

BAABAA NEWS

The newsletter of The Barbarian Rugby Club Inc. Level 6, ASB Stand, Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand. www.barbarianrugby.co.nz



Some of the 2016 intake of new Barbarians. Photo: Mereana Wynyard

PRESIDENT'S TEAM TALK

April and May have been busy months for the club with Super Rugby games, club nights and several events in our clubrooms keeping the place well and truly bustling with activity.

It just keeps on highlighting how lucky we are to have Dean, Trina, Mereana, Kevin and the rest of the house team looking after us.

On May 11 we held an 'Extraordinary General Meeting' at which our new rules (formerly known as the constitution) were adopted and the club became officially the New Zealand Barbarian Rugby Club. Work on the new rules, which is an updated version of our old constitution, has taken place over many years and is the result of significant contributions by a few of our members including Mike Donovan, Neil Cullimore, Alan Montgomery, John Mills, Bryan Williams and John Cresswell early on and then latterly Neil Cullimore once again, Bernie Allen and Ken Baguley. It was a momentous occasion for the club and provides a really solid platform for us to operate from into the future.

We continue to strive to get first-class fixtures and through the hard work of a group within the club we have gained some high profile games over the past few years, which has been the lead-up to our first ever international fixture, in New Zealand, against the British & Irish Lions, on June 3 next year, in Whangarei, for the opening game of their tour. Our team will be made up of Mitre 10 Cup players drawn from throughout New Zealand, with the addition of a couple of young up and comers. This really is a highlight for our club and recognises our continued involvement in the development of amateur rugby, particularly at schoolboy level, over many years. Make sure you diarise the date and plan to make the journey up to Whangarei next year.

On April 15 we welcomed 27 new members into the club – it was a great night and showed what a diverse group of men and women we have in our midst, all drawn together by a common bond of service to rugby and their love for the sport.

Coming up we have our annual Auckland region primary school fun day on Sunday June 19 at Ngataringa Bay, Devonport, which I urge you to come along to. It really does get you right back to the heart of what our game is about – kids playing a game of footy with their mates for sheer enjoyment! Once again we will have the Blues in attendance, which makes the day special for the children. They get the opportunity to meet their rugby heroes in the flesh, which doesn't happen so often these days. I should also mention that our fun day is once again sponsored by Barfoot & Thompson – a sincere thank you to Peter Thompson for his ongoing support of our events.

Thanks to the generosity of many of our members, we will be making a pretty good donation to the New Zealand Rugby Foundation this year. A big thank you to those who contributed to this very worthy cause.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the club for the test match against Wales on June 11 at Eden Park.

Cheers,

Ron Williams
President
Barbarians RFC





Deaths Of Members

Bert Mackie (1933-2015)

Known to many as 'Uncle Bert,' Bert Mackie, who died in November but whose death was only recently brought to the attention of the club, was a popular and hard-working figure in Maori rugby.

Of Ngati Wai and Ngati Porou descent, Mackie started out his club rugby as wing, but then moved to prop as he came under the wing, as it were, of Johnny Simpson at the Takapuna club. A policeman in his early days, Mackie represented the Navy, Police, Combined Services, and appeared for the Barbarians. That was after serving in the Korean War. A dapper dresser, Mackie was an intense but loveable guy, qualities which always shone through in his later life as a publican and a JP.

After his playing days, he took up coaching, guiding teams at Takapuna, Ponsonby, Christchurch BHS and Lincoln University as he moved around.

A long-time Barbarian, Mackie served on the Maori Rugby Board. He was a great supporter of Maori organisations, and spent time on the Board of Maori Affairs.

Bret Penman (1927-2016)

Bret Penman died in February in Auckland, but the club only discovered the news several weeks later when his daughter Yee Man Penman-Green visited the clubrooms.

A legend of the Hong Kong Football Club, Penman won a Gallaher Shield with University in 1949 – a side that was captained by Bryce Rope – before his travels as an architect, which took him to Australia and Hong Kong. He played more than 100 premier matches for the Hong Kong club, was made chairman and life member, and gave years of service until his return to New Zealand in 2009.

Penman was a long-time Barbarian member, having been inaugurated in the 1950s.

Bob Sorenson (1923-2016)

Just as we were going to print, we received the sad news that our patron Bob Sorenson died. A full obituary will appear in the August newsletter.

Josh Blackie represents the new breed of Barbarian: young, just out of his playing days, still heavily involved in the game, and keen to partake in the club's activities as much as possible. Some found it amusing that, with the recent induction of the likes of Blackie, Brent Ward, Kevin Senio, David Gibson, Ben Willis, and Gavin Williams, the average age of the club would drop a few years.

"I've been up to the clubrooms in the last couple of years as a non-member. They open the doors to us younger guys. It's obviously a very prestigious club, so if I can contribute in any way possible to uphold the legacy..." he says.

He did play one first-class match for the NZ Barbarians, the celebrated 2003 clash at Twickenham against England, where his teammates included Barbarian members Taine Randell, Tanner Vili, and Ben Willis.

"In those invitation games, you get to mix and mingle with guys you wouldn't normally, so that's a benefit," says Blackie, who is happy to be retired after several seasons plying his trade for Kobe Kobelco Steelers in Japan and a fine career in New Zealand, where his pace and work-rate were central to his success as a professional.

"I haven't even looked at a pair of boots since Japan. I find it enjoyable having my weekends back and not feeling too sore on a Sunday. I don't want to go back to that place!"

Having said that, he did have a crack at his first marathon earlier this month – in Hawke's Bay – so he still keeps in good nick. Then he was off to London in his role as member services manager for the International Rugby Players' Association (IRPA), while he also helps with the Pacific Island Players' Association (PIPA). Blackie is a busy man, and is switched on. He is keen to help out with the Barbarians as much as he can.

"The clubrooms capture that ethos and spirit and camaraderie of rugby. It's enjoyable to come back and be involved in something like that."



GLENGARRY



Phil Kingsley Jones and Tanner Vili



Ben Willis



Tammi Wilson-Uluinayau



Des Topp

OUR NEW NAME



After a couple of years' work by Neil Cullimore, 'Beegee' Williams, Alan Montgomery, Mike Donovan and Bernie Allen, we held our Extraordinary General Meeting on May 11 and the new rules were adopted.

There are a number of tidy-up type rules that have been addressed but as from now we are known as the New Zealand Barbarian Rugby Club Inc.

We have the same purpose – just a different name – and it enables the club to formalise its relationship with The Barbarian Football Club Ltd. in the UK, whose birth pre-dates ours by some 47 years.

BAABAAS v LIONS



In what could prove to be the highest profile home Barbarians' fixture ever, the club will play the touring Lions on June 3, 2017 to kick off an eagerly awaited tour.

This will be a prime chance to impart some knowledge about what the club does and stands for. There was a feeling that, after the Barbarians' well merited 34-17 win over the Maori All Blacks at Eden Park last year, the club deserved its moment in the sun, and this has come to fruition.

Read more from Campbell Burnes' article in the Herald, which broke the story:

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/sport/news/article>.

NEW MEMBERS



The club has welcomed some 27 new members, including three ladies; all of them top rugby people who have served the game at various levels as either, player, coach or administrator. Nineteen were on hand to be inducted at the clubrooms on April 15, an earlier date for new membership, and all spoke with some passion – and, in the case of Phil Kingsley Jones and Phil Gifford, at some length! – about what the club means to them.

James Arlidge: former Japan No 10 (32 tests from 2007-11); played for Blues, Highlanders, Auckland, Northland, NZ Maori, Kansai Docomo, Newport and Nottingham; now works for Deloitte

Josh Blackie: former Highlanders, Blues and Otago flanker; NZ Sevens rep, Junior All Black, NZ Colts rep; played for Kobe Kobelco Steelers 2007-14; now member services manager for IRPA and PIPA

Anthony Boric: former All Blacks lock (25 games, including 24 tests, from 2008-11); RWC-winner 2011; played for North Harbour (out of the Marist club) and Japan's Mitsubishi Dynaboars; trustee of NZ Rugby Foundation

Greg Burgess: former All Blacks prop (two games, including one test in 1980-81); played for Auckland (out of the Ponsonby and Takapuna clubs) and French club Tarbes;

Daniel Carter: former All Blacks five-eighths (112 tests from 2003-15); played for Crusaders and Canterbury (latterly out of the Southbridge club); three-time IRB player of the year, world record test points scorer with 1598; now at French Top 14 club Racing-Metro

Mark Finlay: former All Blacks fullback (two games in

1984); played for Manawatu, North Harbour, and NZ Colts; played and coached in Japan, Italy and NZ; now a managing director

David Gibson: former Blues, Highlanders, Auckland, Otago, and Northland halfback; NZRPA player services manager

Phil Gifford: aka Loosehead Len; prolific rugby author and raconteur, Sunday Star-Times rugby columnist; two-time NZSJA sports journalist of the year

Tony Hanks: Blues high performance manager; has coached in UK (Wasps and Sale), Russia, Auckland, Chiefs, Waikato, and Junior All Blacks

Tony Jayne: former Manawatu, Bay of Plenty, Auckland B (out of the Grammar club), and North Island Universities halfback; coached at Grammar and is now a director at the North and South trust

Nathan Kemp: former Blues, Auckland (out of Ponsonby) and Manawatu hooker; has coached in England; now Ponsonby director of rugby

Phil Kingsley Jones: raconteur, guest speaker extraordinaire; Welsh-born long-time manager of Jonah Lomu; wide coaching background in Auckland, Counties, Tonga and Wales; business development manager for Counties Manukau union

Grant 'Chum' McLeay: former Auckland openside flanker (out of the Grammar club); served on ARU judiciary for more than a decade; lawyer

Mark Plummer: long-time physio for many rugby teams, including NZ Barbarians, NZ Sevens, Blues, Auckland, Counties Manukau; long-time physio for Black Caps

Hannah Porter (nee Myers): former Black Ferns fullback (22 tests from 2000-08); two-time RWC winner; played for Auckland and Otago; Black Ferns manager in 2015

Paul Quinn: former NZ Maori flanker and captain and Wellington captain (out of Marist St Pat's); long-time administrator; life member of Wellington union and MSP club; NZRU director 2002-09

Paul Reidy: long-time player and administrator; Chiefs board member 2006-09, Counties Manukau union chairman 2009-16

Melissa Ruscoe: former Black Ferns flanker and captain (22 tests from 2004-10); two-time RWC winner; played for Canterbury (out of the Christchurch club); also former Football Ferns captain; MNZM for services to rugby in 2011

Kevin Senio: former All Blacks halfback (one test in 2005); former Crusaders, Chiefs, Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Counties Manukau and Canterbury No 9; also played for Junior All Blacks, NZ 7s, and French clubs Castres and Clermont; now works for NZRPA

Mark Thompson: former test referee (nine internationals) and 92 first-class games; refereed seven NZ Barbarians matches; President Auckland referees' association 1995-96

Des Topp: played for, coached and managed at Hutt Valley Marist in Wellington; has given over 20 years' service to Auckland Marist club; general manager of Pakuranga Golf Club

Mike Truman: former Grammar and Teachers player/

coach and Auckland B rep; coached Pakuranga and Teachers-Eastern; PE lecturer at University of Auckland

Brent Ward: former Blues, Crusaders, Hurricanes and Auckland fullback; also played for French Top 14 club Racing-Metro

Gavin Williams: former Manu Samoa and Pacific Islanders midfielder (18 tests from 2007-10); played for French clubs Clermont, Dax and Montlucon, and Irish club Connacht; also played for Auckland (out of Ponsonby) and Southland; former head boy of MAGS

Ben Willis: former Auckland (out of University) and Waikato halfback; played for Leinster, Harlequins and London Irish and 2003 NZ Barbarians v England; coached King's First XV 2010-12; director of ORB Orthopaedics

Tammi-Wilson Uluinayau: quadruple international: Black Ferns (16 tests and two RWCs from 1998-2002), Kiwi Ferns, NZ sevens and NZ touch; played for Auckland Storm out of the Marist club; physiotherapist

Kawhena Woodman: former All Blacks wing (six games in 1984); played 126 games for Northland (out of the Ohaeawai club); father of current NZ women's 7s star Portia Woodman; senior advisor on Maori education at Ministry of Education

BAABAAS BRIEFS



*Congratulations to Slade McFarland, who chalked up his 200th premier match for his beloved East Coast Bays club in North Harbour on April 2. His career stretches back to 1991 (!), when the game was amateur and tries were worth four points. Opposing him in the front-row on his debut against Northcote that season was our President Ron Williams, who says he had little chance to get in the youngster's head as he had his hands full with the other Bays' hard nuts! McFarland is 43 and one of a handful of members still actively playing at senior level.

*Congratulations also to Sir Graham Henry, who was made a life member of New Zealand Rugby at last month's AGM. He is also a life member of the Auckland Rugby Union, and joins eight other living life members, all Barbarians, of the NZRU: Richie Guy, Eddie Tonks, Sir Colin Meads, Peter Burke, Rob Fisher, John Sturgeon, Sir Brian Lochore and Andy Leslie. Lochore was re-elected as patron of New Zealand Rugby.

John Mayhew also joined the life member ranks of the North Harbour union. He survived a health scare soon after the recognition, joking that he was almost the shortest-lived life member in history!

*The subs notices were sent out several months ago. Please pay your subs, if applicable, at your earliest convenience, as this is a requirement of membership.

*The club has a stack of fetching apparel in stock and this is available to members and non-members alike. Check the website for further information and prices, et cetera.

EMAIL ADDRESSES



The club uses email and the website for much of its communication and dissemination of information these days.

Some of you may not have an email address, but can you please let us know a possible email address for a family

member or friend that could expedite our communications to you. This would also help reduce the cost of postage. Please contact secretary Ken Baguley if you wish to take this route. You will then be able to keep up with the club activities on a far more regular basis.

VISITORS TO THE CLUB



Eden Park security will only allow members and/or visitors into the ASB Stand and our clubrooms by showing your membership/visitor cards. If you need more than one visitor card to bring friends or family to the club, especially on 'game days', please contact Ken Baguley to obtain additional 'visitor' cards. Please ensure any additional 'visitor' cards are returned before leaving the club at the end of the function/event.

CLUB CONTACT



Your first port of call is our new club secretary Ken Baguley, who is often based at Eden Park in the clubrooms' office.

Ken Baguley's details are:

Club office number: 09-846-7241

Cellphone number: 027-246-0615

Email addresses: sec@brfc.co.nz or khb@ryh.co.nz

Home number: 09-520-1638

WHAT'S ON IN 2016



Saturday May 28
Blues v Crusaders, 7.35pm



Thursday June 9
University RFC long luncheon, 12.30pm



Saturday June 11
All Blacks v Wales, 7.35pm



Sunday June 19
Annual fun day, Ngataranga Bay, 9am



Friday July 8
Blues v Brumbies, 7.35pm



Friday July 15
Blues v Waratahs, 7.35pm



Saturday October 22
All Blacks v Australia, 7.35pm



*All events are at Eden Park unless otherwise specified.
*Keep an eye on the website and your email for confirmation of 2016 functions/events.