

Upcoming Games

FRIDAY 1st AUGUST

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

- 6.00 **U6**
6.00 **U8** v Dragons
U10 Bye
7.40 **U14** v Casuarina

AUSTAR Rugby Park 2

- 6.50 **U12** v Dragons
8.40 **U16** v University Red

SATURDAY 2nd AUGUST

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

- 4.00 **U18** v All comers
5.30 **B** v Dragons
7.00 **A** v Dragons

	A Grade Tooheys New Cup						
	P	W	D	L	BP	PT	
Souths	14	11		3	5	49	
Uni versity	13	8	1	4	5	39	
Dragons	14	7		8	2	30	
Casuarina	14	4		10	4	20	
Palmerston	13	3	1	9	4	18	

	B Grade Abel Finance Cup						
	P	W	D	L	JF	BP	PT
Jabiru	17	10		6		11	51
Uni versity	17	10	2	5		6	50
Dragons	17	8		9		6	38
Palmerston	17	8	1	8	1	7	37
Souths	17	7		10		6	34
Casuarina	17	6	1	10		4	30

Last Week's Games

Palmerston Rugby Union Club did not have any games last week-end due to our commitments at the Royal Darwin Show.

Friday 18th July

A v Casuarina

Palmerston 19 d Casuarina 7
Coach Snowden arrived at the ground about halftime of the B Grade game and announced he still needed to find a prop and a hooker for the A Grade team.

CrocTales is not quite sure of the final maneuverings but was concerned how the forward pack that was warming up might go. **Chris Carlin** had played $\frac{3}{4}$ of the B Grade game and was running on at hooker. A selected lock had moved forward to prop and **Tom Hurse** was drafted from the stands to play on the wing.

Casuarina started strongly and ran in an early converted try but from there we slowly but surely ground them down.

The game was refereed by 15 year old Palmy junior **Jacob Kerr-Barlow** in only his 2nd A Grade appointment and in a very niggly game he did a great job. **Jacob** stood for no rubbish and sent 3 players to the sin bin (1 Palmerston and 2 Casuarina) and 1 Casuarina player off.

Just as our sinner, **Mika Dreu**, returned to the field Casuarina kicked from their 22. **Mika** took the ball on the half way and headed down the Palmerston sideline. With pace, swerve and determination, **Mika** ran through the whole team to score a magnificent try.

This and his other efforts earned **Mika** the Palmerston Sports Club **Player's Player** award. Other strong contributors were flanker **Joshua Higgins**, lock **Sven Harris** and fullback **Josh Gray**.

B v Casuarina

Palmerston 27 d Casuarina 12
This was a hard fought win even though the scoreboard might show otherwise. Mid way through the 2nd half

Coach Babbs pulled a master stroke and sent on 3 reserves, #8 **Sean Killiner**, centre **Keve Jones** and lock **Dave Cairns**. There is a lot of quality and experience in this trio and it showed on the field. They helped to settle things down and grind out a good 5 try (bonus point) to 2 win.

Tries were scored by **Chris Carlin**, **Marshall Rogers**, **Gareth Cotter**, **Steven Gavshon** and **Brock Evans**. **Brock** converted his try from the touch line on the fulltime siren.

Palmerston Sports Club **Player's Player** was **Brock** with **Steve Gashon** and U18 **Jack Kypreos** also performing strongly.

Brisbane Test

Dallas Graetz took the plunge this year and suited up for the club reunion at the Brisbane Test match. Here is his report on the exercise.

'Tony Burns (TB) picked me up at the Brisbane Airport at 0600 on the Saturday morning (It was drizzling rain). The first thing he did was give me a shot of Green Ginger Wine to remind me of my $\frac{1}{2}$ time recharge in the old days.

TB and Mick Wilson then took me off to a very soggy game of Rugby between Logan and some team of losers. Luckily, we watched it from the comfort of the club house. This game was a better spectacle than the Test.

Now, nicely primed after XXXX, Bundy and a cold hamburger, we trooped off to the Normanby pub. TB had acquired a new Frock of Shame for our more corpulent



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members, so we had a choice of dress. We had a very tasteful Wig which I wasn't allowed to take home.

I had first shot at the Frock of Shame for being a 'virgin' attendee. After that the frock and accoutrements found their way onto most old Palmerstarians. The usual sin was drinking with the wrong hand. Some bastard remembered that Palmerston players used to drink beer and raspberry cordial, so that is what we drank.

Mr Casuarina arrived wearing a Manly Rugby League jumper. No wonder he did not make it to the end of the Test.

The person I voted the cutest in the frock and wig was **Rod Williams**, reminded me vaguely of Serena Williams.

Attendees that I remember were – **Al Watson, Tony Burns, Mick Wilson, Paddy Bree, Chris Bree** (for a short time), **James Bree, Mike Barnard, Dan Barnard, John Hallett, Mr Casuarina, Rod Williams, Vince (Reckless) Kelly and Andrea, AJ Doidge** (an old Palmy Player, NT Rep and ex NT Copper) and Missus and a mate of Dan Barnard's. We all made it into Suncorp Stadium and watched a fairly ordinary game.

Dan Barnard wore the Frock of Shame to the game and got chatted up by lots of cute chicks who admired his courage (talk about the pink Bundy Bear).

Many thanks to all you mob for a great weekend, especially TB and Mick Wilson.'

It must have been a big event; reports have Graetzy being



sick all day Sunday, with a virus!!

Schoolboy signs with Waikato

By **EVAN PEGDEN** - Waikato Times | Saturday, 26 July 2008

Waikato Rugby Union has fought off interest from Super 14 franchises on both sides of the Tasman to make its youngest signing.

Seventeen-year-old Hamilton Boys' High halfback **Tawera Kerr-Barlow** was yesterday contracted until the end of 2011. Born in Victoria, Australia, to New Zealand-born parents, Kerr-Barlow boards at Hamilton BHS with his younger brother Reimana, who is making his mark as an up-and-coming young rugby referee.

A member of last year's New Zealand Secondary Schools team, as well as the national schools sevens side and New Zealand Under-17, Tawera is currently part of the Waikato union's pre-academy programme and is set to join the WRU High Performance Academy next year after leaving school.

Union high performance manager Paul Hodder said there had been a lot of interest in Kerr-Barlow from Super 14

franchises both in New Zealand and Australia. He was watched in Australia while playing for NZ Secondary Schools last year. "Tawera is an up-and-coming player and has been identified as a player with great potential," Hodder said.

The signing of the youngster, who is a cousin of former Waikato All Blacks Steve and Rob Gordon and nephew of former Waikato, Warrington and NZ Maori league rep Tukere Barlow, was an example of the Waikato union continuing to develop and identify young, talented rugby players and keep them in this province, he said. Kerr-Barlow grew up in Northern Territory and came to high school in Hamilton because his father was from the area and family still lived in the area. Hodder said his mother, **Gail Barlow**, had played halfback for the Australian women's team in 1995 and 1996.

"One of the main reasons Tawera wanted to stay in New Zealand was that he has always been excited about the All Black jersey and the possibility of wearing it one day." The young No9 will get a chance to rub shoulders with the All Blacks in Auckland on Wednesday after being selected as one of a handful of young northern region players to spend a day in the All Black environment as they prepare for their second Bledisloe Cup Test against the Wallabies at Eden Park.

He is presently training with the Hamilton BHS First XV as they aim for the Schools Top Four competition in September. He is also striving to get in the national schools side again which is chosen later the same month. In the coming weeks he will spend some time training with the Waikato Air NZ Cup squad.



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Palmerston

