



www.leslierugby.co.nz



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

**Including our 2009
Leslie Rugby Club
Awards**

Grassroots Rugby

Seasons Greetings from the Leslie Rugby Team

Roll on Summer – You all deserve a well earned break to rejuvenate before the 2010 rugby season. The Leslie Rugby Team wish you all a relaxing and chilled out summer with plenty of cold beers, barbies and R&R with your family and friends.

Contents

- **John Leslie on the exciting new and improved Premier Ball.**
- **Club Mate Brofile - Paul Webster - Wanganui Pirates RFC**
- **Winners of the 2009 Senior & Junior Club and Volunteer of the Year Awards.**
- **Kiela Te Awhe-Taylor - 100 Game Junior**
- **A message from our Club Liaison Manager “Boyce the Voice”.**
- **Leslie Rugby Medical Supplies Feature - Sick of spending thousands on strapping tape? Check this out!**
- **NEW - Customised Rugby Polo's for your Club**
- **Stocking Fillers**
- **Are you sorted for your rugby requirements in 2010?**
- **Club Notice Board**
- **Leslie Rugby Balls to Samoa**

We hope you all enjoy the read; remember we love receiving your club news and photos, so keep them rolling in. We want to share your stories and achievements with our Grassroots Rugby Community around New Zealand.

Thanks for your kind support and loyalty this year. We are excited that you share in our vision of making grassroots rugby strong and an enjoyable experience to be part of.

Kind Regards and Merry Christmas,

The Leslie Rugby Team

From left to right:

Boyce, Lynn, John, Carmel, Brent



JL'S WRAP ON OUR NEW AND IMPROVED LESLIE RUGBY PREMIER BALL

NEW LESLIE RUGBY PREMIER BALL

After three short years, the production of 70,000 rugby balls, the expertise and diligence of numerous rugby mates from all over NZ and around the world, along with plenty of valuable feedback from you good rugby people - the Leslie Rugby Research and Development team have produced the outstanding **2010 Premier Ball**.



Our new 2010 Premier ball has been specifically designed to perform at the highest level of rugby standards when kicked, passed, thrown in, gripped, caught, mauled and bounced over a lengthy period of time.

Our kicking team has combined a rubber compound, lining and bladder that enables the ball to fly off the boot of accomplished kickers at a range of approximately 50 meters. Our team has also been very “rugby” orientated and has not made the mistake of making this ball too easy to kick and therefore becoming detrimental to our fifteen man game. This has been the case in international rugby recently where 55-60 metre goal kicks and kick and chase tactics have become the norm and are consistently dominating matches.

THE SPIRAL KICK IS BACK! Our team have increased the weight and size of the inside valve in the 2010 Premier ball. This tips the ball on itself in flight, promoting a long strong spiral flight when the ball is kicked accurately. This weighting also empowers long and precise spiral passing.

Our 2010 Premier ball is made with a tactile, long lasting grip surface, that promotes accurate handling and ball control. This will provide you with the best value and enduring club rugby ball available on the market.

I would like to thank all of you passionate rugby players and people who have provided Leslie Rugby with first class information and knowledge on rugby ball performance, construction and attributes over the last few years. When it comes to ball development, your contribution has been invaluable for our start up Kiwi business.

Thanks also to our skilled and ethical rugby ball manufacturers in India. I have been visiting these good men annually for the past four years. Kicking and passing a rugby ball about in India certainly has the ability to pull a bewildered crowd of spectators, that's for sure.

A good man I know often tells me “there are no negative comments, just feedback”, so I invite you to keep your valuable feedback coming.

Your Leslie Rugby Premier balls will be landing in NZ late January 2010.

Cheers and enjoy your summer.

John Leslie and the Leslie Rugby Ball Research and Development Team.

CLUBMATE PROFILE

Name: Paul Webster (Fluff)

DOB: 18/06/63

Rugby Club: Wanganui Pirates

Colours: Black & White

Years at Wanganui Pirates: 33 years

Previous Clubs:

Is there other Clubs out there?

Birthplace: Wanganui

Hometown: Whanganui

Province: Hurricanes

Immediate Family: 3 Moko's; Koda - Cat; Mint, Sauce, Gravy & Chop Suey (sheep); 3 pigs.

Iwi: Ngati Raukawa & Ngati Toa

Occupation: Heat-pump salesman

Pastimes: Walking or sex, depending on the weather!

Interests: Wife - and yes, she is watching me write this.

Position in Club: Committee Slacker

Playing Position: Don't know about playing, but No 10.

Teams you have Coached: Wanganui Pirates U19 & U21

Rugby Ambitions: Just to enjoy the game.

First Grassroots rugby memory: Watching Wanganui play with heart.

Best Grassroots rugby memory: Winning the Title.

Personal Rugby milestones: To play every weekend that I could.

Your all time favourite club mate and why? Arch Roebuck - Coach, Mentor, Rugby Dad for 33years and still counting.



Paul gets psyched for his hangi!

Ideal Saturday: Fry up for breakfast, rugby, then a few beers at the clubrooms.

Ideal Sunday: Chilling out with the Moko's and can't forget those committee meetings.

Funniest rugby moment: End of year trip to New Plymouth - playing a game, calling a short lineout, all the forwards dropping to their knees and the opposition didn't know what to do!

Proudest rugby moment: Winning best Pirates Club Player of the year when I was 12 years old.

What is a sure bet song to fill the dance floor at the Wanganui Pirates clubrooms?
Anything with a beat.

FAVOURITES:

Food: Boil up

Drink: Lager - Gin & Tonic.

Restaurant: No boil up in a restaurant.

Book: Rugby

Band: Meatloaf

Song: Bat out of Hell

Holiday Destination: Bay of Islands, Aotearoa & China Beach, Vietnam

Movie: Shawshank Redemption

Actor: Samuel L Jackson

Actress: No woman can act

Party trick: Gladwrap over the toilet bowl.



Paul's legs - Preparing the Hangi!

Kiwi Rugby players that you have met: John Leslie - for a string bean he was a great tackler.

Favourite Kiwi you have never met and why: Boyce, because I don't know where he lives.

Guitars in the garage or stepping out on the town: Garage brother.

Four people you would invite to dinner: Bring some alcohol and anyone can come.

Summer is for: Spending as much time outside as possible. Have a great Christmas everybody and looking forward to another great rugby season.

CHEERS

PS Can't wait to meet you Boyce - Take care, Fluff.

WINNERS OF THE LESLIE RUGBY CLUB, TEAM AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2009

Leslie Rugby would like to thank all our club mates who took the time to submit their nomination's and for sharing the achievements and outstanding contributions your people have made to club rugby. We have received some top notch nominations and have enjoyed the wonderful stories, successes and outstanding feats. Congratulations and mahi ana o mahi pai to you all.

After much deliberation by the entire Leslie Rugby Team we have chosen the following winners:

Senior Club of the Year 2009

Geraldine RFC - South Canterbury

It has been said we have the best club culture in South Canterbury. We have a coach that travels from Christchurch 3 times a week to coach our Senior team. He believes it is worth the time and effort as the club we have is one of a kind and has a culture you can't put a price on. Our

Senior B team won the competition this year, the first time they have won it since 1979 - 30years ago! They recently had a re-union with both sides attending. One of our senior players Shannon McRae made the South Canterbury representative side and got into the semi-finals in the Meads Cup Heartland Championship, he was also named South Canterbury Club Player of the Year, Geraldine Sportsman of the Year, South Canterbury Most Promising Player of the Year and Geraldine Best All Round Senior Player of the Year. His achievements on and off the field, fixing the scrum machine, coaching little JAB players and respect from other players is why he achieved these awards. We were so proud as a club to have him held in such high regard with the South Canterbury Union and the Geraldine Community. We are a real Grassroots Club and you will always find us busy with working bees and fundraisers.

Shilo King - Geraldine RFC Club Facilitator

Junior Club of the Year 2009

Central Pirates RFC - Southland

We expected the 2009 season to be a tough one, like most rural teams, we came in all shapes, sizes and abilities. We looked after our players with some fundraising and managed to get some playing strip together for them. Now it was up to the players to play as a team. We won all our first rotation games against James Hargest, Southland Boys High School, Menzies, SBHS Blue, SBHS White, Gore High, Te Anau, St Peters & Verdon. This put us through to the Championship round. We won the first two games in this round against Menzies and SBHS Red. We then had a 0-0 game against Gore High. This meant we had to win the last round to make the final. Soon after this, we lost a player to an accidental hanging - telling the boys at training that their team mate Taylor was on life support because he had accidentally hung himself was one of the hardest things I have had to deal with while looking after a team of players.

I am delighted to say that we have a very supportive group of parents; they all rallied around our players when the news arrived of Taylor's passing. The boys were devastated. We still had a game to play on the Saturday and it was the last round before finals and it had to be played.

We played SBHS Blue at home - it was tough game physically and emotionally for all concerned as Taylor had attended SBHS. We won the game 23-0. A lot of tears were shed in the changing room and around the ground. This meant we were in the final on 22nd August. The final was also the day of the Central Pirates 60th Jubilee. We won 10-3 and the team were ecstatic, shattered, delighted, exhausted and relieved. We were awarded the Southland Wide Under 14 Grade Trophy, which is the first time it's been won by a non school team. At the end of our 14 games, we had;

Played 14; Won 13; Drawn 1; Points for: 511; Points Against: 55

This is not a season any of us will forget in a hurry - we may not have had the best players in the South but we did have the best team and that's what rugby is all about!

Nanette Innes—Central Pirates Under 14 Team Manager

2009 AWARDS Continued...

Volunteer of the Year 2009

Gareth Weatherston - Green Island RFC, Otago.

Green Island RFC champion worker, club chairman, vice president, senior grade coach, manager and player, junior under 7's coach, bar manager, working bee energiser and all round top bloke. Gareth takes out our 2009 grassroots rugby volunteer of the year award and prize for his commitment and achievement in each of these roles.

Gareth is a tireless worker, great club and community man, with a humble persona an easy going nature. If you visit the GIRFC you will only get short odds on finding Gareth enjoying his club mates company with a few beers and a lot of laughs.

Gareth has been elected President of the GIRFC in 2010 and has been on the hop preparing for next season. All senior coaches and management are in place, including the notable acquisition of the young, ambitious and successful coaching duo of Brett McCormick and Nick Moore, both distinguished Otago players of the 1990s.

A round of applause must go out to Ray Chalkin, the 2009 President of the GIRFC and the rest of the GI volunteers for their contribution and team effort.

So good on you Gareth, we hope that you and your GI boys enjoy your winners set of complimentary rugby jerseys and we wish you well in 2010.

Cheers to you Gareth.

Volunteer of the Year was such a tough choice to make, with such a great bunch of people in contention for the award. Here are some of the other champion volunteers that were nominated and are certainly appreciated by their peers.

Jannette Knipe - Geraldine RFC, South Canterbury: Life member and anchor of the Geraldine RFC. Selfless and energetic achiever, always wanting the best for the youngsters. The good people of Geraldine and South Canterbury love this woman for the gem she is.

Daphne Bowden - Clive Rugby and Sports Club, Hawkes Bay. Take a deep breathe,...she's the club bus driver, newsletter writer, ball 4 all organiser, canteen lady, ex NZRU volunteer of the Year and Mum of 5! Charge on Daphne.

Vicki Crawford - Blue Mountain College, Otago Girls 1st XV Supremo, make it happen woman, %100 good sort.

Malcolm Laird - Western Sharks RFC, Northland: Mr Everywhere!

Ron Hughes - Featherston RFC, Waiarapa Bush: Club President, Captain and backbone, team manager, JAB delegate and chief fundraiser.

2009 AWARDS Continued...



Geraldine RFC Champions 09



Shannan McRae receiving his prize at the South Canterbury prize giving.



Central Pirates Under 14 Team



Gareth Weatherston receives his award from JL

100 Game Junior - Kiela Te Awhe-Taylor Wanganui Pirates RFC

Name: Kiela Te Awhe-Taylor

RFC: Wanganui Pirates

Positions Played: Wing, Centre and Half Back.

Kiela first played for Wanganui Pirates as a barefooted four year old in 2001. This was back in the olden days before rippa rugby so it was straight into tackle footy for the young fella and up against bigger kids from the get go. Kiela's courage in the tackle and evasiveness with ball in hand and passion for rugby was clear to see since day one has been evident ever since.



Kiela and his proud Koro.

Kiela's committed attitude and team spirit shines bright at the Wanganui Pirates junior club. In 2009 Kiela achieved the milestone of playing 100 games for the club as a junior and he went on to represent the Wanganui under 13 representative team where he performed with distinction. Kiela would like to thank his whanau, coaches, club mates and the WPRFC for the support and opportunities that they have given him.

Congratulations Kiela on your 100 junior matches and good luck with your rugby future.

LESLIE RUGBY CLUB LIAISON MANAGER BOYCEY

A MESSAGE FOR THE CLUBS

I'd like to take the chance to thank all of you for trusting in the Leslie Rugby team to deliver for you and your Club in 2009. It has been a pleasure chatting with you all during the course of the year and I look forward to doing so again soon.



I have had the privilege of listening to your stories and they cover the spectrum from the very funny to the very sad, where I hear about Clubs absolutely struggling to keep the game alive in their areas. The stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things for their Club is evidence in the "Volunteer of the Year" nominations we have received, and yet if you were to ask any of them, they would say what they were doing is nothing to write home about. They do it because it's their Club and the jobs have to get done.

This is where we try to make life simpler for you, by providing the one stop shop for grassroots Clubs, and saving time and money for you administrators by doing the organising of gear for you.

Santa's sleigh is on it's way and he'll be down the chimneys before you know it, so time is rapidly running out to get your jersey orders in before Christmas. Our jersey manufacturers will be closing on the 15th December and will reopen on the 13th of January 2010.

Lastly, thanks again for all your support and I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Ma te Atua koutou e manaaki, e tiaaki I waenganui nga hararei o Kirihimete me te haerenga mai o te tau hou.

**Boyce Whangapirita
Club Liaison Manager
boyce@leslierugby.co.nz**

LESLIE RUGBY MEDICAL SUPPLIES SAVING CLUBS \$\$\$\$\$

Leslie Rugby has a full range of rugby specific medical supplies, including strapping tape, rugby specific first-aid kits for junior and senior teams, rugby rub creams, adhesive sprays, cold/hot packs, ice-packs, wound dressings, joint supports and MORE..

We are delighted to have sourced a NZ supplier who is very much on our wave length of supporting grassroots rugby.

Leslie Rugby knows that medical supplies, (specifically strapping tape), can stretch the club's budget over the playing season and we have managed to source a supplier that allows us to have the best value tape on the market. To the point where you can almost get two rolls of excellent quality strapping tape for the price of one.

For more information on our fantastic rugby medical supplies, please do not hesitate to call us on **0800 4 537543.**

We would be happy to provide physio and player testimonials to back up our products and unbelievable prices.



NEW - CUSTOMISED RUGBY POLOS FOR YOUR CLUB

Leslie Rugby has recognised the fact that many club's struggle to get apparel to their accurate club colours and specific design and we have overcome this problem by offering customised club polo's.

On John's recent trip to South Africa he worked with our suppliers to come up with two great options for club polo's.

1. 180gms Single Jersey Knit Polo

2. 230gms Piquet Knit Polo

- You can choose from a large range of coloured yarn and make your own unique polo embroidered with club logo.
- Four different colours and any amount of stripes - the combinations are endless.
 - There is a minimum of 20 units per style and colour way.

Contact Boyce or John to discuss getting a customised polo for your club, tour teams and or jubilee celebrations.

LESLIE RUGBY XMAS PRESSIES

LOOKING FOR SOME RUGBY STOCKING FILLERS/PRESSIES?

Leslie Rugby balls are a great Christmas present/stocking filler for your child who loves rugby.

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Size 2.5: Nipper | \$16.50 |
| Size 3: Training | \$17.90 Match - \$27.90 |
| Size 4: Training | \$17.90 Match - \$27.90 |
| Size 5: Training | \$22.90 Match - \$32.00 |
| Size 5: Premier | \$65.00 |
| Size 5: Weighted | \$50.00 |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Leslie Rugby Junior Shorts | \$16.50 |
| Leslie Rugby Senior Shorts | \$18.90 |

(Colours: Black, Navy, Bottle Green, Red, Royal & White).

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Junior Tackle Bags | \$220.00 |
|--------------------|----------|



For more information; contact Boyce on 0800 4 537543 and he will help you through the process. We will have your order packed up and out the door before you have time to hang up the phone.

Check out the website for photos and product information;

www.leslierugby.co.nz

ALL PRICES EXCLUDE GST & FRIEGHT

ARE YOU SORTED FOR 2010?

Leslie Rugby's mission is to save clubs time and money by providing you with all your rugby requirements for the up & coming season. Our One Stop Shop approach makes the whole process cleaner and easier, leaving us to take care of everything for you.

Balls, Playing Kit, Apparel (pre and post match apparel), Field & Training Equipment, Ripa Rugby, Medical Supplies, including great prices on Tape and First Aid Kits, Protective Wear and Kit Bags.

For quotes, advice or a yarn about rugby, please don't hesitate to call John or Boyce
0800 4 LESLIE (0800 4 537543) from a landline.



ONE STOP SHOP

For anything rugby - you need it - we've got it!

LESLIE RUGBY CLOSING TIMES FOR SUMMER

The Leslie Rugby office will be closing on Wednesday the 23rd December 2009 until Monday 11th January 2010. During this time John will be available on his mobile 0275713381. John will also be checking his emails daily.

2010 PRODUCT & PRICELIST NOW AVAILABLE

The 2010 Product & Pricelist is now available. You can find it on our website; www.leslierugby.co.nz under Products. It will be in PDF and is able to be printed. For a hard copy, please do not hesitate to call and we will send you one out immediately.

0800 4 537 543

Club Notice Board

Geraldine RFC Seven's Tournament -1st Prize - \$5000.00 Cash.

Where: Geraldine RFC, Geraldine South Canterbury

When: 13th February 2010

1st Prize - \$5000.00 Cash.

Entry Fee: \$500.00

The rejuvenation of this prestigious and historical 7's Tournament swings into gear in 2010. Plenty of fun to be had with some stellar trophies to be won.

Go to; www.geraldinerugby.org.nz for registration information or email Shilo King on; shiloking@xtra.co.nz - she makes things happen!

Middlesex Cup Sevens

Back to back Middlesex Cup Sevens Champions, Alhambra Union RFC, go for three in a row when they defend the big daddy of NZ Sevens Cups at the North Ground in Dunedin - Be in it, to win it!

When: Saturday 6th March 2010

Contact Hugh Tait for information and entry details at hugotait@yahoo.com

Petone RFC 125th Celebrations

When: 7, 8 & 9th May 2010

Go to www.petonerugby.com for details on the 125th anniversary.

Heriot RFC 125th Celebrations

When: 16, 17 & 18th April 2010

Contact Lesley Clague on; (03) 204230.
2RD Heriot.

To have your club celebrations and events reported in our next newsletter, contact John on: john@leslierugby.co.nz or phone 0800 4 537543.

LESLIE RUGBY BALLS TO SAMOA

Leslie Rugby was delighted to pitch in and help put a smile back on the kids faces in Samoa after the tragic Tsunami which hit the mainland, destroying many of it's peoples homes and lives.

Seventy Leslie Rugby junior balls were sent to Samoa with Steve Symonds and his team of Wellington RFU players who ran coaching sessions in the local schools and villages. Steve and his team did a fantastic job.

Steve commented;

“The balls went down a treat in Samoa - I can tell you, they are like gold over there. We left a number in schools and villages across Samoa and we gave a number to some pretty special individuals - we know they will get well used! Thanks John.”



Apia School – Samoa



Robert Fruean & Anthony Perenise



David Smith gives direction to future Samoan stars.



Giving the ball some air Samoan style..