



**FEBRUARY 2019**

# BAABAA NEWS

The newsletter of The Barbarian Rugby Football Club Inc. Level 6, ASB Stand, Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand. [www.barbarianrugby.co.nz](http://www.barbarianrugby.co.nz)



Some 35 of the club membership turned out at the 2018 AGM to hear of another busy year for the Barbarians with their many activities.

Photo: Campbell Burnes

## PRESIDENT'S TEAM TALK

Welcome to all Barbarians ahead of another bumper year.

I'm honoured to be your new President and look forward to continuing the sterling work done by immediate past Presidents Ron Williams and Neil Cullimore in the last 2-3 years.

We are just underway with a new committee and welcome Joe Stanley and Nick Sheppard, two good rugby men, into the hot seats, alongside our existing committee, who are keen to again roll their sleeves up on behalf of the club.

Our best wishes go to committee member Monalisa Urquhart, who recently gave birth to baby George, to join Michael. Monalisa is the first lady to serve on the Barbarians committee and is one of 16 valued ladies whom we are proud to call Barbarian members. You can read more about her life in rugby in the member profile further in this newsletter.

Note down in your diaries for St Patrick's Day (Sunday March 17) the 10th annual Pat Walsh Memorial Bowls Day at Bridge Park BC, always a memorable and fun day on our calendar. I know there are some very useful bowlers among the Barbarians. Proceeds go to a worthy cause: the Pat Walsh Maori Youth Sports Scholarships.

We have a big game to kick off the rugby season at Eden Park. This Saturday night sees the Blues open their Super Rugby campaign against their old rivals, the Crusaders. The new-look Blues seem to be in good shape, judging by the pre-season, so

this is sure to be a cracker. The calendar, highlighted in this newsletter, has noted all the Blues' home games at Eden Park.

As President, I can only encourage you to partake in as many of the club activities as you can. Those in the Auckland area, and out of town Barbarians, you are most welcome up in the clubhouse on match days and to other events. This is your club. Keep an eye on the website and your email for information on the latest events, including the popular annual Fun Day.

On a final note, the subscriptions notice was sent out last month by secretary Ken Baguley. Thank you to those who are organised and have already paid. Payment of subs is a requirement of membership and helps pay for many of the club's activities, so please make an effort and get this done. Then it is out of the way for the rugby season.

**Alan Whetton**  
President  
NZ Barbarian Rugby Club



# Deaths Of Members

## Alan Montgomery (1927-2018)

For many, many years, Alan Montgomery was the club's solicitor and only passed the baton to Bernie Allen in relatively recent times.

It was said that he turned out for Grammar in his playing days, possibly in the backline, before he joined the Auckland University club, discharging many years of service as that club's solicitor before Mike Cormack and Bob Burnes took up the role.

Montgomery was actively involved in the purchase of 'The House that Jack Built' in the early 1970s and he was a cheerful, constant presence at the Barbarians right up until, and after, the time the clubhouse moved high up into the north stand at Eden Park.

He was a good communicator, a wise practitioner and successful commercial lawyer who enjoyed a punt too. He started work on the rewording of the old club constitution in the early 2010s.

## Kevyn Male (1943-2018)

Successful businessman, prolific author, teacher, antique collector, long-range goalkicker, versatile forward, character of rugby.

Such were the many faces of Kevyn (KG) Male, who died in December after a long illness.

Male, who could play flanker, lock or prop, appeared 18 times for Auckland from 1964-70, scoring one try. He debuted in the same game as his Otahuhu clubmate Peter Murdoch in '64. By that stage he had already turned out for the Centurions club and the NZ Colts. Male was known for his hard-nosed attitude on the field, but he was a softie off the pitch.

He played two first-class games for the Barbarians in 1972, by which stage he was at Grammar, winning a Gallaher Shield with that club to go with those he enjoyed at Otahuhu.

Male started up The Three Bears in Newmarket and, in 1988, Route 66. He is a past president of the Newmarket Business Association.

In the late '90s, he authored two entertaining books, out of 25 he penned on a raft of topics, on grassroots rugby.

His son Todd, one of three children, is a Barbarian.

## Geoff Moon (1966-2019)

Geoff Moon, who died suddenly in January while doing some coaching in Italy, was one of just four men to have won both Gallaher Shield club titles and Auckland 1A First XV titles.

Two others – Sir Graham Henry and Grant Hansen – are Barbarians.

Moon was known as 'The Godfather of south Auckland rugby' having extensive involvement as a player and coach at schools and club level. He was especially revered at Aorere College. In 2000 he guided Otahuhu to the Gallaher Shield title, the last south Auckland club to do so.

From 2013-18 he coached the Mt Albert Grammar First XV, claiming the 2016 1A and national Top 4 titles. In 2016-17 he was also the Auckland assistant coach.

'Moonie' had a priceless ability to relate to everyone, including referees (!) and his funeral in January at MAGS brought rugby people from far and wide. Barbarians Eroni Clarke and Keven Mealamu were among those who paid tributes.



## MEMBER PROFILE MONALISA URQUHART



Monalisa Urquhart at the 2018 Top 4.

Monalisa Urquhart (nee Codling) is still breaking new ground.

The 41-year-old is the first woman to serve on the Barbarians committee and indeed is the first member to give birth. She now has two boys, Michael and George, with husband, actor and teacher Gerald Urquhart. But she only physically missed one committee meeting in 2018. No problems. Conference call. Such is the committee's embrace of new technology.

She was a hard-nosed lock for the Black Ferns in 30 tests from 1998-2010, winning no less than four Women's Rugby World Cups, not to mention multiple provincial titles with the Auckland Storm and club titles with College Rifles. In 2003 she was adjudged New Zealand women's player of the year.

Joining the Barbarians in 2015, among the second intake of lady members, Urquhart has thrown herself into the club activities, and loves it. In 2017 she joined the hard-working and increasingly diverse committee.

"It's just been a really lovely environment. I took an hiatus from a rugby for a few years. I got a bit stale. But I was ready to dip my toes back in. I love the values of the club helping the youth. For me, with a young family, it's been a good base. I



OFFSET & DIGITAL PRINTERS

Cnr Boston Rd & Nugent St, Grafton  
Auckland 1023, New Zealand

Barfoot & Thompson  
MREINZ

like the diversity and hanging out with rugby people," she says.

Her and many of her old Black Ferns mates have many stories to tell to add to the rugby tales of the men. There are now 16 lady members, no less than 11 from that trailblazing world champion 1998 Black Ferns.

But do not think for a moment that Urquhart is just some hard-out, obsessed rugby chick who can only talk on one subject. She has a wide range of interests, loves to paint, having had works commissioned, enjoys music, travel, watching basketball and fully embraces technology, at least via Facebook and What's App. Twitter not so much.

She works for the British Council in its Auckland office as the finance and operations manager. The birth of George last month means she has taken some leave, but there are projects in the pipelines, so she will not be fulltime at home for long.

Last year she, among others, enjoyed representing the Barbarians at the Top 4 tournament in Palmerston North. Her suggestion led to the awarding of an MVP from the girls' event, which went to Kiriana Nolan of Hamilton GHS. Urquhart stepped in for Ron Williams to speak at the Friday night dinner at the Top 4. It capped a big year, having earlier received her Black Ferns cap, an emotional occasion.

She has a voice and the committee hears it. Urquhart has proven herself a worthy Barbarian. She is not just a staunch advocate of women's rugby, in an unprecedented growth period, but for all levels of the game. We love having her.

## AGM REVIEW



**Mike Mills'** life membership was the highlight of the 82nd Barbarians' Annual General meeting held on November 28.

The former All Blacks trialist has spent a lifetime in the game as a player, coach and then driver of much of the Barbarians' active rugby involvement. In the last 16 years, firstly as club captain then as President in 2012-13, Mills worked hard to secure high profile fixtures for the club, such as the 2010 and 2015 clashes versus the Maori All Blacks and the 2017 match against the British and Irish Lions in Whangarei. He was also at the forefront of the Barbarians' involvement in schools rugby, be it the Top 4 tournament, the NZ Barbarians Schools or the NZ Barbarians Area Schools.

Former All Black **Alan 'AJ' Whetton** assumes the role of President in place of **Neil Cullimore**, who is still making steady progress after his accident. We thank **Ron Williams** for his work as President, effectively over three years.

Two new committee members were named, former All Blacks centre and recently honoured life member of the Ponsonby club **Joe Stanley**, along with former Counties Manukau RFU chief executive **Nick Sheppard**. Former Manu Samoa rep **Craig Glendinning** steps up to the junior Vice-President role in place of the late **Dylan Mika**, while **Richard Turner** steps down from the committee.

An extremely busy year for the Barbarians yielded a commendable surplus of \$913,310.

## PAT WALSH MEMORIAL BOWLS DAY



Note it down in your diaries, be it electronic or paper: St Patrick's Day, Sunday March 17, 9.30am kickoff at Bridge Park Bowling Club in Mangere Bridge, the 10th annual Pat Walsh Memorial Bowls Day.

This is always a highlight of the Barbarians calendar and not just to honour the memory of a great Barbarian, Patrick Timothy Walsh. All are welcome, including wives or widows of Barbarians.

The Walsh whanau are hoping to make it a bowls event with an Irish twist, which may mean an Irish coffee before the first roll-up. Entry is \$60 per team, which includes lunch and BBQ. All proceeds go to Pat Walsh Maori Youth Scholarships. Among those who have been past recipients are Black Fern Kiritapu Demant, John Drake Memorial Scholar Awanui Morris and 2018 Auckland Mitre 10 Cup rep Waimana Reidlinger-Kapa.

For further information or for entries, contact Dick Garratt at 0274-901-237 or [info@maorisportsawards.co.nz](mailto:info@maorisportsawards.co.nz), or Mark Walsh on 021-959-110.



Photo: Pat Walsh's name lives on.



Photo: The plaque above the corner of the bar where the late Dylan Mika often decamped.

## BAABAAS BRIEFS



\*Congratulations to Rex Davy for his New Year's honour as a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit after a lifetime's involvement with the game either for his beloved Te Atatu/Waitakere club and then Auckland Rugby as manager of some of the great teams of the 1990s.

\*Well done too to Glenn Wahlstrom who was made a life member of Auckland Rugby at the union's AGM. The former test referee was previously chairman of Auckland Rugby. On the same night, Eroni Clarke was made the union's President, a tremendous honour for the former All Black and Auckland centurion.

\*Keven Mealamu, who was made a Barbarian in 2011, is the latest recipient of the NZRPA Kirk Award, named after Barbarian David Kirk. The former hooker has not been idle since retirement in 2015, and his work has been recognised by his peers for his 'outstanding contribution to his fellow players on and off the field.'

\*Congratulations too to DJ Forbes on his special merit honour at the World Rugby Awards in Monaco in late November. The 36-year-old is still held in the highest regard, especially in sevens circles.

\*Our member from Manawatu, Clive Akers, one of New Zealand's foremost rugby historians and co-editor of the *Rugby Almanack*, has put together, over some 35 years, no less, an impressive listing of all New Zealand first-class players from 1870-2015, entitled the *New Zealand Rugby Register*. Clearly, many Barbarians will feature among the 820 pages, so purchase your copy. It is available only via the NZ Rugby Museum. Please contact PO Box 36, Palmerston North 4440 or email [info@rugbymuseum.co.nz](mailto:info@rugbymuseum.co.nz)

\*Akers has continued to be busy, his latest book – *Continuing in Jacob's Shadow* – is a walk through 125 years of Horowhenua Kapiti rugby – and follows his centennial book for that union, *In Jacob's Shadow*. It can be purchased for \$20 at Paper Plus Levin, Paper Plus Paraparaumu, NZ Rugby Museum and the Horowhenua Kapiti Rugby Union office.

\*The 2019 subs notices were recently sent out. 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 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](mailto:sec@brfc.co.nz) or [khb@ryh.co.nz](mailto:khb@ryh.co.nz)**

**Home number: 09-520-1638**

## WHAT'S ON IN 2019



**Saturday February 16**  
**Blues v Crusaders, 7.35pm**



**Sunday March 17**  
**Pat Walsh Memorial Bowls Day, Bridge Park BC, 9.30am**



**Friday March 22**  
**Blues v Highlanders, 7.35pm**



**Saturday March 30**  
**Blues v Stormers, 7.35pm**



**Saturday April 6**  
**Blues v Waratahs, 7.35pm**



**Friday May 10**  
**Blues v Hurricanes, 7.35pm**



**Saturday May 18**  
**Blues v Chiefs, 7.35pm**



**Friday May 31**  
**Blues v Bulls, 7.35pm**



**SATURDAY AUGUST 17**  
**(DOUBLE HEADER)**



**BLACK FERNS**

**v Australia, 5.05pm**



**ALL BLACKS®**

**v Australia, 7.35pm (BC)**

