

Wairarapa Bush Newsletter Trust House Memorial Park



11 November 2014



Kingi Matthews 1926-2014

One of the the last links Wairarapa had to a famous fighting battalion of World War II has passed with the death on Sunday of Kingi Matthews, 88.

Mr Matthews was a veteran of the 28th Maori Battalion which he joined in 1944, being sent to Italy with the 12th reinforcements.

His death leaves one surviving member of the 28th Maori Battalion living in Wairarapa, Epineha Ratapu, 92.

Apart from his war service Mr Matthews is well remembered as being an outstanding rugby player and Greytown club stalwart.

He was the oldest surviving 1946 Maori All Black and in his long playing career with Wairarapa-Bush he helped the representative side to lift the Ranfurly Shield from Canterbury in 1950. Mr Matthews, of Ngati Kahungunu and Rangitane, had lived in Greytown almost continuously since 1932 when his father moved back from Masterton to be closer to the Papawai marae.

He was an old boy of Greytown School and Wairarapa College and after serving in the war came back home to train as a carpenter in a scheme for returned soldiers and worked for Trotman Bros for 22 years.

When his rugby playing days eventually finished, having notched up 109 first-class games, Mr Matthews coached the Greytown senior team and had also served on the committee and as club patron.

He was married to Petina (Polly), who survives him, for 66 years and the couple raised 10 children.

Mr Matthews is lying at Papawai marae until his burial at the Black Bridge urupa, near Greytown, tomorrow. The funeral service will be held at 11.00 am at Papawai marae.

Our Deepest condolences are with Polly and the rest of the Matthews Whanau.



"OUR RUGBY JUST BRILLIANT"

TRUST HOUSE WAIRARAPA BUSH HEARTLAND COACH 2015

The WBRU Board invites applications for the position of Head Coach to the Trust House Wairarapa Bush Heartland team for 2015. The successful candidate will have a strong rugby coaching background and a proven record in creating a winning culture. The Wairarapa has a passionate and talented pool of players and coaches. The Heartland Coach will need to identify and develop programs for our players, work closely with our club coaches to ensure the individual performance of the players and the collective Heartland team performs at the highest level consistently.

This is a rare opportunity to enhance the development and success of the Wairarapa Bush rugby in a province focussed on improving our national game.

For further details go to the WBRU website, waibush.co.nz or tel: 06 378 8369.

Confidential applications including curriculum vitae can be emailed to: tony@waibush.co.nz

or post to:

**Chief Executive Officer
Wairarapa Bush Rugby Union
P O Box 372
Masterton**

Applications close Tuesday 4pm 18th November 2014.



NZ Heartland XV Update

The New Zealand Heartland XV have come from behind to score a remarkable **46-31** victory over an outstanding NZ Marist outfit at North Harbour Marist in Albany on Saturday 8th November 2014.

Marist led 17-15 at halftime, and when the match entered the final quarter, the Heartland XV were still three converted tries behind before the fight back began.

It is the third year in a row the Heartland XV have defeated Marist.

A fine turnaround after the side – selected from the Pink Batts Heartland Championship – lost to Marist 15-14 in 2011, which was at the time was the third loss to the Heartland XV in three campaigns. Head coach Kurt McQuilkin (King Country) and assistant ‘Chester’ Scott (South Canterbury) named a strong team for the Marists, selected from players in the ITM Cup or just within touching distance of the provincial competition.

Hooker Jon Sharpe from Mid Canterbury was ruled out of selection due to injury and Thames Valley’s Blake Hill was been brought in as replacement.

McQuilkin may amend his squad before the team departs for two matches against the Cook Islands on 11 and 14 of November in Rarotonga.

The hosts, ranked 46th in the IRB rankings, narrowly missed out on qualification for the 2015 Rugby World Cup and will present formidable opposition for the Heartland players.



Congratulations

Michael Te Whare, Masterton Marist on being selected for the NZ Marist team who played against the NZ Heartland Team in Auckland on Saturday

Wairarapa Bush would like to thank the following major and ground sign sponsors

