NRL TELSTRA
PREMIERSHIP

Bundaberg Today

NRL COMES TO BUNDY

ROUND 21 CLASH

BULLDOGS VS COWBOYS

SALTER OVAL

2PM SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022

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THE NRL COMES TO BUNDY
NRL TELSTRA PREMIERSHIP
ROUND 21 CLASH

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A TRULY SPECIAL OCCASION

Having played the game since he was five and risen to the elite level of coaching not only NRL players but also educating their coaches as Coach Education Programs Coordinator for the NRL rugby league is clearly in the blood of Dwayne McKay.

Now through his work at St Luke's Anglican School, Dwayne is strengthening the school's rugby program as well as the Athlete Development Program.

With a love of the game always there, Dwayne is eagerly anticipating the first Bundaberg NRL game between the Cowboys and the Bulldogs where he feels the younger generations will be able to see firsthand the pathways to getting to this top level, highlighting how incredible it is when they have that moment of realising this is what it takes to become one of the chosen players.

For Dwayne, watching rugby league at this level will always be special with the game being, as we all saw in the State of Origin, about the drama, entertainment, the culture, that trust in your mates and making memories, and for those who have played, reliving their own experiences from games gone by.

Dwayne continues to appreciate being able to share his experience developed through his 25-year career of playing rugby league with St Luke's students and, as he describes it, building a human that has a high work ethic, is active in their sport and always remains respectful.

"A sense of belonging and love of the game will always be there when it comes to rugby league, and we are able to foster that in the next generation."

WELCOME TO BUNDABERG

The Bundaberg Rugby league would like to welcome both the Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs and North Queensland Cowboys to Bundaberg for this historic round 21 NRL match to be played at the home of rugby league Salter Oval.

I especially want to thank the Bulldogs for bringing one of their home games to our city in 2022.

As we know, the Wide Bay has produced many state and international players, and with top class league coming to our area, who knows, one of our junior stars may be our next Maroon.

Finally, all visitors to our area, please enjoy our hospitality and what our beautiful region offers.

Cheers,

Mike Ireland
Chairman,
Bundaberg Rugby League

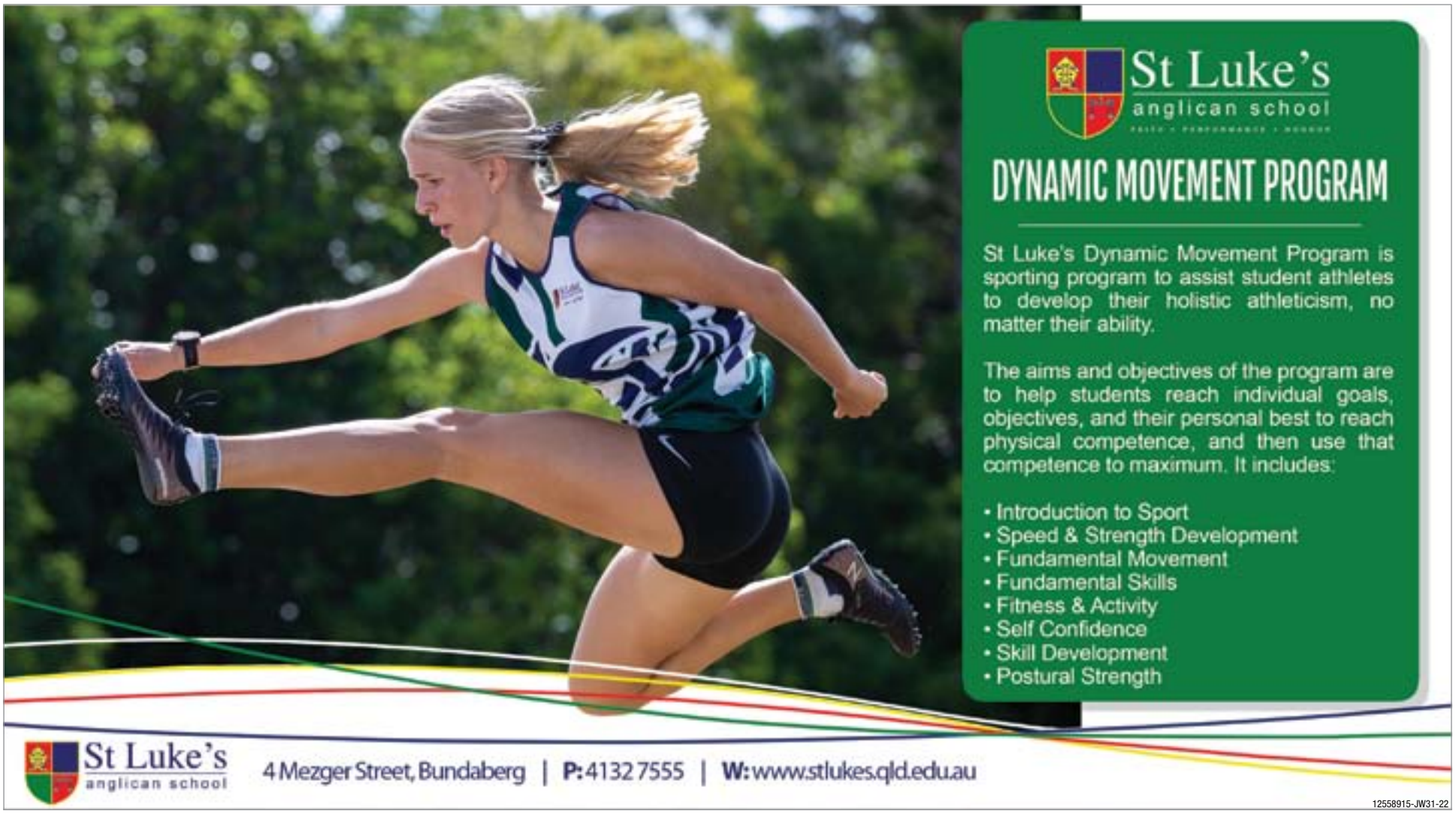
Bundaberg Rugby League chairman Mike Ireland welcomes the Canterbury Bulldogs and North Queensland Cowboys to Bundaberg. Picture: Shane Jones

Game Day Schedule

10am
Gates Open

11am
Bundaberg Rugby Legue Semi-final: Minor Premiers v winner of (2nd v 3rd semi-final)

2pm
NRL Premiership game Canterbury Bulldogs v North Queensland Cowboys



WELCOME FROM TOM SMITH

We are footy mad in Bundy and know how to support the teams that support us.

Whether it's the visits from our Queensland Maroons or our new adopted club of the Bulldogs, Rugy League and Bundaberg go hand in hand.

This will be the first time Bundaberg has hosted an NRL competition game. For me, this is something that I am extremely proud to have secured for our region for the next three seasons. Bringing in a team takes a team effort, and it is a real credit to the State Government, Bundaberg Regional Council, Canterbury Bulldogs and the Bundaberg Rugby League that everyone in our community gets to share this important part of Bundaberg history.

Bundaberg MP Tom Smith, left, is thrilled to welcomed NRL to Bundaberg.

LOOKING BACK ON THE BRL

Rugby league has a long and strong local history, dating back to the formation of the Bundaberg Rugby League competition formed in 1913.

Three local clubs, Riffs, Burnett and CYMS, took part with Bill Barrett, the first president, however, the regional competition went into recess at the end of 1914 due to the First World War.

Some 24 players from Bundaberg have gone on to represent Australia, going way back when Mick Bolewski and Bill Heidke played in the first-ever Test match against Great Britain in London, which ended in a draw – 22-all - right up to brothers, Antonio and Felise Kaufusi.

Bundaberg Rugby League has played host to many overseas touring sides, including Great Britain, New Zealand and France.

In 1928, Bundaberg Rugby League played host to Great Britain, which defeated a Bundaberg rep side 61-3.

Bundaberg dominated rugby league in Wide Bay from 1954 to 1959, proving almost unbeatable.

On 28 June 1967, the major highlight for rugby league in Bundaberg was when the local rep team took on the Australian team before it toured New Zealand.

Australia won 27-6 but Noel Gallagher impressed the Aussie side so much that he was asked to join the team on tour.

In 1971 the 47th Battalion was introduced in Wide Bay for a representative competition.

It took some time for Bundaberg to win the competition, but it finally happened under coach Terry O'Shea in 1983, defeating Maryborough 28-12.

Today this competition remains the major trophy in the Central Queensland region. In 1991, Salter Oval was chosen by the New South Wales Rugby League to host a Lotto Challenge double-header match on February 17, drawing a crowd of more than 13,500 spectators as Brisbane Broncos went up against North Sydney Bears and Balmain Tigers played Newcastle Knights.

The Bundaberg Rugby Team of the Century was named in 2008 before a large crowd of supporters at a special function:
(1) Mick Bolewski.
(2) Bill Heidke.
(3) Don Nixon.
(4) Noel Hazzard.
(5) Les Kiss.
(6) Rex McGlynn.
(7) Stan Norris.
(8) Col Weiss.
(9) Bill Richards.
(10) Vic Armbruster.
(11) Bill Pearson .
(12) Noel Gallagher.
(13) Noel Cavanagh.
(14) Bill Spencer.
(15) Dougal McGregor.
(16) Bernie Drew.
(17) Les Monty Heidke.

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JACKSON PUMPED FOR BUNDY CLASH

By Brendan Bowers

Canterbury captain Josh Jackson is excited about playing bringing the NRL Premiership game to Bundaberg.

"I haven't been to Bundaberg before, and I have only heard good things and am looking forward to meeting the local people," Jackson said

Hailing from Gulgong, New South Wales, Jackson understands what an NRL game means to a regional centre.

"I loved it when NRL players game to visit. People from regional centres are genuinely good people who truly love the game of rugby league," he said.

He played his junior football for the Gulgong Bull Terriers and Mudgee Dragons. In 2007 his family moved to Newcastle, where he played for the Valentine-Eleebana Red Devils and Lakes United Seagulls.

In 2009, he was signed by the Knights and played in their SG Ball team.

He played for Canterbury's NYC team in 2010 and 2011 before graduating to the Bulldogs New South Wales Cup team in 2012.

In round 16 of the 2012 NRL season, Jackson made his debut for Canterbury-Bankstown against the Melbourne Storm. Later that year, he'd run on in the 2012 grand final squad for Canterbury as they finished runners-up to Melbourne.

Jackson thanks the fans in North Queensland after the 2022 round one clash.

Jackson has developed a reputation as an uncompromising, rugged, hard-working second rower.

He made his Test debut in Australia's 2014, 44-18 win over Samoa and was later selected in the final against New Zealand, which Australia lost 22-18.

Although the past few years have been tough for his beloved Bulldogs, he believes the future is looking bright.

"You have seen glimpses over the past season, and I believe that if we can keep the squad together, we will continue to improve."

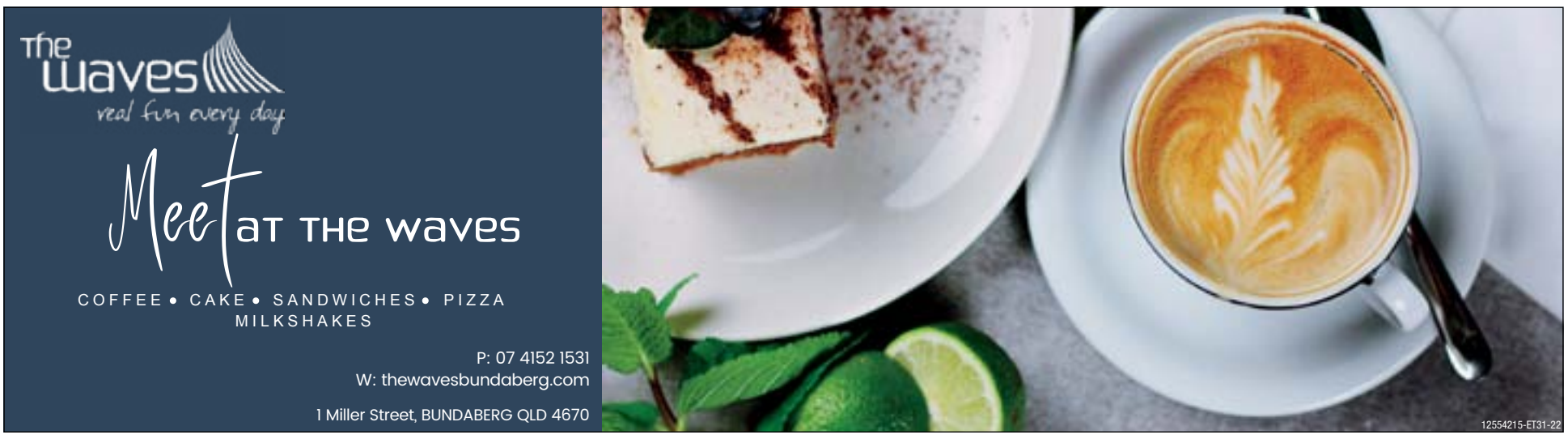
Josh Jackson in full flight.
Pictures: NRL Imagery

Jackson and the team remain positive, knowing they are taking lessons from the losses and the young players, now believing they belong in the NRL.

"The core of our squad is very young, and they are gaining belief in what we are attempting to do."

As he becomes older, one of the things he appreciates most is the ability to meet and interact with young kids.

"It is one of the best parts of being an NRL player. Watching their faces and the joy you bring," he said.



LOCAL LEGEND'S DUAL CLUB TIES

By Brendan Bowers

The Waves Tigers coach Antonio Kaufusi will have torn loyalties when the Canterbury Bulldogs play the North Queensland Cowboys in Bundaberg.

The former Australian, Tongan and Queensland forward is one of 20 players who have played for both clubs.

"This game has been a long time coming, and it will be a good advertisement for the game.

"It reminds our juniors of where they can get to with pathways and opportunities," Kaufusi said.

Beginning his career with the Melbourne Storm in 2003, he made his first-grade debut in round 22 against the Bulldogs.

He played 78 games for Melbourne before he moved to North Queensland, where he played 33 games for the Cowboys before stints with the Newcastle Knights, London Broncos, and Huddersfield Giants before playing his final seven games of NRL for Canterbury.

He played 228 games in the NRL and British Super League over his 13 years, scoring and crossing for 19 tries.

His representative career spanned seven seasons, playing one Test for Australia in 2006 before representing Tonga in three matches in 2008. He played one State of Origin match in 2007 and represented Exiles for two games in 2012.

The Exiles is an international team that plays in the international origin series against England. The team comprises Australian, New Zealand and Pacific Islander players.

He has been involved with the Bundaberg Rugby League for seven years as a coach and sometimes player for Across the Waves, winning the BRL premiership in 2018.

His focus now is guiding the ATW Tigers towards the 2022 BRL premiership.

Antonio Kaufusi charges the ball back for Canterbury. Picture: Contributed

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HESS SET FOR HOMETOWN RUN

By Brendan Bowers

Coen Hess will run out in front of family and friends when Canterbury plays the North Queensland Cowboys in Bundaberg.
Picture: Contributed

North Queensland Cowboy player Coen Hess will run out to family and friends at Salter Oval when the Bulldogs play the Cowboys.

He was born and began his rugby league career in Bundaberg with the Across the Waves Tigers playing in the under 8's.

"Dad was playing A grade, and one of his mates was coaching the under 8's, so that is how it all began," Hess said.

He regularly returns to Bundaberg around Christmas to visit both sides of the family who still reside in the region.

"It is good to catch up, and I know there will be a lot of them cheering me when we get to Bundy," he said.

He is enjoying the resurgence of the Cowboys this season and believes the planets are aligning for the team.

"It is a lot easier to come to training after a win, and the team is starting to come together at the right end of the season."

He knows the injuries to Reuben Cotter and Jordan McLean have caused a minor setback for the team but believes it could work in their favour as they head towards the finals. "Both of them will be fresh, but it allows our younger players more time on the field, so everyone should be ready if they are called upon."

Although the State of Origin forward was not part of the 2022 campaign, he was rapt about how many Cowboys players were selected and how they played.

"It was some of the best Origin footy I have seen, and it was good to see my mates going well."

He believes the Cowboys are ready for a good run over the next few years, and he is pleased that he will be part of it.

NORTH QUEENSLAND COWBOYS HISTORY

Since their foundation in 1995, the North Queensland Cowboys have reached the finals 10 times and appeared in three grand finals (2005, 2015 and 2017), winning in 2015.

The team's headquarters and home ground, Queensland Country Bank Stadium, is located in the suburb of South Townsville.

The Cowboys were admitted to the premiership for the 1995 ARL season.

They played in the breakaway Super League competition in 1997 before continuing to compete in the re-unified National Rugby League competition the following year.

Cowboys Valentine Holmes and Tom Dearden wrap up Matt Dufty. Picture: NRL IMAGERY

In 2015, the Cowboys played in the first all-Queensland grand final, defeating the Brisbane Broncos 17–16 in golden point to win their first premiership. They are currently sitting in the top four of the 2022 Telstra Premiership and are destined for a semi-finals' appearance once again.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

By Brendan Bowers

In 1935—thirteen years after a meeting above "The Ideal Milk Bar" in Campsie led to the creation of the Canterbury-Bankstown Junior Rugby League—the Canterbury club was admitted into the elite New South Wales Rugby Football League premiership.

Canterbury played its first premiership match against North Sydney on Anzac Day, 25 April 1935, at North Sydney Oval. In a game refereed by Tom McMahon, North Sydney won by a margin of 20 points to 5.

It took the new club, nicknamed "Country Bumpkins" because of their rural recruiting and CB emblem, four years to win its first premiership in 1938.

The grand final-winning effort was repeated in 1942 before a 38-year premiership drought broke through for a third title in 1980.

In 1978, Canterbury became known as "The Bulldogs". Nicknames such as "Cantabs", "CBS", and "Berries" were seen to be "soft", and the club wanted something to signify determination and grit. A grand final appearance in 1979, followed by a grand final win in 1980 with a young, enthusiastic and free-running side dubbed "The Entertainers", was the beginning of a golden era that was to produce three more grand final wins in the 1980s: 1984, 1985 and 1988.

The original Canterbury logo. Picture: Contributed

In the 1990s, they featured in the 1994, 1995 and 1998 Grand Finals, winning the title in 1995 over Manly. Their most recent success was in 2004 when they beat the Sydney Roosters 16–13.

This match marks another milestone for the Bulldogs as they play their first NRL Premiership match in Bundaberg.

Ava Seumanufagai charges into the Cowboys defence. Picture: NRL Imagery

CANTERBURY BULLDOGS

AARON SCHOUPP

AVA SEUMANUFAGAI

BAILEY BIONDI-ODO

BILLY TSIKRIKAS

BRAIDON BURNS

BRANDON WAKEMAN

CHRIS PATOLO

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WELCOME TO BUNDABERG'S BULLDOGS

They may hail from Canterbury-Bankstown but when they play at Salter Oval they're the Bundaberg Bulldogs!

Council is pleased to be one of the sponsoring partners bringing an NRL game, played for premiership points, to the Bundaberg Region.

This is not only a huge economic boost to the region, it's a fantastic opportunity for locals to watch a first-class competition without the cost of travel and it will no doubt prove inspirational to young sports fans to see such skilled NRL players in action.

This is a Bulldogs' home game and, through their commitment to Bundaberg, they'll spend it on the road.

Outside of the game, they've committed to creating development opportunities and pathways for our young sportspeople.

So, while they're here, let's make them feel at home.

Salter Oval will be their kennel in August, let's cheer them on loud and proud.

– Mayor Jack Dempsey
Bundaberg Regional Council

Mayor Jack Dempsey has opened the kennel to the Bulldogs. **Picture: Contributed**

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BULLDOGS TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GEN

By Brendan Bowers

The NRL Telstra Premiership game between the Canterbury Bulldogs and the North Queensland Cowboys will deliver a lasting legacy to the Bundaberg community.

Local junior football players and fans will have the opportunity to meet some of the NRL stars at various community engagements, including school visits.

Queensland Rugby League Wide Bay area manager Bryce Holdsworth believes there will be many positives for locals from the game.

"It will be a great opportunity for people in the region to experience the National Rugby League without having to travel away," Holdsworth said.

He believes the game will have a long-term effect on junior players.

"It will allow the juniors to meet the players they see on television and create aspirations for players to follow their pathway," he said.

Bundaberg Junior Rugby League president Wayne Bender agrees.

"It is always good for the kids when they can meet NRL players, and I know everyone is talking about the game and keen to get out and watch," he said.

He hopes that Canterbury embraces the concept and considers going further than the three years agreed upon.

The junior league games will be played at The Waves on Saturday to allow the players to get out and watch the game.

Bundaberg juniors should be inspired by the upcoming NRL game. Picture: Shane Jones

ADDO-CARR READY TO TROT

By Brendan Bowers

Canterbury winger and clothing entrepreneur Josh Addo-Carr is ready to embrace Bundaberg.

"I have never been to Bundy, and all I know is that Felice Kaufusi tells me that is where the Rum comes from," Addo-Carr said.

The International and State of Origin winger relishes the opportunity to get out to the regional communities and give something back to the game's supporters.

"They do it tough, especially over the past couple of years, and if we can help in some way, that is great," he said.

He also looks forward to a warmer climate for a few days.

In his first season with the Bulldogs, Addo-Carr has slotted in well with the team.

"Although the results haven't been there, it has been enjoyable. We have a great bunch,"

He believes it has taken a while for the team to gel, but they are now starting to get into a rhythm.

"Our young players are stepping up, and everyone is starting to play for each other. The future looks bright,"

Outside of football, his Lets Trot clothing line is going well and is into its second season.

"It is going well, and the rugby league community is supporting it,"

After being injured against South Sydney in round 18, Addo-Carr was uncertain he would be able to travel to Bundaberg.

"It's all good, and I am looking forward to it," he assured fans.

Josh Addo-Carr during his debut for Canterbury.

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RUGBY LEAGUE BY THE NUMBERS

By Brendan Bowers

Darren Andrews lives and breathes rugby league.

The Melbourne-based Canterbury supporter is part of the tapestry woven into the rugby league story.

The former Sydney resident followed the path of many young supporters' when he began supporting the Canterbury Bulldogs when they won the 1980 NSW Rugby League grand final against Easts.

His family were St George supporters, but once the five-year-old found his team, that was it.

His love for statistics began the following year when Scanlan's Footy Cards started adding statistics to the back of the card, and Andrews was caught, hook, line and sinker.

He began collating the information from each match via Daily Telegraph or Daily Mirror newspaper reports, which continues to this day.

A fan of Rugby League Week and the Big League magazines, he continued to develop his program after both magazines finished publications.

Sitting at the National Masters Rugby League competition after it was announced that Big League would not continue, a mate joked that he should start his own.

He laughed along with his mates, but a week later, he began, and he now produces a Huge League rugby league program for his mates each week.

It includes team-line ups, season statistics, historical images and copies of old Scanlan football cards. He has been asked many times why he does it, and he can never really answer why.

"I don't know why. It is just something I need to do," Andrews said.

Check out some of his work in this lift-out with the key numbers from both teams.

Andrews is another example of what sport and rugby league plays in people's lives.

No wonder it is known as the greatest game of all.

PREVIOUS RESULTS BETWEEN THE TEAMS

By Darren Andrews

The round 19 match will be the 43rd time the Canterbury Bulldogs and North Queensland have faced off against each other on the rugby league field.

Canterbury leads the head-to-head by six games, 24-18.

The results from the previous 42 encounters between the clubs:

R1 1995	North Qld	16-32	Sydney Bulldogs
R22 1995	North Qld	4-66	Sydney Bulldogs
R22 1996	North Qld	22-50	Canterbury
R5 1997	North Qld	16-14	Canterbury
R13 1997	North Qld	22-29	Canterbury
R9 1998	North Qld	18-24	Canterbury
R20 1999	North Qld	18-30	Canterbury
R7 2000	North Qld	18-8	Bulldogs
R14 2000	North Qld	12-32	Bulldogs
R11 2001	North Qld	14-26	Bulldogs
R24 2001	North Qld	22-30	Bulldogs
R21 2002	North Qld	26-34	Bulldogs
R20 2003	North Qld	22-42	Bulldogs
R16 2004	North Qld	18-32	Bulldogs
R22 2004	North Qld	16-36	Bulldogs
Final 2004	North Qld	30-22	Bulldogs
R2 2005	North Qld	24-12	Bulldogs
R12 2005	North Qld	48-12	Bulldogs
R15 2006	North Qld	12-20	Bulldogs
R22 2006	North Qld	14-54	Bulldogs
R11 2007	North Qld	26-16	Bulldogs
R25 2007	North Qld	38-32	Bulldogs
Final 2007	North Qld	20-18	Bulldogs
R22 2008	North Qld	36-12	Bulldogs
R16 2009	North Qld	18-30	Bulldogs
R23 2009	North Qld	12-22	Bulldogs
R24 2010	North Qld	20-22	Canterbury
R22 2011	North Qld	6-14	Canterbury
R21 2012	North Qld	18-32	Canterbury
R1 2013	North Qld	24-12	Canterbury
R13 2013	North Qld	26-36	Canterbury
R20 2014	North Qld	20-12	Canterbury
R9 2015	North Qld	23-16	Canterbury
R20 2016	North Qld	36-0	Canterbury
R25 2016	North Qld	24-16	Canterbury
R10 2017	North Qld	30-14	Canterbury
R6 2018	North Qld	10-27	Canterbury
R7 2019	North Qld	12-24	Canterbury
R24 2019	North Qld	15-8	Canterbury
R2 2020	North Qld	24-16	Canterbury
R6 2021	North Qld	30-18	Canterbury
R1 2022	North Qld	4-6	Canterbury

HEAD TO HEAD COMPARISONS

OVERALL RECORDS - MATCHES BETWEEN NORTH QUEENSLAND & CANTERBURY

MATCHES

Hazem El Masri	23
Matthew Bowen	18
Luke Patten	16
Johnathan Thurston*	16
Andrew Ryan	16
Paul Bowman	15
Matthew Scott	15
Aaron Payne	15
Ty Williams	14
Steven Price	14
Brent Sherwin	14
Scott Bolton	13
Josh Jackson	13
Corey Hughes	13
Willie Tonga*	12
Josh Morris	12
Gavin Cooper	12
Adam Perry	12

** Played for both teams*

TRIES

Ty Williams	10
Hazem El Masri	10
Johnathan Thurston*	8
Rod Silva	7
Paul Bowman	7
Matthew Bowen	7
Luke Patten	7
Sonny Bill Williams	6
Matt Sing	6
Ben Barba	6
Antonio Winterstein	6
Willie Tonga*	5

**Scored tries for both teams*

GOALS

Hazem El Masri	74
Johnathan Thurston	49
Daryl Halligan	45
Josh Hannay	22
Julian O'Neill	12
Trent Hodkinson	10
Valentine Holmes	9
Krisnan Inu	8
Moses Mbye	7
Ethan Lowe	7
John Williams	6
Robert Lui	5
Luke Phillips	5

POINTS

Hazem El Masri	188
Johnathan Thurston*	131
Daryl Halligan	102
Josh Hannay	56
Ty Williams	40
Matthew Bowen	32
Paul Bowman	28
Rod Silva	28
Julian O'Neill	24
Matt Sing	24
Antonio Winterstein	24
Sonny Bill Williams	24
Luke Patten	24
Ben Barba	24
Trent Hodkinson	24

**Scored points for both teams*

FIELD GOALS

Johnathan Thurston	1
Jordan Kahu	1
Craig Polla-Mounter	1
Kieran Foran	1

TRIES PER MATCH

Rod Silva	3	1995
Rod Silva	3	1996
Matt Sing	3	2004
Ben Barba	3	2012
Antonio Winterstein	3	2016

GOALS PER MATCH

Hazem El Masri	9	2006
Daryl Halligan	7	1995
Daryl Halligan	7	1996
Hazem El Masri	7	2003
Johnathan Thurston	7	2007
Moses Mbye	7	2018

POINTS PER MATCH

Hazem El Masri	22	2006
Daryl Halligan	18	1995
Daryl Halligan	18	1996
Johnathan Thurston	18	2007
Hazem El Masri	16	2004
Johnathan Thurston	16	2007
Krisnan Inu	16	2012
Trent Hodkinson	16	2013
Robert Lui	14	2013

CANTERBURY RECORDS - MATCHES V NORTH QUEENSLAND

MATCHES

Hazem El Masri	23
Luke Patten	16
Andrew Ryan ©	16
Steven Price ©	14
Brent Sherwin	14
Josh Jackson ©	13
Corey Hughes	13

TRIES

Hazem El Masri	10
Luke Patten	7
Rod Silva	7
Sonny Bill Williams	6
Ben Barba	6
Greg Eastwood	4
Andrew Emelio	4
Terry Lamb	4
Matthew Ryan	4
Willie Tonga	4

GOALS

Hazem El Masri	74
Daryl Halligan	45
Trent Hodkinson	10
Krisnan Inu	8
Moses Mbye	7
Rhyse Martin	4

POINTS

Hazem El Masri	188
Daryl Halligan	102
Rod Silva	28
Sonny Bill Williams	24
Luke Patten	24
Ben Barba	24
Trent Hodkinson	24

FIELD GOALS

Craig Polla-Mounter	1
Kieran Foran	1

TRIES PER MATCH

Rod Silva	3	1995
Rod Silva	3	1996
Ben Barba	3	2012

GOALS PER MATCH

Hazem El Masri	9	2006
Daryl Halligan	7	1995
Daryl Halligan	7	1996
Hazem El Masri	7	2003
Moses Mbye	7	2018

POINTS PER MATCH

Hazem El Masri	22	2006
Daryl Halligan	18	1995
Daryl Halligan	18	1996
Hazem El Masri	16	2004
Krisnan Inu	16	2012
Trent Hodkinson	16	2013

NORTH QUEENSLAND RECORDS - MATCHES V CANTERBURY

MATCHES

Matthew Bowen	18
Paul Bowman ©	15
Matthew Scott ©	15
Johnathan Thurston ©	15
Aaron Payne ©	15
Ty Williams	14
Scott Bolton	13

TRIES

Ty Williams	10
Paul Bowman	7
Matthew Bowen	7
Antonio Winterstein	6
Matt Sing	6
Johnathan Thurston	6
Kyle Feldt	4
Coen Hess	4
Ashley Graham	4

GOALS

Johnathan Thurston	49
Josh Hannay	22
Julian O'Neill	12
Valentine Holmes	9
Ethan Lowe	7
John Williams	6

POINTS

Johnathan Thurston	123
Josh Hannay	56
Ty Williams	40
Matthew Bowen	32
Paul Bowman	28

FIELD GOALS

Johnathan Thurston	1
Jordan Kahu	1

TRIES PER MATCH

Matt Sing	3	2004
Antonio Winterstein	3	2016

GOALS PER MATCH

Johnathan Thurston	7	2007

POINTS PER MATCH

Johnathan Thurston	18	2007
Johnathan Thurston	16	2007
Robert Lui	14	2013

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ACTIVE IN THEIR COMMUNITY

By Brendan Bowers

A football club is much more than just a football team that plays games; it also contributes to the community off the field, and the Canterbury Bulldogs are a shining example.

The Canterbury Bulldogs have consciously engaged in broad community consultation to develop a collaborative and unique strategy.

Through the process, they identified pillars they believe will highlight and address local social needs.

The three pillars include multicultural, arts and culture, and participation.

One of their community programs is the Bulldogs creating Belonging program. The education program teaches year six students about diversity and belonging and is the first such program for fans by a club in the National Rugby League.

Other programs include their multicultural program to leverage the power of sport to create a harmonious community by actively engaging and celebrating their proud diverse community.

They also have an arts and culture program showcasing the rich diversity through various artistic mediums unique to each culture. They promote community inclusiveness and the benefits of having culturally diverse communities.

Participation and health and fitness are not forgotten with programs to increase involvement through sport and targeting men aged between 35-64 in the community.

Combined with their school partnerships, which include kitting up local and disadvantaged schools with new rugby league kits, the Bulldogs ensure that they are active contributors to their community.

The Canterbury Bulldogs are active community members.

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POTTER RELISHING THE CHALLENGE

By Brendan Bowers

For Canterbury Bulldogs interim coach Michael Potter, the NRL Premiership match in Bundaberg is just another challenge in an interesting 2022 season.

Thrust into the role after the resignation of Trent Barrett, the well-travelled and experienced coach is taking each day as it comes.

It has been an interesting couple of months for Potter since taking the reins in May.

He has not only had to move from the head coach role of the Mounties side that plays in the NSW Cup, but he has had to coach the NRL team while in Covid isolation.

"Coaching remotely or via Zoom can only be described as challenging at best," Potter said.

He relied heavily on his assistant coaches, David Furner and Craig Sandercock, to carry the load in his absence. Potter is looking no further than completing the season and is enjoying not having some extra pressures that a coach on a long-term contract has.

"I am not having to worry about the roster management and contracts, and it is allowing me more time coaching and not worrying about next season and beyond," he said.

Interim coach Michael Potter

He is not sure of what the future holds and remains open to future possibilities.

"I am happy doing what I am doing now and we will see where that leads."

Potter believes the future is promising for the Bulldogs but knows it will not be an easy fix.

"The club faces a challenging remainder of the season and possibly 2023 but I believe 2024 fans will see the hard work being done now by the club reap the rewards.

"I am not ruling out improvement, even in the remainder of this year, but we will have to work hard."

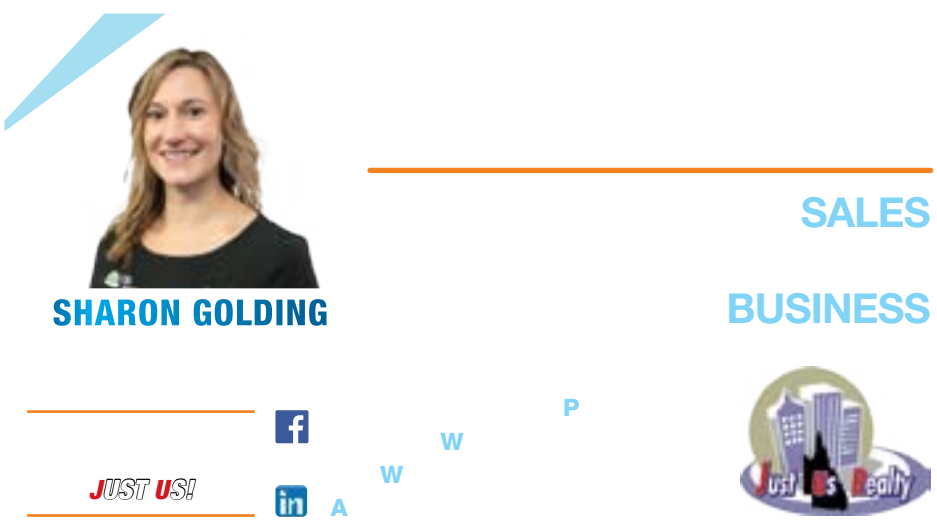
With a long history as a player in the league for the Bulldogs, St George Dragons, and Western Reds, he understands what bringing NRL games to regional and new markets can do for the game's growth.

"It introduces a new audience to live-action and the players' athleticism, speed and skills.

"It also puts it on their doorstep, making it accessible to people who may never have had the opportunity to see it live before."

For now, his focus is on ensuring that he and the other coaching staff create an environment for the players to get the most out of their ability and enjoy their football.

"It will be a tough challenge for us to have our home game in Queensland against the Cowboys, but we will be ready."



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE TEAMS?

By Darren Andrews

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the Cowboys coach the first time they beat the Bulldogs?
2. Who is the only player to represent Australia while playing for both the Bulldogs and the Cowboys?
3. Which former Bulldog played for the Cowboys in their first-ever match in 1995?
4. Which former Roosters fullback scored six tries for Canterbury in his first two matches v the Cowboys in 1995-1996?
5. Which future Cowboys captain made his First Grade debut for North Qld v Canterbury in Round 24, 2010?
6. Which former Cowboy has a son in the 2022 Bulldogs squad?
7. Which team used the 18th man in the Rd 1 match between these teams this year, and who was it?
8. Which of these teams has won the most premierships?
9. Which future NSW & Australian prop made his First Grade debut for the Bulldogs v North Qld in Round 1, 2013?
10. How many former Bulldogs have captained the Cowboys in First Grade?

Question 7.

ANSWERS

1. Tim Sheens (Round 5, 1997)
2. Willie Tonga
3. Martin Bella
4. Rod Silva
5. Jason Taumalolo
6. Brett Hetherington (son is Jack Hetherington)
7. Canterbury, Aaron Schoupp
8. Canterbury, 8. North Qld, 1
9. David Klemmer
10. 6 (Thurston, Norton, Rauhihi, Relf, Ryan, Davies)

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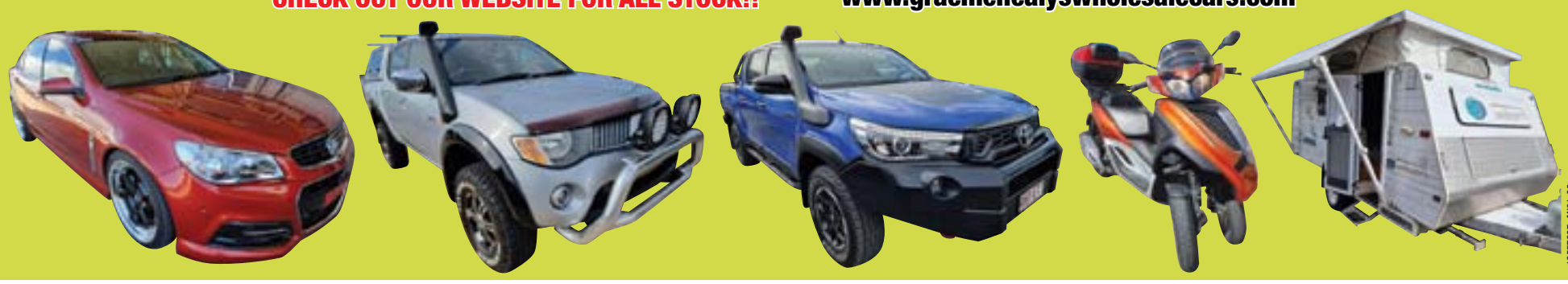

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- AFL
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- e-Sports
- Futsal
- Rugby League 9s
- Surfing
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Triathlon
- Volleyball

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