



Liquid IT Petone vs Western Suburbs

Central League 2022 | 3pm, Saturday August 6 | Memorial Park



Powerex

Petone Men's Thirds vs Upper Hutt City

Capital 2 2022 | 1pm, Saturday August 6 | Memorial Park



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Chairman's Corner

Welcome to Western Suburbs today playing our Liquid IT Men's First Team, who are coming off two draws.

They showed a masterclass of possession football in the last game against Waterside Karori – and scored the equaliser in the last minute of the game – truly showing the fighting spirit to the end which is needed to get points in the Central League.

Our Powerex Women's First Team have a bye today and with two games to go will be fighting for the third spot in the W-League – maybe even second if results go their way.

Both Men's and Women's Reserve Teams are top of their leagues. The Men's Reserves only need one point to secure the Capital 2 League and are playing away at Tawa today, while the Women's Reserves are three points ahead in the Women's 1 League with three games to play.

Congratulations to the winners of our 125 Celebration Raffle last week. The planning for the event on Queens Birthday weekend next year is going well, so look out for more communications about this wonderful celebration.

Thanks to everyone that got behind a very successful and fun evening run by our senior women a couple of weeks back, raising important funds for the club's female programme. Tonight is the senior men's turn with their Horsie Night, which sounds like will be a lot of fun.

TONIGHT!



Next Club Event!

Horsie Night

Saturday August 6



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Please Support Our Sponsors

I can't finish without showing appreciation to our sponsors. Without them we would not be in the fortunate position that we are as a community-based club. Please make yourself aware of our sponsors and send them your business wherever possible.

Good luck to all teams and players this weekend and I hope our supporters enjoy the football – COYB.

Matt Bliss
Chairman
chairman@petonefootball.org.nz

Petone FC Programme Info

- 📄 editor/designer – Iain MacIntyre (MacIntyre Public Relations Ltd) i.macintyre@xtra.co.nz, 021 99 10 16
- 🖨 printer – Blue Star, c/o Mark Allen Mark.Allen@bluestar.co.nz
- 📷 photography – largely courtesy of Jeff Bell jeff-bell@live.com
- 🙏 thanks also to club stalwarts Ray Bell, Barry Pickering and Matt Bliss, valued team managers Julia Harrison jujuharrison@gmail.com and Gavin Siegel gavin@acton.co.nz, as well as our other numerous and important contributors

Beginnings of Football – a Local Context

Football in New Zealand began in the mid-19th Century as a leisure activity for settlers as well as soldiers and crews from visiting ships.

In the absence of organised competitions, players and even clubs often switched between association football, rugby union, Australian rules and Gaelic football, or they played their own variations.

In the 1880s the game started to become more organised. There are several stories about which was the first club formed in New Zealand and which is the longest-surviving club.

The Canterbury AFC organised its first game in 1882 and played under association rules against Christ's College and various rugby teams.

The North Shore Club was founded in Auckland in 1886 and is generally considered to be New Zealand's oldest-surviving club.

However, Northern AFC in Dunedin was formed in 1888 and claims to be the oldest continually-operating football club in the Southern Hemisphere.

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The Beginnings of Football in Wellington

The first inter-club match in Wellington was on June 1, 1889, at Wellington College, when Petone Wanderers beat Wellington Rovers 2-0. The first match played in Petone was three weeks later, between the same teams, resulting in a 1-1 draw at Gear's Paddock. Note that there is no connection between Petone Wanderers and today's Petone FC.

James Gear established the Gear Meat Preserving and Freezing Company in 1879, in an area now occupied by PAK'nSAVE. Part of the company's grounds included "Gear's Paddock" which was used primarily for football. The advantage of that ground was that it was not controlled by a council and was therefore freely available for football.

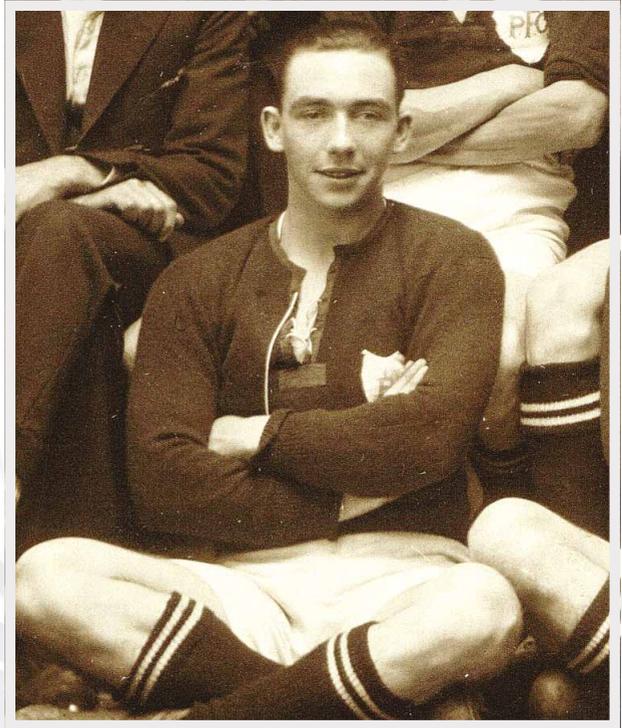
Petone Wanderers and Wellington Rovers played each other twice more that year – a 2-0 win to Petone Wanderers at Petone Recreation Ground and a 1-1 draw at Newtown Park. There was also a game between Petone Wanderers' Second XI and Wellington Rovers at Gear's Paddock, but the result is not known.

In 1890 Petone Wanderers, Wellington Rovers and a Wellington Combined team all played each other twice in friendly matches.

On May 15, 1890, three Wellington area clubs – Petone Wanderers, Queens Park and Wellington Rovers – formed the Wellington Football Association. The following year the first Wellington competition was established.

Petone FC wasn't established until 1898.

Article kindly provided by Petone FC historian Ray Bell



Andy Leslie – Petone FC's most prolific Men's First Team goal scorer – played in the club's earlier years from 1927 to 1945 and amassed 215 league goals in 173 matches, at a rate of 1.24 per game

Shirt Sponsorship

As part of our club's supporters' package, sponsors have the opportunity to advertise on the back of player shirts in both the Petone FC Liquid IT Men's First Team and Powerex Women's First Team. These much-appreciated financial supporters are also named a matchday sponsor for one game per year, in which their business and the players proudly wearing their shirts will be profiled in the following pages of this programme. Hospitality will be provided to the sponsor at that game and, additionally, framed pictures will feature in the club stairwell throughout the season. Any businesses who may be interested in this opportunity – or any club members who may have potential contacts – please advise club chairman Matt Bliss chairman@petonefootball.org.nz.

This weekend's featured sponsors are Miro Homes & Subdividing and Mexico – whose brands respectively appear on the shirts of Alden Suri and Amy Price, and Luke Grindlay and Alex McIntosh. Please read on to learn more about these valued business partners and Petone FC players.

Miro Homes & Subdividing

Miro Homes & Subdividing is an independent, specialist new home building and subdividing company based in Wellington. We build affordable, quality homes that we'd be proud to live in ourselves and we help property owners subdivide to release land capital. We are your one-stop-shop, taking care of everything – subdividing, resource and building consents – ready to build your home and hand you the keys at the end.

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We offer expert advice, free-with-build house plans, experienced builders and in-house quantity surveyors to bring your dream home to reality. We don't production-build, so are fully focused on a personalised service to simplify the entire building process, allowing our customers to enjoy their building journey, all for a pre-agreed price with quality and functionality a given.

Our homes are built with attention to detail by our qualified builders



and tradesmen, using market-leading products and systems, with different inclusions to meet a range of budgets.

Check out our Plans

Our free-with-build plans are architecturally designed to create modern, affordable homes to perform in Wellington's wide range of environments and take full advantage of the space and sun of smaller sections. We have recently released the new Miro Easy Living range of plans with stylish designs for single-level homes and townhouses offering excellent living options to give you great functionality indoors and outdoors, without compromising on quality.

House and Land Packages

There are currently a number of subdivisions in the Wellington region, so if you are looking for a suitable site, we work closely with real estate agents and may have sections available to meet your requirements.

Chris Martin
Operations Manager
027 382 4226
chris@mirohomeswellington.co.nz
<https://mirohomeswellington.co.nz/>

Alden Suri

Age?

18.

Job or studying what?

Year 13 at Scots College.

Past clubs/teams played for?

Scots College First XI.

What do you like about football?

I like everything about football. My family is a football family, so yeah, I've liked football since I was a kid.

What don't you like about football?

[Ed – a frustration with officiating decisions at times was expressed].
But other than that, I love football.

Who is your greatest sporting hero and why?

Marcus Rashford – he's a hero to me



on and off the pitch. What he did feeding about 400,000 children in Britain was just amazing.

What training do you do outside of the structured sessions?

I do conditioning runs and treadmills mostly to try to stay fit for any upcoming challenges.

What do you do to relax outside of football?

I love to spend time with my family, but other than that, I love watching Netflix.

Favourite sounds?

I'd say Roddy Ricch featuring Marshmello – Project Dreams.

Why Petone FC?

I'm new to this club, but I chose Petone because I think this club is all about togetherness, like a big whanau, and has some "ballers" that I think can help me with my football knowledge.

Do you have any rituals that you must perform before a game and why?

I pray before every game.

What is the greatest piece of football advice you have been given and by who?

The greatest piece of football advice comes from my Dad – he told me to stay humble and work hard every day to prove criticism, from people that want to put me down, wrong.

Who is the team comedian and why?

Definitely Matt Jones (also known as "Uncle Bobby") and Nash [James Nash] – they are just funny and always make the team laugh.

Amy Price

Who is your greatest sporting hero and why?

Defo' has to be Liam McKinley – retired ginger with a killa' left foot!

What training do you do outside of the structured sessions?

Gym, kick a ball, runs.

What do you do to relax outside of football?

Hang out with mates and work on my overdue assignments.

Favourite sounds?

Track spikes hitting the track.

Why Petone FC?

Some good footy and people here.

Do you have any rituals that you must perform before a game and why?

Yoga before leaving the house, and following in [Olivia] Gibbs footsteps – rocking the double sock for a game.

What is the greatest piece of football advice you have been given and by who?

“Pricey, you’re the biggest loser I know” – Pa Tahi (makes me want to win!).

Who is the team comedian and why?

I laugh easily, so either everyone or I can’t answer this.



Mexico

Mexico is an immersive dining experience, inspired by the streets of their namesake nation with a menu crafted into delicious dishes by dedicated executive chef Peter Jackson.

Celebrating the vibrancy and lighter side of Mexican cuisine, the menu changes with the seasons to keep things fresh and interesting, using locally-sourced, free-range and sustainable produce.

The drinks keep the vibe loud and lively, with a long list of tequila, mezcal, Mexican beers, sangria and their very own brand of margaritas – Frida’s Margaritas – with ten flavours guaranteed to leave you with all kinds of decision anxiety, like black plum & cinnamon as well as mango & passionfruit.

Their exceptional weekly promotions are not to be missed. There are daily lunch specials including the Degustación which includes a little bit of everyone’s favourites and a soda for \$22. Taco Tuesday is where it’s at – with a fried chicken or fried cauliflower taco and a Frida’s Margarita for just \$15 from 12pm.

Finally, on Sundays, kids eat free when their parents dine! You can also join Love Mexico with their loyalty app and receive free totopos every time you dine and stack up Mexico Dollars and rewards along the way.

Mexico Petone is open seven days from noon until late.

04 566 0988
petone@mexico.nz
mexico.net.nz/petone

136 Jackson Street
Petone

Luke Grindlay

Nickname?

Grinna.

Age?

Old.

Job or studying what?

Owner and operator at The Painter Guy.

Past clubs/teams played for?

Upper Hutt City, Stop Out and North Wellington.

What do you like about football?

I like the challenge that football is physically and mentally, as well as being a part of a good team environment and winning!

What don't you like about football?

Losing.

Who is your greatest sporting hero and why?

Probably Richie McCaw – he's a Kiwi, an unbelievable leader, humble and he did it all on the world stage #richieforprimeminister.

What training do you do outside of the structured sessions?

Light conditioning, running and pilates to recover.

What do you do to relax outside of football?

Travel, music and hanging out with my girlfriend and cat (she made me write this!).

Favourite sounds?

House and alternative hip hop.

Why Petone FC?

It's the people at this club – it's always been a warm friendly environment and I love being a part of it.

Do you have any rituals that you must perform before a game and why?

More recently it's been visualisation, but previously over the years probably a scoop of pre-workout to help with the workload – carrying the boys ain't easy :-)



What is the greatest piece of football advice you have been given and by who?

“Control the controllable, work hard and be humble” – anon.

Who is the team comedian and why?

Sefa my uso [brother] – he does this thing where he speaks without thinking haha x

Alex McIntosh

Who is your greatest sporting hero and why?

Caitlin Hendry – has bounced back from a lot of set backs in terms of injuries and goes out there throwing herself around! Definition of body on the line.

What training do you do outside of the structured sessions?

Running and line dancing :-)

What do you do to relax outside of football?

Hang out with friends, family, watch Love Island, walk the pooch etc.

Favourite sounds?

Gotta be some S Club 7, Tina Turner and anything old school!

Why Petone FC?

Ellen Fibbes made me, and I haven't left. Love the girls, good vibes and bonus being a W-League side based in The Hutt.



Do you have any rituals that you must perform before a game and why?

Subway always on Friday nights and a full can of baked beans on toast with grated cheese and a cuppa tea – eight-year habit going strong.

What is the greatest piece of football advice you have been given and by who?

“Don't let them boys push you around, push them back twice as hard” – my Dad when I was growing up in Southland in the boys' leagues.

Who is the team comedian and why?

Well Libby [Boobyer]'s best joke is about Pokémon, so not her ...

Golf Day – Get Your Entries In!

Hi everyone, a reminder that we are six weeks out from the second Annual Golf Day in support of the Women's and Men's U19 Teams.

Now is the time to start getting your entries in folks, so if you haven't already done so, please let me know if you are putting a team in.

Thank you to the teams that have already confirmed.

The inaugural golf day last year was a great success and I am sure this one will be even better.

Brendon May

Organiser

Petone FC Golf Day

brendon@mortgageandinsuranceshop.co.nz



PETONE FOOTBALL CLUB GOLF OPEN



FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Inaugural tournament in February 2021 had 21 teams, so 2022 looks to be a sell out – so book your teams early!

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TEE OFF TIME 12.30PM

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CLUBHOUSE WHERE A CASH
BAR WILL BE OPERATING
FROM 5:30PM

Contact Brendon May
for entry info - 021 875-700
golfday@petonefootball.org.nz

All proceeds will help support the U19 Tournament Teams to Napier 2022.
Bank account 02-0544-0149970-000 use your name as a reference.



Shandon Golf Club



Wellington Reps – 1903



Pictured at back: HL Godber (linesman), FH or P Williams, GW Phillips, M Fitzgerald, WJ (Billy) Mawson; middle: NJ or W Mouat, P McWhannel, JT (James) Amies, AL (Andy) Mouat, EL (Emillio) Renai; front: RB (Bert) Clark (captain), HHA (Hector) Renai

This photo was taken on the occasion of the match against Auckland in Wellington on September 9, 1903, which the local side won 4-3.

Bert Clark, Emillio Renai and Hector Renai were Petone players, and HL Godber had previously played for the club.

The first Wellington Rep team was formed in 1890.

Article kindly provided by club historian Ray Bell

Programmes On New Club Website

Please note that Petone FC 2022 matchday programmes are now posted under [/more/match programmes](#) on the club's renewed website (kindly administered by Sam Pickering).



Celebrating 125 Years of Petone FC

Next year Petone FC is celebrating its 125th anniversary as well as 50 years of women's football at the club.

The main celebrations will take place over Queens Birthday Weekend 2023 – June 2-5 – starting with a meet-and-greet evening at the club on Friday, fantastic football on Saturday and a celebration dinner at the Lower Hutt Events Centre on Sunday.

Put it on the calendar, tell your friends and book a weekend in with us.

Please also send us any old photos or memories of your time and involvement at Petone FC. We'd love to see and hear them and so might others. Email to 125th@petonefootball.org.nz.



do a little extra with your day.



Armstrong



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New Zealand versus Eintracht Frankfurt 1978, with a Petone FC club legend centre stage

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Central League 2022

Saturday August 6 | 3pm | Memorial Park

Liquid IT Petone

GK (1)	Shea Stapleton
GK (22)	Ethan Claridge
2	James Nash
3	Seth Loughran
4	Brynn Sinclair
5	Kieran McMinn
6	Jamie Molea
7	Jamaya Shearer
8	Hami Paranihi-Nuku (c)
9	Ashnarvy Mustapha
10	Max Winterton
11	Josh Zatorski
12	Ollie Pickering
13	Isaac Snell
14	Luke Grindlay
15	Jared Eglinton
16	Alex Shepherd-Reynolds
17	Stanton Renwicks
18	Billy Check
19	Matt Jones
20	Callum Brooker
21	Sam Pickering
Coach	Ryan Edwards
Asst coach	Jamie Forsyth
Strength/cond	Kieran McMinn
Manager	Gavin Siegel
Physio	Barnaby Verberne

Western Suburbs

GK (1)	Nick Stanton
GK (13)	Ngereine Maro
2	Shaan Sharma (c)
3	Tom Chretien
4	Alifeleti Peini
5	Muse Abrahaberhe
8	Bruno Penney
9	Steve Martinez
12	Jack O'connor
14	Reilly Marlow-Jones
17	Nathan Simes
18	Bruce Izumi
7	Akira Itadani
11	Jack Eccles
15	Harry Dunn
19	Ryan Harrison
Coach	Tyler Logan
Manager	Dean Eagar
Analyst	James Malthus
Physio	Andy Chesney

Officials

Referee – Mark Whitehead
Assistant Referee 1 – Derrol Macdonald
Assistant Referee 2 – Nathan Griffiths



Capital 2 2022

Saturday August 6 | 1pm | Memorial Park

Petone Thirds

GK (1)	Braden Longstaff
2	Calum Ochkas
4	Steve Davey
5	Chrisanto Carvalho
6	Kunal Chand
7	David Prendergast
8	Tyler Benson
9	Adam Chard (c)
10	Armande Westmoreland
11	Luke Waring
12	Amitesh Lal
13	Finn Neely
14	Jack Hammond
15	Jack Thompson
16	Chris Hosnell
17	Jaiden Moir
18	Joel Robinson
Coach/mgr	Chris Hosnell
Asst coach	Kunal Chand

Upper Hutt City

GK (1)	Eli Urwin
2	Ryan Ellis
3	Luke Carey
4	Ethan Carey
5	Aj Paanod
6	Alex Matthews
8	Alex Kempt
9	Donal Hugh Gahan
10	Todd Latham
11	James Lavery
12	Oliver Whalen
13	Kyle Williams
14	Matt Bennett (c)
15	Ethan Richards
16	Luke Dobblerarr
Coach	Brendon Clent
Asst coaches	Mark Ellis Stuart Jacobs
GK coach	Kris Pinnock

Officials

Referee – Mohammed Buksh

Men's Central League Matches

March 26 | Wellington Olympic | **home** – **1-5** S Pickering

April 2 | Wellington Phoenix | **away** – **0-3**

April 9 | Wellington United | **away** – **0-0**

April 15 | Napier City Rovers | **away** – **2-2** S Pickering (pen), A Suri

April 23 | Waterside Karori | **home** – **1-2** S Loughran

May 1 | Western Suburbs | **away** – **4-0** A Suri, K McMinn, S Loughran, J Shearer

May 7 | Miramar Rangers | **home** – **0-5**

May 22 | Havelock North Wanderers | **away** – **1-2** K McMinn

May 28 | North Wellington | **home** – **3-1** L Grindlay, S Pickering (pen), M Winterton

June 11 | Wellington United | **home** – **1-0** A Suri

June 25 | Wellington Phoenix | **home** – **0-3**

July 2 | Wellington Olympic | **away** – **0-5**

July 16 | Napier City Rovers | **home** – **2-2** J Shearer, J Molea

July 23 | Waterside Karori | **away** – **1-1** J Molea

August 6 | Western Suburbs | **home** –

August 13 | Miramar Rangers | **away** –

August 20 | Havelock North Wanderers | **home** –

August 28 | North Wellington | **away** –



Women's W-League Matches

April 23 | North Wellington | home – **3-1** J Reddy, S Williams, L Boobyer

April 30 | PN Marist | away – **1-2** own goal

May 7 | Waterside Karori | home – **1-3** R Otte

May 21 | Seatoun | home – **5-1** R Otte 4 (inc pen), S Williams

May 28 | bye | –

June 11 | Victoria University | home – **4-0** R Otte, L Boobyer, A Price, own goal

June 25 | Wgtn Utd Diamonds | home – **1-1** R Otte

July 2 | North Wellington | away – **6-1** A McIntosh 2, R Otte 2, A Price

July 16 | PN Marist | home – **4-1** R Otte, A Price, A McIntosh, O Gibbs

July 23 | Waterside Karori | away – **0-4**

July 30 | Seatoun | away – **4-3** L Boobyer 2, J Reddy, A Price

August 6 | bye | –

August 13 | Victoria University | away –

August 27 | Wgtn Utd Diamonds | away –



Central League Table

	p	w	d	l	f	a	gd	pts
Wellington Olympic	14	10	3	1	50	13	37	33
Miramar Rangers	13	9	3	1	52	13	39	30
Wellington Phoenix	14	9	3	2	29	12	17	30
Napier City Rovers	14	6	4	4	28	23	5	22
Waterside Karori	13	4	4	5	24	23	1	16
North Wellington	14	4	3	7	26	32	-6	15
Western Suburbs	14	4	2	8	18	44	-26	14
Liquid IT Petone	14	3	4	7	16	31	-15	13
Wellington United	14	2	3	9	10	35	-25	9
Havelock North Wanderers	14	2	3	9	15	42	-27	9



W-League Table

	p	w	d	l	f	a	gd	pts
Palmerston North Marist	10	7	1	2	25	16	9	22
Waterside Karori	7	7	0	0	31	3	28	21
Powerex Petone	10	6	1	3	29	17	12	19
Wellington Utd Diamonds	9	5	1	3	28	10	18	16
Seatoun	9	2	1	6	14	22	-8	7
Victoria	9	2	0	7	8	42	-34	6
North Wellington FC	8	0	0	8	8	33	-25	0

Another Club Legacy ...

Mackenzie Greene – 16-year-old daughter of Shane Greene and Rachael Bowden – is pictured recently making her W-League debut for the Powerex Petone Women’s First Team against Wellington United Diamonds.

As well as both being well-known first team footballers with other clubs, Rachael played one game for the Petone FC Women’s First Team, while Shane had a few seasons with the Men’s Firsts, is still playing at the top masters level for the Argh Me Knees and has also been involved in junior coaching at the club.



Settler Q&A – Mike Gendall

A former Men's First Team player and manager and continuing masters A grade player and junior coach, Mike Gendall, is the focus of this edition's Settler Q&A.

Do you recall when you first started playing football and any memories from that game/time?

I started playing football when I was about eight with the Hillcrest Hawks in Hamilton. From memory our team was pretty sharp and we took out the title in what was probably the 9th Grade – though we lost the knockout cup in the final! I remember our faded orange shirts (think Upper Hutt kit), not wearing shin pads and that the pitches were rubbish with heaps of mud – pretty much a paddock. A few of the guys I played with as a kid did pretty well in football – Jonathan and Matt Perry, Gary Kingi, Paul and Wayne Caton, Paul Wilkinson are a few – I didn't actually realise how good these guys were when we were young.

Do you recall your Petone FC First Team debut?

I joined Petone in 1996 having moved to Wellington with our family a couple of years earlier. I actually started senior football at North Wellington –

MITRE 10
MEGA



Mike, second-from-left, celebrating the 2019 Central League promotion playoff win with the Men's First Team, of which he was part of the management group

“Macca” [Iain MacIntyre] was in the team – because we lived in Khandallah and it was close to home – I certainly learned a lot about “playing to the conditions” up there.

Barrie Truman was my lecturer at Training College in 1996 and he asked if I was interested in playing at Petone as he was the coach. A friend, Alasdair Campbell, and I ventured out and discovered a whole new world in The Hutt! We played Superclub at the time and we finished second to Whanganui – we had a great team which included many awesome Petone names – Barry Pickering, Andy Pickering, Brett Williams, Chris Morriss, Donny Stoupe, Ben Lindstrom, Paul Schrijvers, Paul Baker, Greg Smith, Besim Balicevac, James Bannatyne, Nathan Sutcliffe to name a few. I am really thankful to the coaching of Barrie at this time as I learned a lot and he had a way of getting the best out of the whole team – “square pegs in square holes”.

My debut was in Napier against Napier City Rovers. I remember Paul Schrijvers got his eye split open by Martin Akers and I had to slot in and mark him whilst Paul got stitched ... I was pretty nervous but I don't think I mucked anything up – it was a close game.

We spent most of the time in the Central League and little bit in Capital Premier when I was in the First Team. I enjoyed the trips away to Palmerston North, Napier, Nelson and the local games with the likes of Olympic, Miramar, Lower Hutt and Wests. I also remember having sore stomach muscles when we got home from the road trips because we were laughing so much in the vans. Bob Lane always got us home safely!

What were your main position(s) and what attracted you to those?

I mostly played in the midfield or defence, I was always keen to masquerade up front from time to time but always got dragged back in case I got a nose bleed. I never had a lot of skill or finesse so had to make up with being a bit “agricultural” and I liked passing – maybe defensive positions suited me.



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Potted Mike Gendall Stats/Achievements

- 🏆 122 Men's First Team league games 1996-2007 (22 goals)
- 🏆 played his 100th game in 2004
- 🏆 Men's First Team manager 2019
- 🏆 long-standing member of the Armanis and now the Argh Me Knees
- 🏆 long-standing juniors coach

Information kindly supplied by club historian Ray Bell

Career highlights?

We won the Capital Premier a couple of times and I think the Hilton-Petone too.

I can remember some really awesome results against more fancied opposition which stick in my mind – especially beating the likes of Olympic, Wests and Miramar.

The local derby games with Lower Hutt and Stop Out were always a highlight as we battled it out for local honours.

Playing 100 games for the First Team is a real honour and I thank John Bradbury for keeping this tradition going.

We won Masters 1 with Argh Me Knees last year.

I guess it is a highlight to have never been sent off!

Any notable disappointments?

One main disappointment was in the early 2000s when we missed out on qualifying for the “new” Central League. In the playoffs we were up 2-0 over Manawatū and going well, then we made some substitutes which changed the

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Mike, bottom-right, in the 2013 vintage of the Armanis

game and we lost 3-2 to a golden goal. We had to play Wellington United in the final game and drew which was heartbreaking.

I actually went to Miramar for a couple of seasons to play National League when I was in my early 20s. I broke my leg and blew out my ankle which was really disappointing. I managed to get back and play, but I was always cautious afterwards.

Team-mates you've particularly respected/enjoyed?

I had the good fortune of playing with a number of great players who I really respected. Many players helped me to learn and be better at the game as we grew up in football.

A few mentions from my memory bank – “Maxi” (Brett Williams) had an incredible ability to put out a leg and stop strikers in their tracks. Ben Lindstrom beat players at will. Andy Pickering and “Stick” (Paul Whitmarsh) had an awesome ability to find the net. Chris Morriss and Andy Barron always had an extra gear in the midfield, Jonathan Winkworth and Brendan May had the most superior fitness. I remember being amazed at how Paul Cant turned on a dime and Marty Baker and “Gooner” (Ian Goode) were always in the right place to score for the Armanis.

Tim Brown, Tim Butterfield, Stu Jacobs, the Trenberth brothers (Ryan is with Petone now), and Michael McKinley are players from other clubs who I respected as team-mates.

I also remember playing with Barry Pickering in goal. We didn't get many goals at training and he pulled off an awesome save in the top corner against

Whanganui – he broke his arm against the post and I think just strapped it up and played on!

I have had many epic battles with the opposition and the likes of Martin Disley, Mark Beldham, Tinoi Christie, Simon George, Fred de Jong and Manawatū's Ian Robinson come to mind when I think about these.

When did you step down from the First Team and did you play thereafter?

I played in the First Team until I was about 30, then I went and played rugby for a while. I came back and filled in for the first team a couple of years later and we won the league with "Fozzie" (Mark Foster) – I think I hung up my First team boots after we beat New Plymouth. Although, I did get to play for the First Team for the first half of the Hilton-Petone Cup in 2019 final as the team was short (desperate) – must have been funny to see my silver head out there!

I have played for the Armanis when we were down the grades and played a little bit for the Fourths and Reserves. These days I play now and again for the Argh Me Knees and I have filled in for a few other teams. It is getting a bit harder to recover after the games though – and fitness is something I used to know about.

What other roles have you had in the club over the years?

I was manager of the First Team in 2019 when we won promotion with Stick and Mark Thomas coaching. It was a real highlight to be involved and I was really impressed with the way the season was approached. A lot of great guys in this team are still involved with the club.

Volunteering and Events

Petone FC relies on the support of our community to maintain our family-friendly club and we are always in need of both volunteers and funding.

We would love to see you attend this season's functions, as listed in our events calendar, and would welcome any offers of a little time to help out.

This could be helping run gamedays, manning the bar or you may have a particular skill the club could use on one of our committees.

If interested please contact Matt Bliss chairman@petonefootball.org.nz.





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I have also coached some kids teams which included the U19s with “Bucks” (Tony Buckley) in the late 1990s.

Have other family members played for/had any involvement in the club?

My son Edward played for a few years from first kicks until he was about eight. He plays rugby for Petone now. My daughter Tess has played a couple of seasons in the Girls Only League and she really enjoys the team aspect and playing with a great group of friends. I co-coach my youngest daughter Charlotte's U10s this year. It is great to see the girls getting stuck in for each other – there are some really talented young players in the club at the moment.

Any thoughts on the game overall – ie, things you are or aren't liking today?

I still enjoy watching a good game of football and see the skill level of players which is much greater than when I was playing. I like the style of play through possession which is promoted from a young age. That said, I also think it is important to sometimes just go for the goal – if you think you score, have a crack – there is nothing better than celebrating a good goal!

Lastly, any final thoughts on what Petone FC has meant to you and family?

I am not sure if I was supposed to ever play for Petone as my Dad's family all played for Stop Out! In 1996 I was warmly welcomed into the club and taken care of as a player and club member.

I am really grateful to have been associated with Petone FC for the last 25-odd years and it is great to turn up to the club and see many familiar faces who are always keen to have a chat. My family always feel really welcome and we look forward to many more good times at Memorial Park!

Club Events Calendar 2022

- 🏆 *Old Timers' Day – Saturday May 7*
- 🏆 *Senior Quiz – Saturday June 25*
- 🏆 *Senior Women's International Beer Festival Fundraiser – Saturday July 23*
- 🏆 *Horsie Night – Saturday August 6*
- 🏆 *Junior Quiz – Saturday August 20*
- 🏆 *Golf Day – Friday September 9*
- 🏆 *Junior Prizegiving – Saturday September 17*
- 🏆 *Senior Prizegiving – Saturday October 1*



TBIhealth

Take control back from those ongoing aches! All registered Petone football players in any team with an ACC injury are eligible for fully-subsidised physiotherapy treatment at any TBI Health Wellington clinic:

- Wellington CBD – L5, 111 Customhouse Quay, CBD
- Newtown – 90 Hanson Street, Southern Cross Hospital, Newtown
- Lower Hutt – L1, 21-23 Andrews Ave, Lower Hutt
- Ropata – 135 Witako Street, Epuni
- Mana – Level 1, 107 Mana Esplanade, Mana
- Kapiti – 112 Rimu Rd, Paraparaumu



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dave macIntyre

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+64 21 446 929

+64 21 99 10 16

d.macintyre@xtra.co.nz

i.macintyre@xtra.co.nz

macintyrepr.co.nz

PO Box 686

Wellington 6140

A Brief History

Formed in 1898, Petone FC is one of the oldest football clubs in New Zealand and is the longest-surviving in our original form – non-amalgamated – in Wellington.

Major on-field achievements have included:

- 🏆 Chatham Cup winners – 1928, 1930 and 1949
- 🏆 Chatham Cup semifinalists – 1994
- 🏆 Chatham Cup quarterfinalists – 1995
- 🏆 Junior National Cup (New Zealand U18s) winners – 1979
- 🏆 National Youth Championship (New Zealand U19s) winners – 2008
- 🏆 Wellington annual preseason tournament (progressively known as the Hilton-Petone Cup) winners – 1956, 1985, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2010 and 2013
- 🏆 Central League Premier Division winners – 1990
- 🏆 Capital Federation Premier League winners – 2006, 2007 and 2019
- 🏆 Women's Central League winners – 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998
- 🏆 Women's National U19s Tournament winners – 2021

Petone FC also finished runners-up in the Central League Premier Division in 1992, 1996 and 2008 as well as the Capital Federation Premier League in 2005, 2017 and 2018.

The club organises the annual preseason Hilton-Petone Cup tournament which, since 1955, has attracted an almost maximum number of entries from clubs in the Wellington region and which is an established part of the local football scene.



CAPITAL FOOTBALL PROGRAMME OF THE YEAR

🏆 Winner – 2020 | 🏆 Finalist – 2021



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