



AUGUST 2020

BAABAA NEWS

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



Some of the new Barbarians at the July 31 induction night at the clubrooms.

PRESIDENT'S TEAM TALK

It's just tremendous to see rugby back after a three-month hiatus. It goes to show we have probably taken rugby for granted to a certain extent. We don't know what we miss until it's taken away from us. Rugby shapes our lifestyles on the weekends, so people have come back with a lot of passion and intensity, and the crowds have flocked to Eden Park. How lucky are we to have live sport, getting back out in the fresh air to see people, reconnect and watch our favourite game? Our new members' induction night last month was one of our biggest and best yet. There was a large crowd of family, friends and members to welcome the 12 new Barbarians to the club, plus Davida Suasua, who was unable to make last year's event. These nights are always a highlight of the club calendar and the new members are all good people.

Do not forget the North v South Island clash at Eden Park on August 29. Great to see the return of this fixture. I played in five of these and they were always intense encounters. These rivalries are traditional, just like Auckland Grammar-King's or Christ's v Christchurch BHS, and people love them. I think it'll stay and will be run like a Test match, so we expect to have a bumper crowd pre- and post-match at the Barbarians. Old buggers like me can relive our glory days and tell all how brilliant we were...

The Farah Palmer Cup kicks off on August 22. The Mitre 10 Cup follows on September 11, and we expect All Blacks to feature in at least some of the action, which would be another crowd-puller. There's obviously uncertainty around the international calendar, but we can get behind our provincial team and colours. Seeing our stars mix with our local heroes can only be a major plus for the game.

We farewelled a giant of our game, Andy Haden, last week, at a service at Eden Park. Many knew of Andy, but not many knew him as a friend, as many Barbarians did. He may have been seen as controversial, but

he was a principled man who was ahead of his time and wanted to do the right thing for the game. He took me under his wing when I first made the Auckland team and he helped me earn my stripes when I could have been lost to the game through some average performances. We know how lonely it can be, even in a team! I am forever grateful to him for that. There was a soft side to Andy that not many saw. The committee, and can I acknowledge what a fantastic crew it is, is working hard behind the scenes, and we hope to confirm, via email, dates of further events in due course, as part of our commitment to men's and women's grassroots and local rugby. The club is helping sponsor a provincial Under 85kg tournament in October involving North Harbour, Auckland, Counties Manukau, Waikato and Wellington, which we would encourage members to check out. Details to come.

Alan Whetton
President
NZ Barbarian Rugby Club



Deaths Of Members

Frank Colthurst (1938-2020)

It was fitting for a fine man of rugby that Frank Colthurst's wake was held at Northland's Kamo Rugby Club.

As a hooker, he played 49 games from Auckland from 1959-64, 27 for Thames Valley from 1965-67 and 45 for North Auckland from 1968-76. Nine All Blacks trials told of a one who was perhaps unlucky not to wear the black jersey.

A stock agent, Colthurst went on to coach North Auckland in 1980-82. He was also a member of the Northland Vikings club.

John Carter (1938-2020)

As a halfback, John Carter senior played one game for Auckland in 1960 and four first-class games for Auckland B from 1960-67. He was a life member of the Suburbs club and helped coach the premiers to the 1977 Gallaher Shield. Carter was also manager of the Auckland team in the late 1980s and early '90s. He was the father of John and Mark, both of whom played for Auckland.

'Dick' Hurn (1931-2020)

Dick Hurn gave sterling service to Wanganui rugby for more than 60 years.

He was a lock or prop for Wanganui (out of the Marton club) in 32 games from 1956-59 and in 23 games for Manawatu (Feilding club) from 1951-54. Hurn was a noted administrator in the Rangitikei sub-union, and was a life member of that sub-union, the Wanganui union and the Marton club. He was an inveterate collector of rugby memorabilia and was also a keen tramp.

William 'Haddon' Vernon (c.1930-2020)

William 'Haddon' Vernon played 27 games for Auckland from 1949-53 as a five-eighth/threequarter out of the Takapuna club, along with two games for Canterbury out of the Christchurch club in 1955. Vernon had three All Blacks trials and appeared thrice in first-class games for the NZ Barbarians. Vernon was a fine cricketer and successful businessman later in life.

Dennis Young (1930-2020)

Dennis Young was a fine All Blacks hooker in 61 games (22 tests) from 1956-63.

Not big in stature, he was big in heart and as tenacious as they come. Young racked up 137 games for Canterbury from 1950-63. He served as President of the Canterbury union from 2003-04. His work life was varied: cabinet-maker, teacher and founder of a travel company.

Andy Haden (1950-2020)

One of the great lineout lock forwards, Andy Haden was All Black No 716, playing 117 games (41 tests) from 1972-85, captaining the team on eight occasions. He also racked up 157 games for Auckland from 1971-86, winning three NPCs and leading the team that won the Ranfurly Shield in 1985. From 1976-86 he won no less than seven Gallaher Shields.

Haden was outspoken and pushed hard for the loosening of the amateur regulations. Later he established Sporting Contacts, and was a successful businessman. He was a driver of the Classic All Blacks on their regular pilgrimages to Bermuda.

As President AJ Whetton said of his old All Blacks and Auckland teammate, he holds a very special place in the Barbarians club. A large crowd gathered for his Eden Park funeral earlier this month.

BOWLS UPDATE



Just before Covid-19 forced us all into Level 4 lockdown, the annual Pat Walsh Memorial Bowls Day again went off well for the Barbarians club and all its budding Peter Bellisses.

There was a hearty turnout and the major Maori sports scholarship went to 16-year-old Chicago Doyle, who is a key member of the King's College First XV and is also a gun touch player. He helped King's to the 2019 1A title and has appeared for the NZ Maori Under 18 sevens side.

The 2021 day is set down for Sunday March 14 at the usual venue of Bridge Park BC, Mangere Bridge. Mark it down.



Chicago Doyle with Bryan Williams and Noeline Walsh at the 2020 NZ Barbarians bowls day.

NEW MEMBERS



Beauden Barrett: *All Blacks first five/fullback; current Blues rep, has played for Hurricanes, Taranaki, NZ Under 20s, All Blacks Sevens and Coastal club; 2016-17 World Rugby player of year; 2016 NZ rugby player of year*

James Bentley: *St Peter's College (Auckland) principal; current Auckland schools President; former First XV coach of Onehunga HS and St Peter's; former Auckland U18 manager*



Photo: Getty Images

Haden receives his All Blacks cap in 2010 from another Barbarian, John Sturgeon.

Eroni Clarke: All Black No 919, 1992-98; played for Blues, Auckland, Counties Manukau and Suburbs club as a centre/wing; current President of Auckland Rugby Union; NZR Pasifika engagement manager

Simon Halford: Former Hawke's Bay, Manawatu, Central Vikings and North Harbour flanker/prop; also played for UK clubs London Irish and Leeds; coached Havelock North club and Hawke's Bay U20s; current President of Saracens club

Mark Hooper: General manager of Ponsonby club; former hooker for Ponsonby and Auckland B; 2019 assistant coach of NZ Barbarian Schools

Kieran Keane: All Black No 801, 1979; played for Canterbury and South Island as second five; long coaching career with Marlborough, Hawke's Bay, Tasman and Chiefs; life member of Tasman union; current North Harbour coach

Rocky Khan: All Blacks Sevens 2013-18; has played sevens for Auckland and Ponsonby; first five for Ponsonby and Grammar TEC; RDO of Ponsonby club; rare rugby mix of Fiji Indian and Rotuman

Lisa Kingi-Bon: CEO of NZ Rugby Foundation since 2012; former events manager for NZR; former King Country union board member; held various posts at South African and Natal unions in 1990s

Leon MacDonald: All Black No 995, 2000-08; played for Maori All Blacks, Crusaders, Chiefs, Marlborough and Canterbury as fullback/centre/No 10; former Tasman coach and Crusaders assistant; current Blues head coach

Heath Mills: Former MAGS First XV coach; helped set up Pro Sport at Auckland union; worked for Auckland and Blues; current head of NZ Cricket Players' Association

Tino 'JP' Poluleuligaga: Former Manu Samoa halfback, 21 tests, 2007-13; played for Pacific Islanders, Chiefs, Blues, North Harbour, Auckland, BOP, Toulon, Harlequins and Exeter; current DoR at Papatoetoe club

Karen Sutton: Founder of Auckland's Physio Rehab Group; long-time physio for Manu Samoa 15s and 7s; Samoan union injury manager; physio to Tall Ferns basketball; has worked with several other sports and been to Olympics and Commonwealth Games

Alfie Uluinayau: Former Fiji wing, 35 tests, 1996-2003; played for Auckland out of Ponsonby club and in Japan for Suntory club; NZ Schools 1988; has coached for Fiji and at club level in Auckland; joins wife Tammi as Barbarians member

Scott Waldrom: All Black No 1085, 2008; played for Maori All Blacks, NZ Barbarians, Hurricanes, Chiefs, Crusaders, Wellington and Taranaki as flanker; All Blacks Sevens player 2002-10 and coach 2016-17

Vaniya Wolfgramm (nee Lavea): Black Fern No 115, 2003-07; played for Auckland and World XV as midfielder; also NZ Sevens; NZR women's rugby development manager since 2012; created Pasifika Aotearoa Cup in 2013; provides SKY TV with expert comment on FPC games



Vaniya Wolfgramm, with kids in tow, spoke from the heart at her induction to the last month.



Eroni Clarke is welcomed to the club by his old Auckland teammate AJ Whetton.



Mereana's boy Keanu feels right at home at the club.

BAABAAS BRIEFS



*Congrats to Dan Carter for his life membership, at just 38, of the Southbridge club in Canterbury Country. While he has not played a lot for the premier side due to his many other rugby duties, he has donated a huge amount of memorabilia to the club over many years.

*The newsletter editor is also the editor of iconic monthly magazine *Rugby News*.

There's plenty of provincial, grassroots, women's and sevens coverage in there to sink your teeth into, as well as All Blacks' and Super Rugby content. The August issue is out now, and September 7 for the next one. *Rugby News* is available at all good magazine retailers and supermarkets or you can subscribe by calling 0800-77-77-10 or visit www.rugbynews.co.nz

*The 2020 subs notices were sent out just before Christmas. Please pay your subs, if applicable, at your earliest convenience, as this is a **requirement** of membership.

EMAIL ADDRESSES



The club uses email and the website for most 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 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

WHAT'S ON IN 2020

Sunday August 14
Blues v Crusaders, 3.35pm



Saturday August 29
FPC: Auckland v Waikato, 3pm



Saturday August 29

North Island v South Island, 5.35pm



Sunday September 20
FPC: Auckland v Counties Manukau, 2.05pm



Sunday September 20
M10 Cup: Auckland v Wellington, 4.35pm



Sunday September 27
M10 Cup: Auckland v Manawatu, 2.05pm



Saturday October 17
M10 Cup: Auckland v Tasman, 4.35pm



Saturday October 31
M10 Cup: Auckland v Waikato, 7.05pm



Saturday November 7
M10 Cup: Auckland v Northland, 2.05pm



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

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