



# 'OLD PIRATES'

## Meeting No.4 - July 2018



Minutes of "Old Pirates" Meeting held at the Clubrooms on Tuesday 15th July 2018

**Present:** Big Buccaneer (BB) and Crew - Heather, Gypo, Rick, Rex, Bex, Fairy, Witty and Ash as observer.

**Apologies:** Nil which BB described as incomprehensible bordering on the implausible.

**Minutes last meeting:** Read and confirmed.

### Matters arising:

BB said he was particularly pleased at the turn-out at the Grandstand Preview meeting that he had organised. He said that *"on reflection the club can be very pleased with the initiative that I have shown on this matter."* He continued by saying that *"when it comes down to it, my experience in guiding a bunch of no-hopers to greater things is indeed commendable and the club is blessed to have someone as significant and driven as myself."*

Heather said that she agreed with BB and that he indeed was an unsung hero who deserved to be recognised for his outstanding efforts. She said that BB reminded her of that great Australian legend Lance Hill who she grew up admiring so much. She said that not many people know about Lance Hill who invented the Hills-Hoist hand-wind telescopic clothesline. Heather said that *"Other countries copied the Australian invention but as far as I am concerned the Hill-Hoist clothesline was one of Australia's greatest inventions in spite of what anyone says"*. She commented that Australia's two greatest inventions, the Hill-Hoist clothes-line and the boomerang made her really, really, proud to be an Aussie. She added that *"I don't know exactly who it was that invented the boomerang, but it must be in an encyclopaedia somewhere"*. She continued saying that *"in moments of reflective-nostalgia I often watch the Hills-Hoist TV advert from 1964 because Australia takes its inventions and history very, very seriously"*.

For those Old Pirates who have an interest in technical inventions you may wish to take some time-out to view the history of Australia's greatest invention on Google.....  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHwTYfFI3PI>

BB responded by thanking Heather for her insightful comments that were, he said, always of interest and articulated in a sensible and appropriate manner.

BB reported that the Grandstand evening had raised a whopping \$7000.00 thanks to several very generous contributions and the auctioneering skills of 'Old Pirates' Val Ditchfield (Ditch).

Mainly for Gypo's sake, here are the 4 questions again.

**1. Who became Te Puke's first ever player to be selected for the All Blacks - when playing club rugby in Te Puke?**

Answer:

*Graeme Crossman*

**2. What was the first sport played on Lancaster Park and in what year?**

Answer:

*Cricket in 1881*

**3. Which international player holds the record for the longest penalty goal ever kicked in a test match?**

Answer:

*Cardiff Arms Park.*

*The longest penalty ever in a test match is exactly 70 yards 8 and a half inches (64.2m) and was kicked by Welsh fullback Paul Thorburn during the 1986 Five Nations Championship at*

For those who wish to see the longest penalty ever kicked in a test match go to Google and watch the Paul Thorburn video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTtTbcfwCMA>


**4. Which Te Puke Sports Coach-Manager and Prems player played for the All Blacks in the 1981 'flour-bomb' test against the Springboks?**

Answer:



*Doug Rollerson*

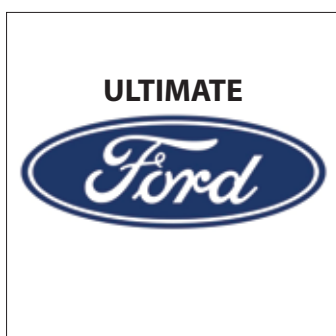


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On other matters arising, Heather noted that an 'Old Pirates' initiative to up-grade the exterior of the club had commenced with striking red, yellow and black stripes now completed on the two front sides of the club. The consensus was that the stripes are very effective in visually displaying the club's colours. Work to date has been sponsored by  and a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded Murray and Heather.

**Financials:** Heather reported that the Bank balance stands at \$3822.08

- BB detailed the result of the **ULTIMATE**  donated raffle of the Webber BBQ. The raffle raised an outstanding \$2000.00 and 'Old Pirates' and Te Puke Sports thank Russell Pederson of **Ultimate Ford** for the generosity shown by his company. Talk to Russell's team about that new Ranger you've been thinking about!!
- Paul Robilliard donated two limited-edition rugby prints featuring international test captains with authenticated signatures. Bids came thick and fast with each framed print fetching \$1000.00. This remarkable result was made even more astounding when the winners of the auction, Kevin Marsh and Bear Stapleton donated these valuable prints back to the club! 'Old Pirates' sincerely thank Kevin and Andrea and Bear and Lois for their huge generosity. A special thanks to donor Paul Robilliard.
- The feature auction was that of the last test-match jersey worn by Sean Fitzpatrick playing against Wales at Wembley Stadium, Nov 29, 1997. This framed jersey was generously donated for the grandstand cause by club member Alan Roberts. The auction commenced with frantic bids from many potential buyers and was ultimately won by Snow Williams head of  Real Estate for a whopping \$3000.00. Then, in another extraordinary gesture, Snow donated the jersey back to the club!! Little can be added other than to say thanks to both Alan and Snow. Thanks Bayley's you are a magnificent supporter of the club!
- BB said that the grandstand Power-Point presentation from Rick and Danielle was interesting, but typical of Rick it was a bit of a mish-mash, badly co-ordinated and clearly missing key points about his involvement. BB said, *"that at the very least Rick could have included my photograph and some comments about my leadership"*. He said that in thanking Rick it should be noted that *"he is not the kind of person to front something so strategically important to the club. In future, such presentations might be better left for when I am available."*
- Apparently, there is considerable interest in the 4 questions that were asked at the Grandstand Preview evening. Question 1 became particularly controversial because the club's greatest ever know-it-all (Gypo) disputed the answer. However..... since realising that he didn't quiet listen to the question properly, there have been screams of silence from him ever since! Regarding question 3, again it was Gypo who forcefully kept screaming out **Pierre Villepreux** and then went on for the entire evening moaning and groaning about the answers being wrong and how no one other than him has any idea about rugby general knowledge!



## Correspondence Inward:

1. **A letter from Club Captain Kim Hinaki stating:** "I am deeply disturbed about the lack of recognition given to the Golden Oldies achievements. This team has not lost a game in over 20 years but all we hear is how great the Prems and Development squads have done. Can it therefore be recorded that the Golden Oldies are, without doubt, the club's most successful team over the last two decades".

*Signed Kim Hinaki Club Captain*

2. **A letter (abridged) from John Dowling (JD) stating:** that he wished to make a complaint against "BBs" behaviour at the semi-final game against the Mount on the 21st July 2018. JD detailed how he was verbally abused and man-handled by "BB" at the game for standing inside the dead-ball area early in the game. He commented that *"to treat a respected member of the club and a sponsor in such a way is inexcusable and brings into question the man's state of mind"*. He further stated that to make matters worse BB then spent the rest of the game standing in the same in-goal area. He continued saying that he believed that the root of the matter is that BB has never accepted the change of name from United Pirates to Te Puke Sports in 1992 which would explain his excessive screaming of **PIRATES, PIRATES, PIRATES** at every opportunity. On a separate topic, JD noted that BB has fantasies over road cones, probably due to his employment, and has visions in his mind of people putting road cones in his driveway. JD stated that *"... It must be difficult for Nicky living with someone who takes a road cone to bed to hug and yells PIRATES, PIRATES, PIRATES during the night"*. He described BB as a poor demented soul and concluded saying that due to his bizarre behaviour he does not believe that BB should be in the position that he is. Accordingly, JD asked that the committee remove him from the role of 'BB' and as 'Old Pirates' meetings are obviously alcohol free that he be assigned to making the tea - hopefully a job that he might be able to do though he doubted that was possible. In concluding he added that if this issue is not resolved he would have to consider his future membership of 'Old Pirates'.

*Signed John Dowling Esq.*

3. **A letter from Val "Ditch" Ditchfield:** Dear BB and Crew - Regarding the Grandstand Preview evening, I was most disappointed that at the commencement of the auction I was hampered by a vociferous individual who I will not name. The individual who screamed out *... will the auctioneer take financial responsibility for the authenticity of Sean Fitzpatrick's jersey?* was clearly, in my opinion, unhinged or deranged. Therefore, the reason for this letter is to make the Club aware that the person concerned did break the NZ Auctioneers Association's **"Code of Conduct"** covenants and as such will need to be reported. I will leave this matter with 'Old Pirates' to consider and I also refer the club to article 14 (below) of the NZ Auctioneers **Code of Conduct** which I would ask to be shown to the loud-mouth concerned. As mentioned, I prefer not to name the uncouth rat at this stage.





**The Auctioneers Association represents the specialist interests of Auctioneers, Appraisers & Agents of Real Estate, General & Livestock.**

**ARTICLE 14:** Code of conduct of the NZ Auctioneers Association:

*When asked for an opinion as to the value of any property or article or an opinion on any matter related to auctioneering, a Member Auctioneer shall not need to provide an answer. His/her opinion constitutes a professional service and should be rendered only after having ascertained and weighed the facts, and for which he/she shall be entitled to make a fair comment. No Member shall accept instructions to carry out an appraisal unless he/she is sufficiently experienced and competent to accept such an assignment especially in relation to rugby memorabilia.*

**Correspondence Outward:**

**A letter to JD (John) Dowling Esq. from BB**

Dear John,

In my position as BB and of course, as a Community Leader, the burden of responsibility falls heavily on me to maintain standards and up-hold the integrity of the club and that of my subordinates. It may have alluded you, but in recent months I have had to root out the decay that was pervading the scoreboard, I have had to control an inebriated and often unruly 'Old Pirates Crew,' initiate grandstand projects and generally be the pillar that supports all that is good and wholesome about Te Puke Sports. To this end, let me tell you very clearly, this is not a club that is a back-water Eldorado of lawlessness! Your rambling letter does not in any way absolve the fact that small transgressions such as encroaching onto the field-of-play can eventually lead to more serious wrongdoings and possibly a life of crime. Frankly speaking, I will not tolerate such disobedience.

With reference to cones, you surely must get to see someone about this fixation before its all too late. Similarly, if you were to look back at the Club's Minutes, you will note that it was me and Brownie (may God rest his sole) who initiated the name-change with, might I say, considerable opposition from yourself and a bunch of old farts and diehards. So, let's put that issue to bed once and for all.

Your letter is made more concerning because as a prominent referee you have totally mis-read the mood of the club and of myself. There is no chance that I will be removed as BB given the likelihood that I will follow in the footsteps of China's Xi Jinping who requested the Chinese legislature to unanimously approve his reappointment as President - with no limit on the number of terms that can be served. I will be demanding the Crew to appoint me in a similar fashion to Xi and will be equally severe on any dissenting Crew member.

In concluding, you may like to know that road-cones have a multitude of purposes and I would invite you to imagine the form and shape of the cone and the potential uses it might have. One of these uses springs to mind however you may not want me to be too descriptive. Suffice to say that I will leave this option open.

Yours in response,

BB. (2016, 2017, 2018, & onward.)



### **A Letter to John Lewis (Lewy):**

Dear Mr Lewis, 'Old Pirates' advises that at the Grandstand Preview evening you contravened the NZ Auctioneers Association Code-of-Conduct by acting in a manner contrary to standards expected of a Club member. This letter is to inform you that 'Old Pirates' distances itself from your misconduct and therefore any penalty or consequence is strictly between you and the NZ Auctioneers Association.

### **A letter to Ditch:**

Dear Ditch, thank you for doing a great auction and 'Old Pirates' advises that a letter of reprimand has been dispatched the John Lewis (Lewy). Please accept an apology and as a token of appreciation we have included a video featuring Leroy Van Dyke which you can view on Google.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyCxT1Y\\_YWQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyCxT1Y_YWQ)

### **A letter to Club Captain Kim Hinaki:**

Dear Kim, your complaint about the unfair treatment of the 'Golden Oldies' record over the last 2 decades is noted but not necessarily understood. It may not have come to your notice that the 'Golden Oldies', like the scoreboard-staff are considered by many club members to be somewhat 'seedy'. The club has often received reports of social-delinquency combined with rumours of 'rigged' scoring. On these matters and in that great Westminster style of justice, this team is considered guilty unless otherwise proven innocent. In any case, our club statistician Flexi cannot substantiate any claim that you have been undefeated for 20 years. We don't wish this correspondence to continue however we do wish the 'Golden Oldies' every success in future seasons.

*Signed BB*

The meeting closed with BB and the Crew toasting the Prem's and the Development teams for their glorious Finals results. By the time every Crew member had individually proposed a toast, a disappointing amount of red was left for an after-meeting tippie. Doddsy of course was required to drink his own bottle of bargain-basement Corbans.

