



BAABAA NEWS

JULY 2011

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



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Barbarians members at the June luncheon; From left: MC John Kirkby, President John Mills, speaker Simon Gundry, NZRU President Bryan Williams, and Auckland RFU President Lawrie Knight.

Steve Kitchener with the hefty Ladore Trophy for outstanding New Zealand Barbarians middleweight player. ▶



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2011 season is well underway and the Barbarian programme is in full swing.

Fun Day

Under the guidance of convenors Ron Williams and Roger Moore, we again had a highly successful Fun Day with 40 primary schools participating and approximately 70 Barbarian members assisting during the day. This is still a very special day in our Barbarian calendar.

Barbarian Luncheon – huge success

On Friday June 10 at the Wanderers Club, Mangere Bridge, we re-invented the Barbarian Luncheon.

The master of ceremonies was Barbarian John Kirkby, an area in which he has a considerable reputation, while our superb guest speaker was Barbarian Simon Gundry, who relayed many stories concerning his rugby heroes.

One hundred and twenty-one Barbarian members and their guests sat down to a fine meal arranged by mine host, Mark Walsh, son of Pat.

The purpose of the luncheon was one of fellowship and also to celebrate the success of the Barbarian Middleweight side. This team, over the last three years, is undefeated and it was also an opportunity to present the Ladore Trophy for the outstanding middleweight player. The recipient of the award was Steve Kitchener, captain of the side this year and a member of the team over the last three years.

The club is very fortunate in having the experience and skill of Barbarian Cliff Lyon as the convenor of our luncheon. Cliff 'cut his teeth' on the famed Auckland University luncheon.

College Rugby

Mike Mills and Roger Moore are in the process of selecting a Barbarian side to play the Auckland Grammar First XV on August 17, 12 noon, at Auckland Grammar School. I look forward to seeing you there. The club is again a major sponsor of the New

Zealand Secondary Schools First XV championship and the co-ed schools' First XV championship. These games take place in Rotorua on August 26 and 28. I urge you to travel to Rotorua to view a very high standard of rugby played with much passion and intensity.

The U18s franchise tournament is taking place once again at St. Paul's Collegiate, Hamilton, on July 26 and 28. All Barbarians are welcome.

Rugby World Cup facilities for Barbarians

Thanks to Barbarian Vice-President and NZRU President 'Beegee' Williams, who is also the director of rugby at the Ponsonby RFC, club members may use the Ponsonby club as their World Cup 'premises' during the period from the beginning of September through to the end of October. However, please note that on Friday September 9 and Saturday September 24 the Ponsonby clubrooms will not be available.

Under the agreement signed with the Eden Park Trust we have to vacate our premises in the ASB Stand while the World Cup is

being played.

Office and website

Great to see our hard-working secretary John Cresswell in his new office situated now in the new clubrooms. John and his wife Mary have just returned from a well-deserved seven week tour through Europe. Thanks to the skill of Barbarian Ken Baguley, we have a website of which to be proud. When you get a moment, visit it at www.barbarianrugby.co.nz. In particular, have a look at the photographs from the various functions held at the club over the last 12 months.

Barbarian knighthood

Congratulations to our esteemed member John Graham on his knighthood. A very

worthy recipient of the award for his outstanding contribution to education and rugby.

Sir John joins fellow Barbarians in Sir Fred Allen, Sir Wilson Whineray, Sir Brian Lochore, and Sir Colin Meads as Knight Companions of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

NZRU President

Our Vice-President Bryan Williams has been installed as President of the NZRU. It is a position to which he will bring many of his outstanding personal qualities and talent. In this, the Rugby World Cup year, rugby could not have a better man at the helm.

NZRU life member/NZ Order of Merit

Following life membership of the NZRU, Barbarian Rob Fisher was honoured in the

Queen's Birthday listing as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Rugby is richer in New Zealand and worldwide for all that Rob has given.

Club lounge and suites

Our club lounge and suites are proving to be very, very popular with our membership and of late it has been great to see many of our life members and our two patrons – Bob Sorenson and Jack Bourke – enjoying the international-class facilities. Do not forget that we now have eftpos facilities in the clubrooms. There is also an ATM machine at the far end of the ASB Stand.

John A Mills
President, Barbarians RFC

WHAT'S ON

July

- Friday 15 Ponsoyby club night
- Sat 16-Wed 20 NZSC regional coaching dates
- Friday 22 Waitemata club night
- Tues 26-Thurs 28 NZSC U18 franchise games, Hamilton

August

- Thursday 4 University club night following luncheon
- Friday 5 NZ Rugby Foundation club night
- Friday 12 Takapuna club night
- Friday 19 Ladies night
- Fri 26-Sun 28 NZSC national First XV and co-ed schools champs, Rotorua

September/October

- Fri 9-Sun Oct 23 Rugby World Cup

FUN DAY REVIEW

The popular Barbarians Fun Day attracted over 600 young rugby enthusiasts to the Navy Rugby Club grounds at Ngataranga Bay. The two images below gave some idea of the fun and scale of this great gathering.



MIDDLEWEIGHT RUGBY



As mentioned in the President's report, the June 10 luncheon honoured the work of the New Zealand Barbarians middleweight team and management after another successful, unbeaten record of four wins from four outings.

This flagship XV for the under 85kg grades is going from strength to strength.

During March, the side, chosen from the cream of those lighter players out of North Harbour, Auckland and Waikato, racked up a quartet of fine displays. The wins were: 25-6 over an Auckland U85kg Development XV, 33-14 over Thames Valley Development XV, 48-14 again over an Auckland U85kg Development XV, and 62-0 over an Old Boys-University U85kg XV. The latter saw the team enjoy a trip to Wellington, where the players represented with pride. "We're very proud of the guys because of the respect they showed the famous jersey," says convenor and former Auckland coach Bryan Craies.

Top tryscorer from the programme was lock Brendan Lambert of Auckland, with three, while No 10 Scott Thomson led all scorers with 32. Captain and loose forward Steve Kitchener, as previously mentioned, was the outstanding player. Coaches Gary Cunningham and Wayne Underhay were again top notch.

The Auckland Development XV included five players who were then called upon to play for the Barbarians side.

Plans are underway for the team to travel to Sydney in 2012 for the resumption of the Trans-Tasman Shield.

GOLF DAYS

April 12 was the date and Maungakiekie Golf Club the venue for the annual Barbarians-Eagles Golf day.

The conditions were spectacular, which is more than you can say for some of the golf, though there was some hot scoring among the hackers. Incredibly, the scores were tied – organiser Bryan Craies can testify to this –

but the Barbarians get to keep the trophy for six months.

There will be another opportunity to break out those clubs on Thursday October 13 in the New Zealand Rugby Foundation-Barbarians Charity Golf Day.

This will be held at Auckland's Akarana club with a four ball stableford format.

For further information call Kevin Kelly on 04-801-6749, email ldays@xtra.co.nz or jenny@rugby-foundation.org.nz



BOB SCOTT'S 90TH BASH

A large gathering was on hand to celebrate the 90th birthday of our second oldest All Black, and Barbarian member, Bob Scott. The great fullback was looking sprightly and raised plenty of laughs with his brief speech before removing his sock to reveal the

famous bare right foot that could land goals from halfway.

His old 1949 touring All Blacks mate Kevin Skinner also helped Scott toast this impressive milestone.

There were plenty of Otago and Highlanders fans among the Barbarian members and guests who kicked on to watch the upset against the Hurricanes on Super Rugby opening night.

Bob Scott unveils his famous right foot.

Photo: courtesy of John Selkirk/Fairfax Media

DEATHS OF MEMBERS

Ivan Sapich (1936-2011)

Ivan Sapich's name was synonymous with many things, but we shall restrict ourselves here to rugby, racing, wine and west Auckland.

Not many can say they were life members of three organisations but Sapich could: the Waitemata Rugby Club, Auckland Rugby Union and Avondale Jockey Club. A big-hearted lock forward, Sapich skippered the 1958 Waitemata premiers to their first Gallaher Shield triumph, and went on to play 19 times for Auckland.

The Sapich winery business, started by his father and two uncles, is iconic in the west. His funeral in March was held at the Waitemata clubrooms and people came from far and wide to pay their respects, as they did for another Barbarian and staunch Waitemata man, Barrie 'Tank' Herring, in 2009.

IRB HALL OF FAME

Good to hear the news in May out of England that our UK Barbarian cousins and their visionary founder William Percy Carpmael have been inducted into the IRB Hall of Fame.

The Barbarian FC was established in 1890, some 47 years before the New Zealand club was born. Other (NZ) Barbarians who are in the Hall of Fame include Sir Wilson Whineray, John Eales and Sir Tony O'Reilly.

DAVE GALLAHER STATUE

Friday July 15 sees the unveiling, at Eden Park, of a magnificent statue of the 1905 Originals All Blacks captain Dave Gallaher, a man who would surely have been made a Barbarian were his life not tragically cut short at Passchendaele in 1917.

Gallaher will also be inducted into the IRB Hall of Fame. The statue has been commissioned by the Ponsonby Rugby Club, Gallaher's old home, with the support of Auckland Rugby and funding from the North and South Trust. The Barbarians committee, life members and past presidents are invited to the event.

CLUB CONTACT

As you know, former Otago, Bay of Plenty and Waikato rep John Cresswell is the Barbarians club secretary. As he is now mostly based at Eden Park in his office, these are the best contact details for all matters Barbarian rugby:

Club office number: 09-846-7241

Cellphone number: 021-703-904

Email address: sec@brfc.co.nz

Home number: 09-630-6425



John Cresswell at the club's Eden Park office.

FIXTURES: EDEN PARK

Tri Nations 2011

Saturday August 6

All Blacks v Australia, 7.35pm

Note that this is one of only three domestic All Blacks tests in 2011 prior to Rugby World Cup, the others being against Fiji in Dunedin on Friday, July 22, and South Africa in Wellington on Saturday, July 30. Both tests kick off at 7.35pm.

ITM Cup 2011

Sunday July 17

Auckland v Canterbury, 2.35pm

Wednesday July 20

Auckland v Otago, 7.35pm

Wednesday August 3

Auckland v Southland, 7.35pm

Thursday August 11

Auckland v Counties Manukau, 7.35pm

Saturday August 20

Auckland v Bay of Plenty, 2.35pm

Final: This is down for Saturday September 3, but if Auckland hosts the ITM Cup final, it will not be at Eden Park, due to RWC requirements. We will keep members informed of the venue change. Note too that Auckland has three midweek games. This is a feature of the 2011 competition due to the need to compress games and finish the ITM Cup prior to the start of the Rugby World Cup.

For a full ITM Cup draw, please visit www.rugbynews.co.nz

Rugby World Cup 2011

Friday September 9

All Blacks v Tonga, 8.30pm

Saturday September 17

Australia v Ireland, 8.30pm

Saturday September 24

All Blacks v France, 8.30pm

Sunday September 25

Fiji v Samoa, 3.30pm

Saturday October 1

England v Scotland, 8.30pm

Semifinals: Sat/Sun October 15/16

TBC, 9.00pm

Bronze final: Friday October 21

TBC, 8.30pm

Final: October 23 - TBC, 9.00pm

For a full Rugby World Cup draw, please visit www.rugbyworldcup.com



The hard-working bar staff at the clubrooms; from left: Bryan Craies, Rodney Doidge, Dean Paddy and Kevin Way.

