



AAMI PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Last Chance to get your nominations in for the 2010 AAMI Player and Club of the Week, as the competition enters its final weeks.

Email your nominations to amigrants@crlnsw.com.au

and tell us about a young player from your club who has shown outstanding commitment and passion for the game in Country areas..

Winners will receive a \$250 Harvey Norman Voucher for the player and \$1000 to their club.

Imagine what your club could do with \$1000!!



August

11th– Dubbo Final Small School's Carnival also the Ricky Walford Shield is on at Walgett

25th– 27th Ronny Gibbs Seven's Competition at Dubbo

September

4th- CRL Holiday Inn Volunteer of the Year Gala Dinner

7th- Dally M Awards

14th-16th RAMS and DO's Conference, Campbelltown



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Vale Larry Raleigh

The Newtown Rugby League Football Club regrets to announce the recent passing of Larry Raleigh, who played with the club for three seasons from 1969 to 1971.

Larry was a very proud North Queenslander who joined the club at the same time as three other signings from Queensland's Far North – Lionel Williamson, Greg Bandiera and Joe Vasta.

Larry was a product of the Townsville Centrals club and the famous Rugby League nursery, Mt Carmel College, Charters Towers. He represented Townsville in the Foley Shield and North Queensland in the QRL State Championships prior to joining the Harry Bath-coached Newtown Bluebags.

He was a strongly built, hard running second-rower who played 20 first grade games with the Newtown Bluebags and was a member Magazine of that club's 1970 reserve grade premiership-winning squad.

In 1972 he accepted a captain-coaching position with Portland Colts in the Group 10 (Central-Western NSW) competition and represented Western Division in the 1972 Country Rugby League Divisional Championships. The next year he moved back to his native Townsville to take up a captain-coaching appointment with the Centrals club. He suffered a terrible tragedy in 1973 when after being heavily tackled in a Townsville club game, he became seriously ill after the match and was hospitalised, where he suffered a stroke that left him incapacitated for the remainder of his life.



Photo courtesy of Rugby League World

Stars Set To Shine

By Scott Hazelwood
Griffith Area News August 4, 2010

THE greatest collection of rugby league talent ever seen in regional Australia will hit Group 20 next year when an All-Stars side turns out to celebrate Hay's Pie in the Sky weekend. Featuring some of the biggest names in the game's history, the All-Stars will be coached by Maroons legend Arthur Beetson with Mal Meninga coming out of retirement to play five-eighth and captain the side. The full squad, which was named in Queensland yesterday but will not be made public until later in the week, reads like a who's who of the game in the past 20 years Andrew Johns, Laurie Daley, Marcus Bai, David Peachey, Bradley Clyde along with the former guests of the Pie in the Sky event will take on Hay's first grade side as part of their blockbuster pre-season weekend.

Former Magpies coach Ken Beissel, who is one of the masterminds behind the grand plan, kept his cards close to his chest about the rest of the squad yesterday, and did not confirm or deny that Newcastle great Johns would partner Meninga in the halves, only saying that "he might struggle to make the side".

However, The Area News has learnt from a senior Hay official that the request to play has been accepted by Johns, signalling he will be a part of the weekend Beissel hopes put will "put Hay on the map."

"For as long as I'm around I want to be able to try and take legends of the game out to Hay, maybe not as many as what we're talking for next year but at least one," he said.

"We're hoping to raise around the \$75,000 mark for the club and the weekend is set to be a huge boost for the rest of the town as well financially.

"I believe we have the blueprint to resurrect footy in the bush we've proved that there is sponsorship dollars out there just you have to go out there and chase them."

With the cooperation of the Queensland and New South Wales FOGS, the complete side is set to be one of the most star-studded ever seen in the region. Hay president Don Payne was elated about the high-profile names already confirmed for March 5 next year, saying it will be the perfect way for the club to kick off their first full season in Group 20.

"We've had CRL come on board and they're suggesting that we might organise a Group 20 invitational leaguetag side to play the Hay team and we're also looking at a Group 20 side playing or an academy side playing in the lead up to the main game, so it'll be a full day," Payne said. Beissel also hinted that the club would be use funds generated from the weekend to help other Group 20 club in what he said would be a celebration of the game in the Riverina.

Just when you thought you wouldn't hear another big name committing to the 2011 Pie in the Sky trial match between Cavalier Homes All Stars and the Hay Magpies Invitational team...along comes another. Cavalier General Manager Ken Beissel has organised the doyen of referees, Bill Harrigan to officiate in the match.

Bill Harrigan is not just an ordinary referee, he has a record second to none.

In his book "In a League of his own" highlighting his career it was revealed that Bill's positive attitude and motivation qualities have steered him to the top.

As a young kid, Bill's ambition was to pursue a career as a professional, important, respected man with letters after his name so Bill became a member of the Police Special Weapons and Operations Unit (SWOS) then a top International referee, thus realising his ambitions as a professional, important, respected man and according to some fans "letters after his name".

But love him or hate him he has refereed 393 games and 17 years as a first grade referee, even the most hardened rugby league fanatic would have to give whistle blower Bill Harrigan his due recognition.