



# 'OLD PIRATES'

## Meeting No.2 - March 2017



Minutes of 'Old Pirate's 2nd Meeting held at the Clubrooms on Thursday 23rd March

**Present:** Big Buccaneer (BB), Heather, Gypo, Rick, Doddsy, Fairy & club President Ash Peat. A good selection of reds was brought to the meeting by Crew members.

**Apologies:** Witty, who is attending the Banjo Patterson Poetry Recital Festival up at Gilgandra. Heather noted that her brother Bruce was also likely to go to this event which she said, is apparently very popular. She said Bruce lives nearby in Coonabarabran not that far from Mullengudgery. She said that no-one in Gilgandra is sober during the Banjo Patterson Recital Festival and last year Bruce got totally blotto and recited "The Man from Ironbark". She said that he got 'runner-up' at the "Roo Stew & Brew" pub on the main street but he didn't remember anything at all. BB thanked Heather for her observations which he said "were always interesting".

Apology accepted; Moved Fairy, seconded Heather.

**Financials:** Heather detailed the financial situation explaining that the Bank balance stood at \$3541.00. She noted that 60 subscriptions had already been paid and that membership was on target to exceed last season. She said that 'absolutely remarkably' Arthur Ball had paid his sub which, in her opinion was exceptional "given that Accountants are always tardy in making payments". She said that on a more sombre note, 3 Crew members had not paid their subs. She said that Rick, Doddsy and Witty were not financial. In a blistering attack, BB said that it was typical of these three and as far as he was concerned they are to be considered 'on probation pending payment within 7 days'. Rick responded saying that he was sure that his cheque was in the mail; Doddsy explained that the ANZ Bank had not printed his cheque-book yet and Witty was over at the Banjo Patterson festival. BB said he was sick and tired of excuses and it was either pay-up in seven days or be removed as Crew members.

**Minutes of Previous meeting:** BB said that he was aware of an ugly little discussion at Molly's Bar last week involving a few Crew members. He said he wouldn't mention names but clearly Doddsy was involved. He said he knew that there is a murky scheme to push him out of the top job and as such he needed to "flush-out" the rats. He said he was going to stand-down and call for a new election. He said that provided no-one voted against him he was willing to continue.

Rick advised the meeting that he considered BB to be a dictator and would nominate Doddsy but couldn't vote for him because "everyone knows that he isn't up to the task".

BB stated that that Rick obviously didn't know the difference between a Dictator and a Messiah. He said that he didn't want to make a fuss about it, but amongst other excellent achievements that he was responsible for, he considered that the success of the Hindu visit was largely attributable to his leadership and the masterful way he had conducted the formal presentations and speeches. He asked the question.... "who else would have had the ability to instantaneously introduce BOPRFU President Crossy as All-Black No 739 and give such a thorough background of his playing career?" He said that he seriously doubted any of the Crew would know, for arguments sake, that Pirates player Arthur Jennings was All Black No 659 or that United Pirates player Doug Rollerson was All Black No 758.

Gypo said that he certainly didn't have any ability to recollect facts like BB. He said that he couldn't remember what he had for lunch let alone statistics like that. He said he would support BB and that "he wasn't at Molly's Bar last week, but he knew who was". BB acknowledged these comments saying that he recognised that Gypo's abilities were limited.

A Motion was then put by Rick: "that Doddsy be elected as Big Buccaneer". However, the Motion failed for want of a seconder.

BB said that a Motion for his re-election wasn't needed as he was already elected and he was only wanting confirmation that no-one would oppose him. On the basis that Rick decided to abstain from the discussion and no-one opposed his re-appointment, BB accepted the position of BB for the 2017 season. A very weak round of applause ensued.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting Approved; moved Gypo, seconded Rick.



**General Business:** The issue of club sponsorship was raised with concern expressed that the sponsorship document developed by Old Pirates needed to be circulated amongst businesses with strong commercial attachment to the local kiwifruit and agriculture industry. Crew members pointed out that several significant organisations do not support local clubs and an opportunity existed to approach these businesses. The main committee is to discuss this.

• Heather raised the fact that Doddsy had not brought any wine to the meeting. She said that she thought it was important that the wine contribution was kept 'on a fair and equal basis' and to an acceptable quality standard. She said that "on reflection perhaps no wine was better than the gut-rot that Doddsy contributes". In response, Doddsy said that he was temporarily 'off the plonk' because Jackie is



worried that he might have the first signs of gout. He said that he always bought \$6.99 bottles of Hardy's or Nottage Hill blended reds and he found them to be more than acceptable. He said that he also drank Ranfurly beer and he supposed he would be criticised for that as well? He concluded by saying that he thought Heather was becoming a real wine-snob.

- Crew members raised three items for consideration: (1) air-conditioning (2) toilet facilities (see below) (3) the loud-speaker system. It was requested that these matters be taken to the main committee by Ash for discussion. 'Old Pirates' would support any initiative that was aimed at either installing or improving these amenities. These matters could become a focus for 'Old Pirates' for the 2017 season.
- Doddsy said that John Thurston was making overtures to become a Crew member. Fairy commented by saying that although he thought John was a really good guy and all that, he personally had a problem with vets because around about his seventh birthday a vet 'put-down' his family cat called Smooch. He said Smooch had boils but they weren't all that bad. Doddsy added that he also had a bad veterinary experience when his pet heifer got 'the scours' on calf-club day at Paengaroa Primary School in 1960. He said that all he knew was that his old man and the vet took the calf away and he never saw Felicity again. Heather commented saying that in her opinion vets have their purpose but "my little fluffies get very unsettled when the vet arrives". She said that she would be uncomfortable with a vet as a Crew member. In response, BB said that he acknowledged the concerns as he also had a pussy at home. He would speak with John and explain that he might be better to coach or manage a JAB team or something like that.



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- Ash congratulated 'Old Pirates' organisation of the Hindu RFC visit. He said that although he was away with Kim and Mark and their respective wives skiing, he felt that the Hindu visit was a great success for the club as well as financially. Ash felt that reports that reached him at the Hermitage at Mt Cook advising of a degree of panic when the flood-lights failed at the start of the main game were unfortunate and needn't have disrupted his vacation. He said that on top of that he felt it inappropriate that he was contacted the second time because the meat was served raw when the cooker ran out of gas. He added that these kinds of issues including the fact that the toilets apparently didn't perform to standard were not matters that should have been communicated to him. He said these things happen and certain people, namely Rick and Doddsy need to 'man-up' and handle crisis situations in a more mature manner. BB agreed with the President saying that Dumb and Dumber have never been good under pressure.
  - Heather confirmed that subscriptions were coming in at a very pleasing rate. She said that members were clearly observing that all 'Old Pirates' revenue was being spent on the club and its members on the basis that all subs went "to the betterment of the club". She also said that man clubs accepted donations and bequeathments from members. She said that Doddsy was an example of someone who might wish consider the latter option especially if the gout was to progress.

The meeting concluded at 7.00 pm.