



# THE RED MACHINE

Newsletter of the Marist St Pats Rugby Football Club Inc

PO Box 3472, Wellington

[www.msprugby.co.nz](http://www.msprugby.co.nz)

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SHIELD WINNERS: MSP's senior 1s secured the Harper Lock Shield with two games still to go.

## Heading for Hardham Cup

The senior 1s will play premier grade rugby for the Hardham Cup in the second round following an outstanding run to secure the Harper Lock Shield.

The unbeaten Dave McGuinness and John Duignan-coached side racked up 465 points in its 11 games, and conceded just 96.

Halfback Sean Hay and prop Sean Coburn have captained the team, and are among the many players who regularly back up the premiers.

## Eleven teams performing well

by John Holden  
MSP chairman

Marist St Pats' 2009 season is well underway. This year we are fielding 11 teams (comprising 335 players), but several are bursting at the seams.

This compares with 13 in the senior club five years ago in 2004; MSP continues to be one of the largest clubs in the Wellington Union. But members should not take the club's strength for granted. It takes a dedicated group of volunteers to achieve such a strong position.

Congratulations to the club's senior teams who have started the season so successfully. The premiers, coached by Kevin Horan and Murray Tocker, have a lot of depth; the senior 1s, coached by Dave McGuinness and John Duignan, have already marched off with the Harper Lock Shield.

The senior 2s, with coaches Gus

Slade and John Pouterewa, and the 3rds with coaches Sione Savi'inaea and Sio Mapu, have all performed well, while the under-21s coached by Dave Wanden and Steve McGill were runners-up in their grade.

The 80/80 Blues coached by Andrew Robinson, and the reserve grade MSP Internationals with coaches Edwin Meachen and Cameron Bath, were first-round winners of their grades.

Obviously winning enhances the enjoyment everyone gets from being involved with MSP and with individual teams, but it also promotes camaraderie among players and supporters at the clubrooms.

Already Richie Renouf and Mere Wilson have planned a successful Old Timers Day and an MSP Idol night (congratulations to Adam Saxton of the 80/80 Blues team), and there are more theme nights to come. A special memory was the reunion of the 1949 St Patrick's

College Old Boys Jubilee Cup-winning team!

Being part of the Marist St Pats family means being part of a team. And in this regard the management committee was pleased to nominate MSP members for the various categories of *The Dominion Post* Sportsperson of the Year Awards - the nominations are listed on the next page.

Finally, a word to everyone who goes to games each week to support MSP teams. I have seen a number of sides, senior mens and womens and juniors, and continue to be impressed by the number of fair-minded supporters on the sidelines.

Players appreciate this support and other clubs recognise it as another strength of the Red Machine.

The management committee expresses its best wishes to players, coaches and managers for the remainder of the season.

# News from around the club

## Well done, Victor

Congratulations to Victor Vito for his selection to the Junior All Black squad that will play Tonga, Samoa, Fiji and Japan in the Pacific Nations Cup from 12 June to 3 July.



**NOW A JUNIOR ALL BLACK:** Victor Vito, MSP's Sportsman of the Year last year

Victor has been rewarded for some outstanding form late in the Hurricanes season. The team assembled in Auckland on 8 June and departs for Samoa on 11 June.

## Tino remembered

The sudden passing of Tino Fidow, 70, in February saddened many club members who remember Tino from his many years playing for MSP.

He was working as a security guard at Parliament at the time of his passing, and his well attended funeral was a tribute to his popularity.

Now he will be remembered in future clashes between the presidents sides of MSP and Petone, who will play to decide the holder of the Tino Fidow Cup.

The club's 25th Jubilee book has a photo of grey-haired Tino playing for the presidents - it's captioned "an outstanding player over 25 years", and that was in 1996.

It was as a pressies prop that he reputedly scored his first try - in 1992, after many years as a senior player.

His brother Andrew is a Petone

stalwart, and the trophy is a fitting way to acknowledge a popular and loyal club member.

## Premier centurions

Two MSP players achieved rare milestones in club rugby this season when they recorded their 100th premier games for the club.

Prop Jamie Parkinson led the team onto the field for his 100th, a 55-3 win over Tawa on 11 April.

Then outside back Jon Paul Tocker hit the century on 23 May in the premiers 59-0 defeat of Avalon. JP, who made his premier debut against Old Boys Uni in 2002, marked his 100th premier games try.



**JAMIE PARKINSON:** 100 premier games

He lists the 2002 Jubilee Cup win, and the 2008 Cup win after a 17-game undefeated streak, as highlights of his time in the premiers.

## Family addition

Congratulations to premier manager Bryce Tietjens and wife Cathryn on the recent birth of their daughter Drew - a little sister for Megan.

## Ref blows the whistle

On the same bitterly cold day that the premiers match against Avalon was called off early because of a serious injury to Anthony Bradshaw, another MSP v Avalon game also had an early finish.

The presidents match was called off because... the ref got too cold.

The players were keen to continue and the backs were showing no signs of exposure. However, despite his woolly hat and track

suit, the frozen official said it was an 'OSH issue' and blew the final whistle with 15 minutes to go.

## History project

MSP chairman John Holden is compiling a "Journey through time with Marist St Pats", a list of the club's most significant milestones since its founding in 1971.

If you have any defining moments - trophy wins, rep selections, facilities opened - that you think should be part of the club's history, email your suggestions to John at msprugby@xtra.co.nz.

## Club nominations

The following club members were nominated for *The Dominion Post's* Sportsperson of the Year Awards.

While the nominees were ultimately unsuccessful, MSP would like to record its appreciation of their achievements:

### **Club team of the Year - 2008**

Marist St Pats premiers

### **Emerging Sportsperson of the Year**

Victor Vito

### **Sport Volunteer of the year**

Fr Geoff Broad

### **Lifetime Contribution to Sport**

Brian Coulter

### **Athlete With a Disability**

Theo Waterhouse

### **Administrator of the Year**

Ken Ah Kuoi.

## Blues scoop Idol again

The club's off-field stars were in fine form on the MSP Idol night in May, and for the second year running the under-85 Blues provided the winner.



**KISS, ANYONE?** Craig Simeon on Idol Night

Adam Saxton was unstoppable - a fine effort given the costumed competition from Craig Simeon (photo).





# Gordon Tietjens guest speaker on big Test weekend

Sevens coach Gordon Tietjens has been confirmed as a guest speaker at the Shamrock Club Test dinner, part of the annual big Test weekend in Wellington.

The test this year is the All Blacks versus France at the Stadium on Saturday 20 June. The Shamrock Club pre-Test dinner on Friday night 19 June features Tietjens and top racing trainer and raconteur John Wheeler as speakers.

Once again, MSP has booked the Boatshed on the waterfront for the

Saturday (the clubrooms at Hataitai will be closed).

The Boatshed will be open from 3pm and will feature pre- and post-Test match entertainment - including a big screen for those who can't make it to the Stadium.

The weekend is a great opportunity to catch up with MSP players and supporters - Shamrock Club members get first preference on the Test dinner tickets so, if you can't make it there, get along to the Boatshed on Saturday.

# MSP and St Pats rugby quiz

What do you know about the St Pats Town and Marist St Pats rugby? This quiz was put together by the school's rugby club, a group of teachers, parents and coaches who promote rugby at the college. (Answers on the back page.)

1. How many St Pat's Town old boys have played for the All Blacks?
2. Name the two old boys who have captained the All Blacks?
3. What year did the MSP club (combined from the Marist and St Pats Old Boys clubs) first play in Wellington?
4. What year did Marist St Pats last win the Jubilee Cup?
5. Name two St Pat's Town old boys who were in the 2009 Hurricanes squad?
6. Name the coach of the SPC under-14 team?
7. Who is the SPC 1st XV captain?
8. How many points did the 2nd XV score in their first traditional match this year?
9. Which team won the first ever game between SPC and Wellington College? For a bonus point, what was the score?



## Juniors boosted

Junior co-convenor Karin Graham (bottom left) has been doing her bit to bolster the juniors' ranks. Karin, who is Brendan Reidy's sister, recently had a wee girl who has been named Anastasia, after Karin and Brendan's late mum. Other junior committee members include co-convenor Andrew McLean bottom right.

## Haere Ra Charles Mareikura

Charles Mareikura, Ngati Rangi chief based in Ohakune, died in early June following a long battle with cancer.

Many will remember Charles as the tall, sleek winger who played for MSP in the early 1970s.

He was a national martial arts champion and a mentor to many in Ohakune. Charles worked out of the DOC office in Wanganui as an advisor on Maori issues. The club extends its deepest sympathies to Charles' whanau.

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All correspondence to Marist St Pats, PO Box 3472, Wellington.

Email: [msprugby@xtra.co.nz](mailto:msprugby@xtra.co.nz)

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# Top points' scorers

With the first round completed, the club's top points scorers up to and including 6 June are:

			Tries		
Mel Roewen	women		11		
Brendan Watt	premier		10		
Mike Kingsbeer	premier		10		
Julian Tupai	senior 1		10		
Cameron Bath	reserve		8		
				<b>Kicking points</b>	<b>Total points</b>
Fa'atonu Fili	premier		116		121
Ryan Setefano	senior 1		76		101
Fraser Hunter	senior 2		72		77
Ciaran O'Brien	reserve		53		53

(Thanks to Barrie Smith for the stats)

**KIDS' CLUB NEEDS HELP!** MSP's Kids' Club does a great job entertaining the children at the clubrooms after Saturday's games, but they need some fresh toys and games - if you have any donations that the kids might enjoy, contact Richie Renouf on 0274 485 520 or via [msprugby@xtra.co.nz](mailto:msprugby@xtra.co.nz).

## St Pats Old Boys Cup winners



**CUP WINNERS:** St Pats Old Boys Jubilee Cup winners from 1949 - from left: Les Simmons, John Watt, Ted Buddicom, Bill Roche, Len Jackson, Noel Mullin, Des Chambers, and Bernie Lynch. Current MSP president Mick Robbers is on the right, and Old Timers' Day organiser John Gordon is at the lectern in the rear.

These members of the 1949 St Pats Old Boys senior side were the second team in Marist St Pats to win a Jubilee Cup. The Marist club had first won the trophy in 1948, the St Pats team above shared it with Petone a year later, and Marist went on to win it again in 1950. Marist and SPOB later merged in 1971.

Sixty years after their 1949 victory, members of the SPOB team gathered at the clubrooms on Old Timers' Day, 4 May 2009, to celebrate the occasion.

Something of the intense flavour of club rugby in those days was captured in the poem by Jack Kelleher (right). It celebrates a 1950 St Pats match against a Petone side that featured such well-known Petone names as Hewson, Haddy, Dougan and Abbott.

The *Sports Post* reported that fullback John Gordon "made a grand save", that Ted Buddicom was prominent in some snappy back play, and that Jack Watt scored two tries.

## Congratulations to raffle winners

Two big fund-raising raffles have recently been held in the club. Thanks to all those who took part, and congratulations to the winners.

The winners in the Rest and Recreation raffle drawn on 25 May are:

1. \$1000 worth of travel: No. 0163 - Terry Manion
2. Ibis Hotel, two nights and breakfasts: No. 0581 - Brian Cederwall
3. MSP promotional gear: No. 6667 - Rubi Loibl-Stanley.

Winners of the regular \$100 raffle drawn on on 28 May are:

1st	365	2nd	212	3rd	116	4th	123
5th	33	6th	38	7th	259	8th	92
9th	442	10th	417	11th	122	12th	76
13th	388	14th	327	15th	255	16th	303
17th	316	18th	193	19th	164	20th	319

The poem below was written by Jack Kelleher, a St Pats Town old boy who later become editor of the *Dominion*. He penned it after St Pats Old Boys beat Petone 20-5 at the Petone Rec on 31 July 1950, one week after Marist had also beaten them, 22-12 at Athletic Park.

### *The Rec - 20-5*

*Things are now doleful - in fact they are grim  
These footballing 'Paddys' have done it again  
Our blinds all in tatters, our windows all dark  
We've been licked again, though not at the Park*

*St Patricks OB, we played on our Rec  
And we got it once more - yes - right in the neck  
Last week we were humbled and sent home in shame  
This week we just stayed here - the result was the same*

*Those banshees in green and their brothers in blue  
Oh! Those days we will rue  
'Tis lucky indeed we are still alive  
This time we were massacred 20 to five*

*In Petone, I hear, they ply a new trade  
To be in you just pull your blinds down a shade  
The whole town is there, our old footy club  
The postie, the milkman, the bloke at the pub*

*You'll hear them all ask as they gather each night  
"Can anyone see a faint glimmer of light?"  
You'll hear wistful talking of footballing finds  
Alas, 'tis nought but the rustle of winds in the blinds*

*Then a voice quavered out - "I think I see hope  
Quick, fetch me a pen, I'll write to the Pope"  
(Those spalpeens in green, those blackguards in blue)  
"Your Holiness, this is now over to you.*

*"All Petone does beg you, yes, beg you this day  
To declare both these teams 'ex communé'  
Please split them asunder (they'll spread far and wide  
Then we'll grab them all to play for our side)."*

*A brilliant idea, the people all said  
We'll soon have them all in our footy shed  
O'Callaghan, Lyons, Doyle and Hourigan too  
Mullin, O'Donnell, and the rest of the Blue*

*Petone we'll call them, this champion team  
The best in the land, a footballer's dream  
But what of our own who will have to stand down?  
Oh! They'll get a job pulling blinds up round town.*

## Rugby quiz answers

(From previous page):

1. Seventeen
2. Maurice Brownlie and Jerry Collins
3. 1971
4. 2008
5. Faifili Levave and Ged Robinson
6. There are two: Alastair van Boom and Steven Skells
7. Eric Sione
8. 100 points (a 100-3 victory over Hato Paora)
9. St Pats, by 13-2.