



extraordinary

# 'OLD PIRATES' NEWSLETTER Big Buccaneer (BB)

As a highly respected Community-Leader with a very busy schedule it is with disappointment that I am required to respond to Letters to the Editor that seem to be quite frequent. Frankly, I find it frustrating to have to listen to alternative points-of-view, mainly because I operate at quite a different level to most.

So, I will, on this occasion, deal with the following two communiqués..... firstly the invective tirade from Russell Baker - nick-named "GOBAKE".

As I recall, Russell Baker was a winger back in the Pirates / United Pirates days. His nickname came about because once his inside backs placed the ball in his hands he shot-off toward the try-line like a bullet. All the club spectators screamed "GOBAKE" as he scorched toward the corner. The only problem was that Russell often got confused and sometimes ran in the wrong direction. In a competition game at the Domain against Tauranga Cadets in 1978 he received the ball and turned in the wrong direction and scored ..... for Cadets!! With the score at 8-4 to U.P. this try drew the score at 8-8 with the Cadets conversion to come. Although the U.P. captain pleaded frantically with the referee, Russell's try for Cadets was upheld. At a later judiciary hearing the try was again upheld. The only fortunate aspect of this debacle was that the conversion failed, and a draw was secured. "GOBAKE" still holds the distinction of being the only club player in our 108 -year history to score for the opposition.

I raise this incident in club history just to remind Old Pirates members that I am continuously facing challenges from all types of weirdos. In this regard just take a look at this response from "GOBAKE" to a caution that was dished out in last week's newsletter. My reactions are highlighted in yellow.

**BB**

From Russell Baker,

I am shocked by some of the claims made in the "Old Pirates" meeting No.1 – May 2019 minutes.

1. I refer to "correspondence Outward"

Quote:

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*"A letter to WBOPDC councillor Mike Lally, Russell Baker and Fuzz McLeod (all original Old Pirates) asking them to refrain from discussing their exploits during the Easter weekend Buccaneer tournament in Kaitia in April of 1969. It has been reported to BB that some of the conversation was of an erotic nature and those who overheard the discussion described the comments by the above- mentioned members as unsavoury bordering on lewd."*

*2. This claim of conversations involving the above is absolute scuttle bug and has no basis whatsoever. I have no recollection of Mike Lally even participating in a Buccaneer Tournament and Fuzz in my memory had only a few experiences and I certainly have had no discussions with either of them of an erotic nature or any other nature in respect of Buccaneer Tournaments. I would really like to know who reported to BB that some of the conversation "was of an erotic nature and those who overheard the discussion described the comments by the above-mentioned members as unsavoury bordering on lewd." BB should actually show some real BB (Big Balls) in revealing his source of this defamatory claim. It is so easy for people like BB to hide behind the old scenario of "He said "She said" BS and innuendo and not actually produce any incontrovertible evidence of their claims.*

**Response from BB: Mike Lally and Fuzz McLeod are both a bit miffed at GOBAKE saying they were marginal Buccaneer tournament participants. Both have confirmed that such a conversation did in fact take place. No further correspondence will be entered into on this matter.**

*3. As a recipient of The Buccaneer Tie (awarded after a minimum of 10 years playing in the tournament) I can confirm with some authority that the tournament was known for its "polite social intercourse, moderate alcohol consumption and exemplary behaviour, and all in all the Tournament was an example of rugby civility and graciousness" as so eloquently put by I think A.D Miral. The author of these lines appears anonymous in the meeting minutes but I can't imagine that BB would have been capable of penning that.*

**Response from BB: The above text was indeed penned by me and it is with some degree of astonishment that "GOBAKE" has failed to recognise this. All I can do is refer him to the section of last week's newsletter - refer Sir Winston Churchill - and my very close blood relationship with that famous leader that has moulded my character and intellect. To suggest some dubious derelict called A.D. Miral was involved adds to my view that "GOBAKE" is confused both on and off the paddock.**

*4. I am hoping for a letter of apology for the despicable false claims against me but bearing in mind BB'S historical performance I won't be holding my breath.*

**Response from BB: Don't hold your breath..... or better still do.....**

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The second Letter to the Editor is rather strange. It's from Julie Coombes...

*Dear Heather*

*In response to the knowledge that BB is related to Sir Winston Churchill - I am very concerned. Concerned because I too am related to Sir Winnie and the thought that I am therefore related to BB will take some time to digest. It will take time for me to consider the implications of this especially as Sir Winnie is also related to Marilyn Munroe.....BB is in illustrious company here you know.*

*Furthermore, Sir Winnie is related to Princess Diana and therefore Prince William and Prince Harry - now there's a thought you could send an invitation to Archie to join the Club and sometime in the future he could marry a Basham and then we would have more generations for the history of the Club.*

*I think the committee needs to consider a vote on whether it should be Sir BB - after all it is a long time since the club has had a Sir in its ranks AND it appears he is really related to royalty!*

*Julie Coombes*

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Response from BB. Well, well. How interesting. This confirms my superior status and elevates me beyond being a Community Leader. However, I must dispute sharing my Churchillian ancestry with Julie. I would like to ask Julie to prove her facts. For example, does Julie have a tendency toward baldness? Does she have my superior intellect and predisposition for Glenfiddich and Cubans? Does she have that superior vocabulary and a witty repartee? Can she fit comfortably into the aristocratic world? Based on Julies response I might consider a discussion with her. However, in the meantime I agree totally with Julie that the title "Sir BB" is a marvellous suggestion and an honour well deserved. This is one accolade that I accept forthwith! No need for a stupid vote with the lower-class Crew. The suggestion that I am related to royalty is something that I have always strongly suspected - so this confirmation from Julie is simply magnificent. Thanks Julie, but you do need to prove your connections - mine are crystal clear. To all those that are not as well positioned socially and politically as myself, I can only say - bloody hard-luck!

Sir BB

*"I only drink  
**WHISKY**  
on days  
with names  
that end  
in y".*

Winston Churchill



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