



Kiwis UK Tour Special

Newsletter

6th November 2015

#97

No advertisements are paid for in this newsletter.

Kiwis Test Débutantes



Jordan Kahu



Kodi Nikorima



Siosua Takeiaho



Tui Lolohea

Test débutantes received their test jerseys from former Kiwi James Leuluai.

1st Test - Kiwis vs England



New Zealand perform the Haka..



England's Tom Burgess is tackled by New Zealand's Sam Moea and Ben Matulino.



England's Tom Burgess is tackled by New Zealand's Sam Moea.



England's Zak Hardaker facing some formidable Kiwis.



Issac Luke on the move.



Roger Tuivasa-Sheck.

Hull Turns It On

SINCE THE last newsletter we are safely back from France, where I have to say the Catalan Dragons looked after us superbly.

We were based just outside of Hull at the Forest Pines Hotel and Golf Resort.

Hull have long association with New Zealand, with many great names of our game having played here, men like James Leuluai, Gary Kemble, Dane O'Hara, Stephen Kearney, Hitro Okesene, Sam Moea, Fred Ah Kuoi, Jason Temu, Motu Tony, Sione Faumuina, Iafeta Palea'aesina, Richard Swain, Tevita Vaikona, Logan Campbell, Aaron Heremaia, David Maea and Hutch Maiava.

On the Thursday we trained at the Hull club's training ground, courtesy of Hull general manager Motu Tony, and I have to say the former Warrior and Kiwi could not do enough for us.

It was a pleasure to be in his company because we have a very strong bond that goes back to his time in the Kiwis in 2005 when I was the footy manager, and of course at the Warriors.

I was mightily impressed by the number of fans who turned up to see the boys go through their paces at the training session.

We were also lucky enough to be the guest of Hull RLFC at their 150 year anniversary dinner, where the club had flown in one of their favourite sons, the great James Leuluai. It was a fantastic night and a privilege to be included.

Test Dinner Was Awesome Event

Before every Kiwis test a special test dinner is held, and before the first test James Leuluai was our

special guest, and handed out the test jerseys.

James was nicknamed The Finisher when he played for the Kiwis, he was awesome as a player, and the current crop of Kiwis were hanging on his every word, especially after watching footage of him in action, and seeing for themselves what a gifted player he was.

He is of course the father of Vodafone Warrior and Kiwi Thomas Leuluai, and also the uncle of Leeds Rhinos prop Kylie Leuluai, who played against us in the warm-up match.

And here is a fact for you, I love the bloke to bits because he even coached, and this was in 2011, the Mighty Mangere East Hawks.

The test dinners are very special. All the players dress in their best team gear and it is quite a formal do. The table is always set in a square, with the coaches, captains, co-captains and guest speaker at the top table.

The players are called one by one to receive their test jerseys, and of course this particular dinner will be a very special one for our four debutants.

It is a moment they will never forget, that is for sure.

KIWIS TEST DINNER

ENGLAND TOUR, 1ST TEST
MATCH

NEW ZEALAND KIWIS
v
ENGLAND

JAMES LEULUAI

Kiwi No. 547, 29 Tests (1979-86)

James Leuluai was born in 1957 and played his junior football at centre/fullback for Mt Wellington.

After representing Auckland and the NZ Maori, he made his international debut for New Zealand in 1979 in a home series against Great Britain and went on to play 29 tests, scoring 14 tries.

Leuluai played five games in Sydney for Manly in 1985, but carved his reputation in the England competition, beginning with five seasons at Hull FC (1981-86). He debuted for the club alongside fellow Kiwis Dane O'Hara and Gary Kemble against Castleford, helping them win the Challenge Cup in a final replay and also finish runners-up on the championship table behind Leigh.

Hull won the title in 1983 and, in the Challenge Cup semi-final against Castleford, Leuluai scored a try that the Yorkshire Post described as one of the greatest solo efforts of all time, leaving four opponents in his wake and racing half the field untouched.

With Australian legend Peter Sterling joining the club, Hull finished runners-up again in 1984, before falling to Wigan 28-24 in arguably the greatest ever Challenge Cup final in 1985, with Leuluai scoring two tries.

He scored 20 tries through that season and in 1986, along with O'Hara and Kemble, Leuluai forced a change in the rules that meant long-serving "imports" no longer counted as overseas players.

But by the time his initial stint with Hull ended, the club had slid down the competition table. He switched to Leigh on loan for most of the 1986/87 season, before returning to Hull and then played 51 games over two seasons at Wakefield Trinity.

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In 1990/91, Leuluai moved to Ryedale-York, before ending his UK career at Doncaster and returning to New Zealand, where he helped Wellington defeat Auckland for the first time in 75 years.

Turning to coaching, he guided the Junior Kiwis in 2002 and assisted Daniel Anderson with the Kiwis between 2003-05.

He applied for the head coaching role in 2005, but withdrew for personal reasons and Brian McClellan duly led the national side to Tri-Nations success (with me as manager).

In 2007, Leuluai applied again, but lost out to his old team-mate Kemble, who he then assisted.



English Sort My Ears!

Such is my bond with Motu Tony that he organised something that blew me away. I had been having trouble with my ears. It was quite painful and I was moaning about it to him.

Well I saw him one morning and he said: "In the car Butch." Before I knew it I was being introduced to an ear, nose and throat specialist named – rather appropriately – Mr English.

The Kiwis team doctor had done all he could for me, but this was a top local specialist in a private clinic. He sorted me out, vacuuming my ears and doing one or two other bits.

I spent a bit of time chatting to him, and when I left, and went to pay, he said there was no charge. "We can't charge this man," he told his staff, "he is too nice."

It absolutely floored me. I am a 71-year-old man and I have never known a specialist treat me and refuse payment before that is for sure.

To be fair, I have had my share of medical problems and you do meet the odd specialist who is a bit toffee-nosed, but Mr English was completely down to earth. It was a pleasure to meet such a wonderful man.

Test Fails To Go To Plan

Despite the fantastic build-up the first test just did not go to plan, the Kiwis starting well but wilting in the second half when England came out fired up, to run out 26-12 winners in front of a sold-out KC Stadium.

Talk about the highs and lows of sport.

Everyone in the Kiwis camp was over the moon for the All Blacks after their sensational Rugby World Cup final win the day before, but did we come back down to earth with bump.

But if Australia taught us something after that rugby game, it was to lose with good grace and humility.

England were the better side and we looked off the pace, that is all there is to it.

The traditional blame the ref thing happened pretty quickly, with lots of fans unhappy with the performance of the ref, who caned us in the penalty count, but I thought he did well.

We might be down, but the spirit

in the camp is good and we have the chance to redeem the situation, with two tests to come.

We have a fair bit of work to do that is for sure, because England won comfortably, and it was a great performance from them, coming from 10-0 down at one point.

Test two is at the Olympic Stadium in London and England will be coming in on a high, and looking to wrap up the series.

But that is the beauty of sport, there is always a chance to set the record straight.

Rugby Cheers Us Up

To be fair, there was only one game at the weekend that captured the imagination of the nation and that was the Rugby World Cup final, and what a game it was.

Back to back rugby world champions after our All Blacks smashed the Wallabies 34-17.

I was so delighted for Dan Carter. Four years ago he was cruelly ruled out of playing the final at Eden Park by injury, and even though he won a World Cup medal, the fact he did not play that final clearly niggled at him.

And he was sensational.

I do not profess to know anything about rugby, but even I know knocking over penalties from halfway, sideline conversions, impromptu dropkicks and making more tackles than any first-five should have to, made him a stand-out.

Wonder where all the knockers are now, you know the ones, those who were all over Radio Sport banging on about Dad's Army.

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The old guard, Ma'a Nonu, Richie McCaw, Carter, Conrad Smith and Keven Mealamu were all great.

But it was a total performance and league-mad nut that I am, I could not be more pleased.

What has been achieved is still sinking in, the first team to win three times, the first All Black team to win outside of New Zealand, the first side to win back to back...it just does not get any better.

Well it did actually, and only hours later, with the All Blacks picking up a raft of awards at the International Rugby Awards. You won't find anyone who argues they don't deserve it.



We Could Do With More Support

I was disappointed with the number of emails the Kiwis got to cheer them on. You probably think it does not make much difference, but I can tell you that it does. This newsletter alone goes out to thousands of people, yet we only got about 20 emails. Lift your game subscribers!

You can send the Kiwis good wishes for the second test this weekend by emailing: nadene@nzrl.co.nz

Long Haul From Hull To London

If it is not bad enough getting beaten in the first test, it is a long journey from Hull to London by coach. We complain like crazy about the traffic in Auckland, but I have not seen anything like this.

It was bumper to bumper and in fact it got so bad that we decided to abandon the bus when we reached I do not know where, but in the inner city somewhere, in favour of the tube.

Thanks to my travelling companion and number one granddaughter Kristen, we left the bus and headed for the Underground.

It was like a military operation and two different trains later we made it to our hotel. The bus did not make it for another 90 minutes.

Straight Into Action

The day after our travel nightmare it was straight into it, with a promotional appearance. It was one of those sessions the players love, and why not, all they had to do was tour London by sightseeing double-decker bus. It was terrific outing and there was not a word of complaint from anyone. Great fun and a joy to see the look on the faces of the players as they took in sights like Tower Bridge and Big Ben.

Training At A posh School

With so much to work on after the first test it was quickly back to work and we had a training session at the famous Harrow School.

Harrow is an English school for boys in the town of Harrow, in north-west London. There is some evidence there has been a school on the site since 1243, but the Harrow School of today was formally founded in 1572, one of the

original 10 public schools.

There are about 800 boys across 12 boarding houses, and the uniform still includes straw hats, morning suits, top hats and canes. Its former pupils include British PMs Churchill, Baldwin, Peel, and Palmerston, foreign statesmen, former and current members of Parliament, two Kings and several other members of various royal families, 20 Victoria Cross and one George Cross holder.

The good news is that Harrow does take overseas students, so I got the skinny on fees in case you want to send your loved one. It costs £12,050 a term (£36,150 a year – so convert that to Kiwi dollars). That includes board, tuition, textbooks, a stationery allowance and laundry.

We did not get a huge crowd for training, so that was bit disappointing. It is a long way out of London, and there was a huge downpour beforehand, but the boys still enjoyed it very much.

Right To The Top

I got to meet my old mate the former TV star and MP Sir Lockwood Smith. These days he is New Zealand's High Commissioner and he invited the team to a reception at New Zealand House right in the centre of Westminster.

It was a good event and the boys loved it, not least the amazing view over the city, including Buckingham Palace, from the windows high above London.



Time For A spot Of Bonding

It sounds wonderful doing all this stuff and being on tour, but I tell you what, in truth it gets a bit boring, the novelty of hotels soon wears off, and everyone misses their loved ones.

That makes it critical that those on tour get on together and bond well.

The other night all the management team disappeared, and we found a little local pub and had a great meal. It was as close to home-cooked as we are likely to get, and it was delight because as I say, hotel food wears thin pretty quickly.

The players, at the instigation of co-captain Adam Blair, took themselves off to have a bit of rest and recreation, and they came back to the hotel saying they had found a nice little restaurant that had

looked after them really well and treated them like stars.

Must have been a nice little earner for the restaurant too, because these boys take a bit of filling up!

Captain's Run Next On The Schedule

Come Friday and the boys will be absolutely focused on the second test at the Olympic Stadium. Before the game of course is the captain's run, and the test dinner.

So don't forget to tune in to the live coverage on Sky, or to send that email!

Talk to you next week, and hopefully we will have a win to talk about and a chance to take the series in the third and final test the following weekend.

Big Game All Sorted

The game's finest Indigenous play-

ers will clash with a new World All Stars team after a revamp of the Rugby League All Stars concept. NRL Football Head Todd Greenberg says next year's match, to be played on February 13 at Suncorp, will feature the Indigenous All Stars against the newly-termed World All Stars, featuring a minimum of four players each from Australia, New Zealand and England, with the remainder made up from Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, PNG and France.

The Australia, New Zealand and England captains will be automatic selections for the team, which will be selected by Wayne Bennett, and which will include at least one player – and a maximum of two – from each NRL club.

Tickets to the 2016 match are on sale now at www.nrl.com/tickets.

1st Test - Kiwis vs England



England's James Graham is tackled by New Zealand's Martin Taupau.



England's Liam Farrell is tackled by New Zealand's Kevin Proctor and Dean Whare.

At the Test



Me and my granddaughter at the test.



The crowd at the first test was a full house.



Look who was staying in our hotel in London KEITH Quinn that famous rugby commentator.

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ON TOUR



Traffic in the heart of London. We got off the coach and caught the tube.



Riding the Tube.



Follow the leader catching the underground tube.



Assistant coach, David Kidwell, working away on the coach on the way to London.



A new experience for the Butcher doing his own washing just goes to show you're never too old to learn!



Brent Gemmell tucks into his Ribs at local restaurant in London.



Caught up with Ricky Okay from Auckland at Harrows training a massive Vodafone Warriors fan and the Pirtek Kiwis fan.



Caught up with this guy (Jeff NELLEY) at training at Harrow originally from Tokoroa now living in the UK Loves his Te shirt.



Grant the Kiwis media manager doing his thing in the teams hotel foyer.



Just caught up with a great mate Ross Munro in the team hotel in London Ross is a top bloke and a great mate.



St Georges Primary RC School were fortunate enough to be present to watch the NZ team train at Harrow boys school.



Nick and Laura who won a trip on Radio Sport to come to the second test return flights and accommodation courtesy of NRL and Air New Zealand. Last night they had dinner with the team..

Thousands Turn Out to Welcome Their Heroes to Hull!

THERE HAS long been a strong association in rugby league circles between New Zealand and Hull and that was more apparent than ever when the Kiwis returned to the UK recently.

Led by former Hull FC favourites Stephen Kearney and Sam Moa, the touring party were welcome with open arms in East Yorkshire, ahead of the opening match of the Autumn International Test series, as well as joining in the club's high profile 150th anniversary celebrations.

Hull FC are one of rugby league's oldest teams and a founder of the sport as we know it today and throughout their history they have become home to a host of notable Kiwi stars such as Gary Kemple, Dane O'Hara and Freddie Ah Kuoi.

Another of those heroes is James Leuluai, a member of Hull FC's Hall of Fame, who flew in from New Zealand to attend the club's 150th anniversary event, alongside Kearney, Moa, the Kiwi Test squad and England head coach, Steve McNamara.

The event also celebrated ten years on from the club's memorable 25-24 Challenge Cup Final victory over Leeds, with members of the victorious team also in attendance.

The winning side on that day boasted a number of Kiwi stars including Kearney himself, hooker Richard Swain and utility back Motu Tony, who scored on the day and is still at the club as Football Manager.

Earlier in the day, Kearney and Moa were greeted by a hero's welcome when the New Zealand Test squad arrived at Hull FC's training

ground for a pre-game training session, ahead of captain's run at the KC Stadium.

A large crowd of nearly one thousand people packed out the facility as the squad were put through their paces ahead of the first game against England.

Many of the fans had turned out to see popular ex-Hull FC star Moa, who spent four seasons with the club before returning to the NRL with Sydney Roosters.

"We trained today at Hull FC's ground and all the boys were impressed with the quality of the facilities," he said.

"It just shows how much the club has progressed over the last few years since I was there.

"We were surprised how similar the facility was to the ones back home in the NRL. The gym was top class with all the different rooms and equipment we required. The club deserve credit for creating it."

He continued: "I enjoyed my time there and I still have a great relationship with the club. Hull FC gave me a chance when no one else would.

"I wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't of had the opportunity to come over to Hull to play regular Super League football."

One local amateur side also received a special treat with an impromptu visit by the Kiwi squad, following Hull FC's anniversary evening.

Hull Wyke Under 9s, recently named the UK's best community club by the RFL, performed a haka on stage in tribute to their touring heroes before meeting them

outside Hull City Hall.

In a wonderful sporting gesture, the Kiwis insisted on stopping the team coach as it left the event to jump off and meet the young children as they were collected by their parents.

Coach Kearney admits it was special to be back in Hull. He said: "It's been wonderful to be back in Hull and to bring the boys to the city.

"It's been lovely to catch up with some old faces. Winning the Cup was brilliant and brought so much joy to the fans.

"To taste success and share that with the locals was great.

"Motu Tony was part of that team and has helped us prepare for the Test series.

He added: "We are very grateful to use the club's facilities and to see the fans come out and watch us train was great."

As for the game itself, there was a huge roar from the home faithful as Hull favourite Moa got on the scoreboard for the Kiwis on Sunday evening, although he couldn't prevent his side going down to a 26-12 loss at a vibrant KC Stadium.

The next clash between England and New Zealand comes this Saturday at the Olympic Stadium in London, the first ever rugby league match to be played at the new stadium, which was built for the 2012 Olympic Games.

The Kiwis leave Hull having made some lasting memories for local rugby league fans young and old.

Mathew Newton, Media Executive, Hull FC

Fans in Hull



Hull FC 100th Anniversary Event



Kiwis Fans

WHILST ON my visit to Leeds I was lucky enough to meet and befriend a couple of lovely young ladies who are mother and daughter who have such passion for the Kiwis, the All Blacks and New Zealand.

Leanne and Charlotte Carter attended the training session at the Rhinos training ground in Kirkstall and from the moment they said "Good Morning" it was very apparent of their dedication for being such loyal fans.

They told me of their love for the game of rugby and have followed the Kiwis and the All Blacks for as long as they can both remember and also have family living in New Zealand, Charlotte will hopefully be holidaying in Auckland next year and Leanne hopes one day to follow!!

As you can see from the photos the girls had a wonderful time meeting the players both at the training session and again at the game against the Rhinos.

They wish everyone all the best with all future games and events.



Richard Wetherell on Being a Rugby League Fan in England

IT ISN'T easy being in a rugby league fan at the best of times. Being a rugby league fan in London the past month or so has been especially tricky - although given my Leeds team won the treble I have had more than enough to enjoy..

When I saw, via several links and Twitter feeds, that the Kiwis were holding an open training session at Harrow school I knew I had to go. I had been thoroughly impressed by their demeanour at Headingley where they could easily have gone back to the dressing room after the match with Leeds but hung around through photos, speeches and presentations to perform an unforgettable Haka to us in the South Stand. It made an emotional night, bidding farewell to Sinfield, Peacock and Leuluai, as well as Morley and Lautiiti, even more special.

I always enjoy watching high-class players practise and the skill and speed of the Kiwis was never going to disappoint but the highlight was explaining to a bunch of schoolkids who had just been at the nearby pool precisely who they were; who was the best; which one was the boss; what they were doing; where the Olympic Stadium was; where Wembley was; that no, they weren't in a league but they are No1 in the world and that they're playing England on Saturday at 2.30 on BBC1. So if anyone who used to go to St George's Catholic school in Harrow tells you they started to follow rugby league because they saw the Kiwis in 2015 I'm glad to have helped.

Richard Wetherell

Kiwis Need to Heed Lesson from 1947

By John Coffey QSM



MUCH HAS been made of the 2015 Kiwis fronting up to England without injured first-choice halfbacks Shaun Johnson and Kieran Foran after rejecting Benji Marshall as an experienced option in an hour of need. Even more pressure is likely to be lumped upon rookie halves Peta Hiku and Tuimoala Lolohea in the all-important second Test at London this weekend after the disappointing 26-12 loss at Hull.

This is an incredibly similar situation to that which prevailed during the 1947-48 Kiwis tour of Britain, when All Black-turned-Kiwi scrum-half Jimmy Haig broke a leg in the opening match and top-ranked stand-off Abbie Graham suffered a serious knee injury a week later. Before the second Test at Swinton both their understudies, Rex Cunningham (who had courageously played six games in 15 days) and Des Barchard, were also injured.

Upon hearing of the injury crisis among his countrymen, Ces Mountford, who had joined Wigan from the West Coast the previous year and was earning rave reviews as one of the best inside backs in Britain, persuaded his club to release him to the Kiwis. But, presumably out of loyalty to the touring players, the management turned down his offer, just as Marshall was to be turned away 68 years later.

Captained by Canterbury front-row forward Pat Smith, the Kiwis had lost the first Test only 11-10 at Leeds, victims of a late Great Britain try, despite being rank outsiders. That close result was a confidence-booster for the second Test, even if the Kiwis were forced to field a makeshift halfback pairing of West Coast loose forward Ken Mountford (brother of Ces) and Auckland centre Len Jordan.

It was a different game back then, and to fully comprehend the enormity of the Kiwis' 10-7 victory one must also consider the scrum figures. There were so many scrums that it is not surprising statistics differed between publications. The News of the World credited British hooker Joe Egan with winning the scrums 54-15; in his book of the tour E M Gibson made it 74-16! Both agreed the home side had the ball from about 30 of 35 second-half scrums.

All that time the Kiwis desperately defended a 10-point halftime advantage achieved through tries to West Coasters Jack (Nippy) Forrest and John (Chang) Newton. Left wing Forrest ran 50 yards

after latching onto a cross-field kick by Jordan, and Newton's try was even more spectacular. It was so good that British-based Australian official Harry Sunderland dubbed it "the greatest in 40 years of Test football". One newspaper even published a diagram of it.

It started when Charlie McBride scooped up a loose ball on his own 25-yard line. He relayed it to the backs, Jordan, Ron McGregor and Forrest. The latter handed back to McGregor on halfway, and he passed to fellow centre Morrie Robertson. Meanwhile, forwards Smith and Newton had rumbled down the centre of the field. Smith received the ball from Robertson and gave it to Newton, who had enough momentum over the last 25 yards to score between the posts. Thirty thousand spectators gave them a standing ovation.

Outstanding Auckland fullback Warwick Clarke's conversion and penalty goal had the Kiwis leading 10-0 at the break. Gibson's halftime scrum count was 44-12 to Egan – the Great Britain captain and a Wigan club mate of Ces Mountford – whose hooking prowess was such that fellow players would gladly have carried him from scrum to scrum. Even having prop Smith swap positions with starting hooker Bob Aynsley did not stem the one-way flow of possession. It was clear the Kiwis would have to tackle like supermen to stay ahead.

The British chipped into the lead through a penalty goal by Jim Ledgard and a dazzling solo try to scrum-half Dai Jenkins. Ledgard converted the try to reduce the Kiwis' advantage to three points. But every subsequent British assault was pushed back from the goal-line, or over the sidelines, by the staunch defence. It was Britain's first ever loss at Swinton against any opponent.

"Never," wrote legendary English scribe Eddie Waring, "has a side had the cards stacked against it as this team had, yet they defeated the might of England in worthy style." But the long tour (35 matches) took its toll as the amateur Kiwis battled their semi-professional rivals and the Great Britain retained its No.1 international ranking by comfortably winning the third Test at Bradford. The Kiwis then crossed the English Channel to tie a two-Test series in France.

Continued on next page...

Neither Smith, a Christchurch publican who captained the Kiwis in all of his 10 Tests, nor Newton, a rugged Runanga coal miner, took a backward step on the football field. But they were also great mates. When they were sent off for fighting each other in a provincial match at Greymouth they left the field arm in arm. At the after-match function they might have reminisced about November 8, 1947, at Swinton, when Smith gave the last pass for Newton to score “the greatest try in 40 years of Test football” and the Kiwis overcame massive odds to achieve a famous victory.

New Zealand v England - Test Records

By John Coffey QSM



SINCE ALBERT Baskerville's original 1907-08 All Blacks toured England and Wales, the Kiwis have played British opponents variously known as Northern Union, Great Britain and, since 2008, England.

Nor was New Zealand always the Kiwis. The second New Zealand team to tour Britain in 1926-27 was called the All Blacks (despite protests from the New Zealand Rugby Union).

The first officially-named Kiwis team toured Australia in 1938. But the 1939 Kiwis tour to Britain was abandoned after two games because of the outbreak of the Second World War.

All-time records between the two nations after England's 26-12 victory in the first Test at Hull last weekend are:

Win-loss record since 1907 (Test and World Cup games, home and away):

Played 117, England won 68, New Zealand won 44, drawn 5

Biggest winning margins:

By New Zealand: 34-4 at Westpac Stadium, Wellington, 2006
By England: 44-0 at KC Stadium, Hull, 2007

Biggest winning margins in Britain:

By New Zealand: 36-16 at Reebok Stadium, Bolton, 1998
By England: 44-0 at KC Stadium, Hull, 2007

Highest scores:

By New Zealand: 42-26 at Loftus Road Stadium, London, in 2005 Tri-Nations
By England: 53-19. At Pau, France, during 1972 World Cup

Most goals and points in a three-Test series:

For New Zealand: 28 points (9 goals, 5 field goals) by Don Ladner in New Zealand in 1970, and by Daryl

Halligan (14 goals) in Britain in 1998.

For England; 24 (12 goals), twice by Jim Sullivan, in Britain in 1926-27 and in New Zealand in 1932.

Most tries in a three-Test series:

For New Zealand: 4 by James Leuluai in New Zealand in 1984

For England: 6 by Mick Sullivan in Britain in 1955-56

Most points in a match:

For New Zealand: 16 (4 tries) by Manu Vatuvei v England at Newcastle (Australia) in 2008 World Cup

For England: 26 (2 tries, 10 goals) by John Holmes at Pau (France) in 1972 World Cup

Most goals in a match:

For New Zealand: 7 by Des White at Greymouth in 1954, Bill Sorensen at Sydney in 1957 World Cup, Jack Fagan at Leeds in 1961, Ernie Wiggs at Auckland in 1966, and Stacey Jones at London (Loftus Road) in 2005 Tri-series.

For England: 10 by John Holmes at Pau, France, at 1972 World Cup

Most tries in a match:

For New Zealand: 4 by Manu Vatuvei at Newcastle (Australia) in 2008 World Cup

For England: 4 each by Billy Boston at Auckland in 1954 and Garry Schofield at Wigan in 1985

Biggest attendances in Britain:

For a Test match: 42,680, third Test at Odsal Stadium, Bradford, 1947-48

For a double-header: 67,545 at World Cup semi-final at Wembley Stadium, London, 2013 (the NZ v England game was followed by the other semi-final between Australia and Fiji).

Note: Tries were worth three points until 1983; field goals were worth two points until 1971.

Week in Northland Sport

By Ben Francis



FIRSTLY I wanted to say congratulations to all the winners of the Kiwis and Warriors jerseys back in Newsletter 95, we have a wide range of readers and it was awesome seeing winners from all over New Zealand, some in Australia and even one in France. Great to see people reading this all over the place.

Positives From Northland ITM Cup Season

RICHIE HARRIS failed to win a game in his first season coaching the Northland Taniwha in the 2015 ITM Cup season. However one of Richie's goals was to get more Northland players on Super Rugby teams and it looks like this goal he has achieved with nine Northland Players contracted to Super Rugby franchises in 2016.

Northland Co-Captain Dan Pryor will be returning to the Highlanders hoping to build on an outstanding season with the 2015 Super Rugby Champions. His brother Kara will be joining the Blues along with Northland's other Co-Captain Matt Moulds who has been promoted to the first team in 2016. Prop Namatahi Waa and Halfback Sam Nock will both be new faces in the team in 2016. Waa has been called up from the Blues development squad which he has been involved with since 2014, he has the capability of playing both sides of the scrum which was a big reason to why he was selected, whilst Nock (Halfback) is one of the top emerging prospects in New Zealand. He signed a three year deal with the Blues in June. Nock has also been a part of the New Zealand Secondary Schools team and captained St Kents to the National title this year. Jack Ram who played for Tonga at this year's World Cup will also be returning to the Blues, along with first five Dan Bowden who will be hoping for an injury free campaign after missing all of the ITM Cup season with an ongoing Groin injury.

The Crusaders have retained outside back Jone Macilai who signed a one year extension. Macilai made his debut in the red and black off the bench this year against the Reds in which he scored a try. Like Bowden, Macilai will be hoping for an injury free Super Rugby campaign after he missed the majority of the Super Rugby year due to a foot injury. The last Northland player contracted to a Super Rugby team is Dan Hawkins who will be heading over to Melbourne to join the Rebels, Hawkins can play both at first five and fullback and will be a great kicking option for the franchise.

Northland Secondary School Awards

CALLUM PRIME and Samantha Polovnikoff have won top honours at the 24th ASB Northland Secondary Schools awards last week taking out Northland Secondary Schools Sportsman & Sportswoman of the year respectively. Prime who attends Whangarei Boys High School currently holds 22 Northland Swimming records and was a part of the New Zealand age group swimming team joining New Zealand's top young swimmers. Whilst Polovnikoff has been a part of the future Black Sticks (Hockey) and will be taking part in the Junior World Cup Training camp also. Congratulations to both Callum and Samantha on their achievements in the respective sports. The full list of winners can be viewed [here](#).

Huge Congratulations to the All Blacks. Rugby World Cup 2015 Champions.



The Hayne Plane Should Have Gone to Seattle

By Ben Francis



IT HAS been an interesting week for Jarryd Hayne. The Hayne Plane was cut Sunday morning (NZT) by the San Francisco 49ers but then rejoined the team this time with the practice squad on Tuesday morning NZT after he was not claimed off waivers. When placed in waivers all other 31 NFL teams have the opportunity to pick up Hayne and his contract, if not he could either sign with the practice squad or become a free agent. I was in full support of Jarryd Hayne leaving Rugby League and trying to make it in the NFL. I always thought it was going to be tough and it would take time, but I think Hayne made one mistake which I have stood by since he made this decision.

Hayne's biggest mistake was signing with the San Francisco 49ers. Hayne whatever you liked had three teams interested in signing him when he announced his desire to play in the NFL, the Detroit Lions, the Seattle Seahawks and of course the San Francisco 49ers. When Hayne originally announced his intentions to play American Football, my first thoughts were he's going to Detroit cause of Reggie Bush. Reggie Bush is a well accomplished NFL Running back who was the 2nd overall pick in the 2006 draft and a Super bowl Champion with the New Orleans Saints. For those not aware, Bush was in Australia in June 2014 during State Of Origin II which New South Wales won. Bush spent time with Hayne and spoke highly of him even saying he though Hayne could make it in the NFL. But during the most recent offseason Bush signed with the 49ers which is a big reason to why I believe Hayne joined them also.

Like I said, Hayne made a mistake signed with San Francisco and the reason is due to the state of the club, the 49ers were in a mess after last season after finishing 8-8, the organization decided to let go of coach Jim Harbaugh which was a mistake and promote Defensive Line coach Jim Tomsula. Things just seemed so bad after last season it was something which you wouldn't want to walk into but Hayne accepted the challenge. After impressing in Pre-Season it was announced Hayne had made the final 53man roster. His first ever punt return led a to a fumble and it has sort of gone downhill since.

If Hayne could go back to the day he signed with his desired NFL team, I think he would have chosen Seattle. Now if he had selected Seattle his game time probably would not be that high but, Hayne would have joined one of the top Football programs in the NFL which would have been the best way for him to develop his game. Seattle head coach Pete Carroll who coached Seattle to both Super Bowl 48 (Won) and 49 (Should have won) in the last two season admitted he would have used Hayne differently. Now this is just my belief but joining a successful program and one where you were guaranteed to learn the game and develop with some of the game's best was a no brainer compared to joining one which had an awful 2014/2015 season and also under a new coach. His journey to the NFL would have taken longer this way, but the long term benefits would have been worth it. He would have learnt from Seattle running Back Marshawn Lynch who will literally run through anyone or anything.

I still wish Hayne all the best in his NFL journey, it will be interesting to see how long he will be in the practice squad before he is recalled. Only time will tell where this setback will put Hayne. Hope we see him in a 53man roster in the near future. San Francisco is currently 2-6 this season. Hayne's stats are 8 runs for 25yards with his longest carry being 9yards. He has had one catch for 7yards and also 7 Punt returns for 72 yards, his longest being 37yards and 3 fumbles.

Send Your Support to the Kiwis! Email: nadene@nzrl.co.nz

Check out Sir Peter Leitch's Facebook page. There are some great interviews with the boys on tour. Click the Facebook logo to check them out.



The End of an Era for All Black Rugby

By John Deaker



NEW ZEALAND'S World Cup victory has given us a time to celebrate as a nation but it should also be a time for us to reflect on the end of a great era for All Black rugby – the Richie McCaw / Dan Carter era.

Carter and McCaw played their first match together for the All Blacks against Wales back in June 2003. Once Carter had adapted to moving in to first-five from the midfield New Zealand was consistently able to field two of the best players ever in two of the most influential positions on the park for over a decade.

Some people round the world would probably be stunned to know that there are many people in New Zealand that have openly suggested that retaining McCaw and Carter in New Zealand was a poor use of the NZRU's money - and also that McCaw and Carter owe a lot to New Zealand rugby.

Surely it is New Zealand rugby that is indebted to these two men. In pure dollar terms it'd be hard to accurately equate, but for every dollar that McCaw and Carter have been paid over their careers, the NZRU would have bought back in many dollars per-head through their massive contribution towards the All Blacks success on and off the field.

Viewing sportspeople as role-models isn't always ideal. People often talk about how parents should be role-models. Unfortunately the reality is that a large percentage of parents are actually POOR role-models for kids and aren't round much to set any example to them anyway.

Inadvertently, high profile sportspeople become role-models that kids look up to. As the two Cantabrians have matured they've become role-models that even adults look up to and can model themselves on. Particularly McCaw is revered because he literally has kept his feet firmly on the ground (despite his passion for flying!) and has remained so genuinely humble despite all the accolades that go his way.

Unlike Carter, McCaw hasn't 100% confirmed he will move on from the All Blacks. New Zealand rugby currently has the regulation that you need to be playing Super rugby in New Zealand to play for the All Blacks. It'll be interesting to see if McCaw could be offered the unique opportunity of being the first player to ONLY play for the All Blacks. Many experienced players pace themselves through Super rugby anyway so it's hard to imagine too many rugby fans would oppose their greatest All Black of all time being made an exception to the rule.

There will be those nostalgic people who will want Richie McCaw to move on now and 'protect his legacy'. What they forget though is that ultimately sport isn't about legacies - what made Dan Carter and Richie McCaw great in the first place is that they love playing rugby. If McCaw wants to play on when he's past his best he should be selected until there is clearly someone better that's available. Currently the next best cab-off-the-rank Sam Cane is still a long way off being as good as McCaw.

If McCaw does decide to hang up his boots now there will be something special about him going out at the same time as the man who with him has steered this All Black team to greatness. Carter and McCaw will never play in the Black jersey again together - but after the victory at the weekend they've put the icing on the cake to the long list of amazing memories that All Black fans will have of their era.



Photo courtesy of www.photosport.co.nz

This Summer Poses the Real Test for McCullum's Black Caps

By John Deaker



LAST SUMMER was massive for New Zealand cricket with the World Cup based down-under and the Black Caps performing so well. This season has the potential to be just as significant for the Black Caps with home-and-away series to be played against Australia in the more traditional five day version of the game.

Even when Michael Clarke and Chris Rogers were on board the Australians were beaten 3-2 in the Ashes this year. Their team is now rebuilding and their top-order looks even more vulnerable without the experience Clarke, Rogers and even Shane Watson provided.

The Black Caps last test series resulted in a 1-all draw against England (just prior to the Ashes) where they again showed that it's not just the one-day format where they have made significant progress under Brendon McCullum's captaincy.

Like the Australians, New Zealand's strength is in their pace bowling lineup – particularly their world-class openers Trent Boult and Tim Southee. The fact that both team's strength is in their bowling bodes well for a series where we should get a result in the individual matches and the series.

Kane Williamson is now New Zealand's best batsman. One of his unique abilities is that he is brighter than most international cricketers and Kane will know better than anyone that with 5 tests against Australia this summer it's a golden opportunity for him to make his mark on world cricket. How Kane's run-scoring stacks up against Australia's best batter Steve Smith will be crucial because both have proven they can accumulate big scores that their teams can base their innings round.

The form of Ross Taylor and David Warner will be crucial too. Like many players that play with fast hands and minimal footwork both Taylor and Warner when in-form are unrecognizable to the out-of-form versions of themselves.

Unfortunately New Zealand's preparation for the series hasn't been ideal. That still doesn't explain why the bookies around the world have the Australian team as such warm favourites for this series. For example New Zealand's TAB have Australia at \$1.40 to win the series and New Zealand way out at \$4.50. One thing you can bet on – if the Black Caps can get up and win this series many people will view it as an even greater achievement than their great World Cup performances earlier in the year.

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ALL MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES | Please call the membership team on 0800 839 839 or email: memberships@warriors.kiwi

OPTIONS FROM as low as \$30 went on sale today as the Vodafone Warriors launched their 2016 membership programme.

The packages also feature child memberships slashed to just \$49 in all categories.

“The 2016 season couldn’t be more exciting, especially with Roger Tuivasa-Sheck and Issac Luke coming to the club,” said Vodafone Warriors membership manager William Felgate.

“It’s a great time to become part of the Vodafone Warriors by signing up as a member.

“We’ve got options tailored to suit almost everyone, from those who are committed to coming to all our home games to those who can’t make it but still want to belong and to support the club.”

Other features for 2016 include a revamped seating plan for Mount Smart Stadium and tiered pricing in the East and West Stands while the new cost of a child membership equates to a cost of less than \$4.50 a game for the club’s 11 Auckland-based matches.

- The key points of the Vodafone Warriors’ 2016 membership programme are:
- Membership options available from as low as \$30
- Full season memberships available from as low as \$129
- Payment plan option available enabling members to pay off the full price of memberships over multiple months via Debit Success
- Child memberships at just \$49 for the season in all categories

Felgate also highlighted the benefits of the Warrior Proud membership.

“It’s a great option for fans planning to make it to one home game next season,” he said.

“Become a Warrior Proud member and you receive a ticket to one of our 12 regular season home games of your choice as well as all standard member benefits.

Benefits included in 2016 membership packs are:

- New membership scarf
- Lanyard
- Bumper sticker

- Lapel pin
- Member card
- Discount on Vodafone Warriors merchandise
- Member-exclusive price on jerseys of \$150 instead of \$185 (RRP)
- Members-first first communication on team announcements and other major releases
- Invitations to exclusive meet-the-team events throughout the year

Felgate said the cheapest package available was the new scarf membership.

“It’s great value for fans who just want to support their team,” he said.

“For just \$30 the package includes a 2016 membership scarf and lanyard, discounts on official Vodafone Warriors merchandise, a 10 per cent discount on tickets to regular season Vodafone Warriors home games and special Vodafone Warriors members-only merchandise.”

The membership revamp includes the creation of new platinum covered and uncovered categories focused on bays around halfway in the upper East and West Stands (platinum covered) and around the tunnels in the lower East and West Stands (platinum uncovered).

A full review of the membership structure had identified inequities in pricing which have been remedied in the 2016 programme.

“It clearly isn’t fair asking members to pay the same price to sit and watch from the try line as those watching from halfway around the tunnels in the East and West Stands,” said Felgate.

“The seats near the tunnels are the most sought-after and highly-valued in the stadium. By creating a new platinum uncovered category we’re differentiating between these premium seats and those on the wings.”

Felgate said most categories had come down in price – some significantly – while some had remained the same.

“We’d certainly encourage everyone to take the opportunity of becoming a member. It’s the best way for fans to make the Vodafone Warriors your team.”



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6:30pm Grace Hospital Education Room, Tauranga

Light Refreshments provided

Speakers:

- **Dr Liam Wilson**
Urologist
- **Professor Ross Lawrenson**
Medical Researcher
- **Mr Allan Bennett**
Patient

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Tuesday 24 November

6:30pm Harbour View Lounge, Edgar Centre, Dunedin

Light Refreshments provided

Speakers:

- **Dr Serge Luke and Dr Alastair Hepburn**
Urologists
- **Dr Shaun Costello**
Radiation Oncologist
- **Mr Ron Brass**
Patient

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