



Western Pioneers Newsletter 24 August 2011

On Friday evening, 19 August, the **Kumeu Rugby club** hosted their annual **prizegiving**, which was also the occasion for the **Century 21 Burmester Realty Western Pioneers** to honour their outstanding players for the just completed season.

There was an outstanding attendance of Pioneers players, management and supporters, and the evening was well run by the doyen of Kumeu Rugby, Dave (Haggis) Chisholm.

The following awards were presented to Pioneers players.

Western Pioneers Senior First.

Owen Walker Cup -	Most Improved Player	Alex Frarani
Paul Smith Cup -	Best Back	Ray Tuivaiti
	Best Forward	Mason Dray-Hogg
Don Hutchinson Trophy	Club Man of Year	Mark Haldane
Earthtec Cup	Player of the Year	Mark Haldane

Club Trophies

Kumeu Cup	Most Tries in Season	Charlie Luteru (15)
The Hard Yards Cup		Bill Punipi

Western Pioneers Premiers

The Lindsay Ellery Legacy	Most Improved Player	Fala Sakaria
Swale Earthmovers	Best back	Nalu Tuigamala
	Best Forward	Fou Tuivaiti
Nick Leitch Cup	Team Man of Year	Taione Ve'a & Ray Alo
Rob Rodewyk Trophy	Players Player of the Year	Tani Fugi
Lancaster Shield/ Parakai Tavern Trophy	Player of the Year	Phillip Tuigamala.

Acknowledgement was also made of those players who had achieved representative honours.

New Zealand Sevens	David Raikuna
Fiji World Cup Team	Malakai Ravulo
North Harbour ITM Cup	David Raikuna, Malakai Ravulo Taione Ve'a



North Harbour Second XV

Phillip and Nalu Tuigamala, Charlie Luteru,
Apiu Pritchard, Regan Oxenham, Ray Alo

Bill Punipi received rapturous applause when it was announced he had won the HardYards Trophy. Bill epitomised what it means to do the “hard yards”, as week after week throughout the season, he was there at every training (twice a week) and every game, doing all the behind the scenes jobs like filling water bottles, running them on to the field, fetching gear etc.

Well done Bill. We look forward to seeing you on the job again next season.

Jane Burmester was presented by team captain Nalu Tuigamala with a magnificent floral arrangement in the team’s colours, wrapped in her Century 21 gold and black, as a small acknowledgement for her sponsorship and general support throughout the year. Thank you Jane, and we know you will be back on board next year.

Pioneers management would like to once again acknowledge the coaches and managers who made the inaugural year of the Western Pioneers the success it was.

Lindsay Ellery	Coach
Stu Hollier	Coach
Sean Gray	Coach
Hugh McGahan	Coach
John Sutton	Manager
Shane Scott	Manager

Toops MacCarthy	Coach
Craig Abercrombie	Manager

Rebecca Diana	Physio
George Milner	Strapper

Bill Punipi and Richard Benson-Cooper Team assistants

The Pioneers will be entering a team in the various sevens tournaments that will take place over the summer months, and we wish Phillip Tuigamala and his players every success in these events.