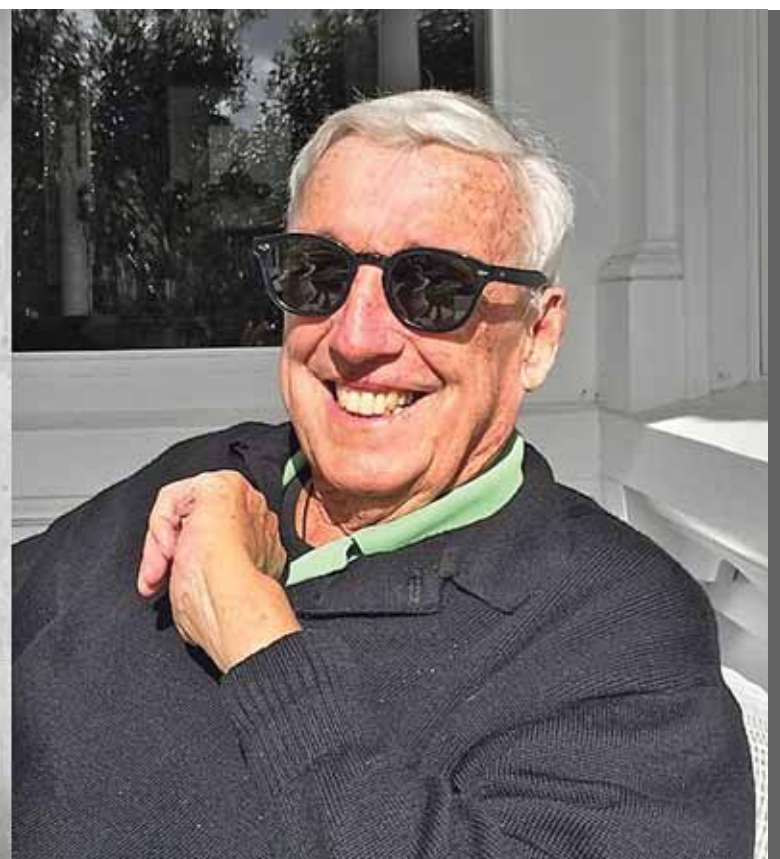
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [WWW.EVENTFINDA.CO.NZ](http://WWW.EVENTFINDA.CO.NZ)  
Or at New Flava Barbers 43 Charles Street, Papatoetoe (Cash only)

**AFTER PARTY TOTO'S MONTE CRISTO, 53 NELSON STREET, AUCKLAND CITY  
11PM - 4AM : COMPLIMENTARY TOTO'S PIZZA SERVED. DJ MEYERZ ON THE DECKS.**

<http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2014/brave-heart-fight-night/auckland/kohimarama>

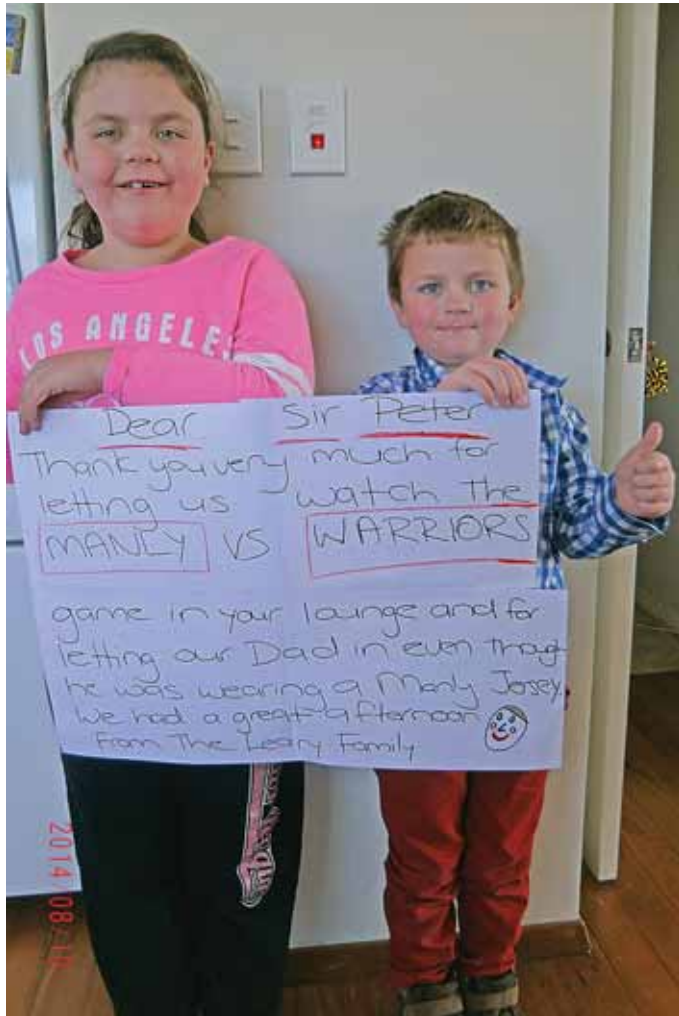
Rugby league and I lost a good mate last week with the passing of David Robinson, a top bloke and a man that over the years had done so much for our game. RIP, my friend and mate.

In loving memory of  
**David Robinson**  
Owner & Chairman of  
Autex, NZRL Life Member  
27.03.1937 - 08.08.2014





# A few items of interest...



The message on the card reads:

“Dear Sir Peter

Thank you very much for letting us watch the MANLY vs WARRIORS game in your lounge and for letting our Dad in even though he was wearing a Manly jersey. We had a great afternoon.

From the Leary family.”



**WARRIORS WIN OVER SHARKS**



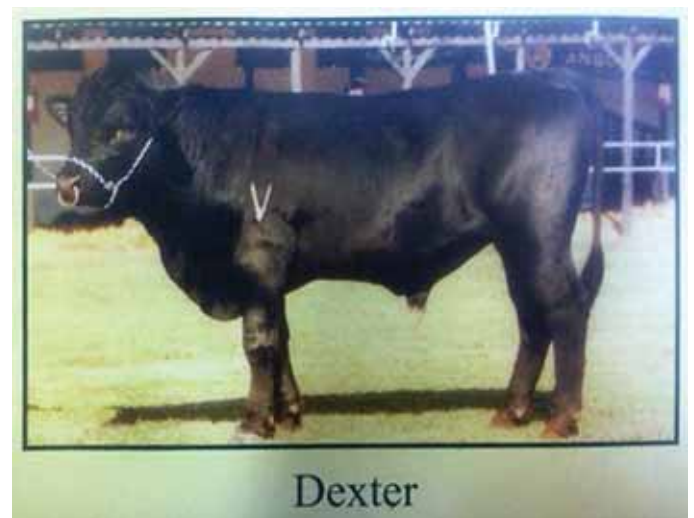
**ONE MORE from the Lounge! Me with Solomone Kata and Konrad Hurrell.**



**Trevor, M8 and Konrad Hurrell. Sharing the love.**



**Me with two happy Lounge visitors. Whatever happens on the field, there's always a good time in the Lounge!**



**My mate Dexter, is becoming quite famous, having bulls named after him!**



**Dan, Dan and Michael in Fiji in party mood...**



**Love this situation! Should have parked all day!**



# Don't miss your Big League Read!



THIS WEEK, IN THE ROUND 23 ISSUE OF BIG LEAGUE... ON SALE THURS, AUG 14

PARRAMATTA FANS BELIEVE THEIR TEAM CAN FLY AGAIN, WE COMPARE THEIR RECENT RUN TO THE ONE THAT TOOK THEM TO THE GRAND FINAL IN 2009.

## FEATURES

- Pirtek Stadium is starting rumble and **Jarryd Hayne** spearheads another possible **Parramatta** dream run. Their stats are stacking up and looking even better than in 2009.
- He was ousted from Canberra early last season and now **Josh Dugan** finally returns to play where it all began. He hit rock bottom when it came to end but he's learnt from it and moved on and ready to face his former fans.
- On the field he's a terrifying enforcer, off it he's a loving father who loves the simple things in life. Matt Logue spent some down time with Knight **Beau Scott** and learnt about the softer side to one of league's toughest characters.
- **TOP 8:** In the Close the Gap Round we take a look at the best Indigenous talent coming through the grades.
- **BIG READ: Close the Gap.** Far from a throwaway token round, Greg Inglis fronts this year's campaign and says it's plays crucial role in raising awareness by breaking down barriers between cultures so better education can be achieved.

## PLUS

Off-contract Sharks players in limbo as they wait for Flanno's return; *Damien Lovelock* reflects on his formative years following a battling Easts team; *Canberra By Numbers*; *Who's That Kid?* Penrith's Kierran Moseley; *Big Clash*: Rabbitohs v Broncos match preview; *Adam MacDougall* rides the highs of lows of supporting a rugby league team.

**GAME DAY:** Official team lists for Telstra Premiership, Holden Cup, VB NSW Cup, Intrust Super Cup, Ron Massey Cup; lower grade reviews; Little League; Panthers v Titans cheerleaders.

Contact details: Editorial – [fiona.bollen@news.com.au](mailto:fiona.bollen@news.com.au)

Advertising: [bowie.phillips@news.com.au](mailto:bowie.phillips@news.com.au)



## THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

On sale at newsagents, supermarkets and at the ground from  
**Thursday, Aug 14.**

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JUST  
2  
MORE!



Two wise men watching the game. Don, our GM, and Wayne, our CEO.



Dexter, me and the amazing Police Choir.

**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](mailto: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.



**David Kemeys**  
Editor at Large



**Peter Leitch**  
Editor



**Rex Harrison**  
Graphic Designer



**Amelia**  
Circulation

