



SUNDAY 3 MARCH | 2PM | MARTIN LUCKIE PARK

NZF CHARITY CUP



SPONSORED BY



CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME



A warm welcome to Ryan Edwards and Chatham Cup Champions, Christchurch United, to today's Charity Cup match in support of Heart Kids NZ, here at Martin Luckie.

Last year was a fantastic journey for Wellington Olympic, winning four of the five trophies on offer, breaking a number of records and making history. Although we have made a number of public announcements on our media sites, I just want to again thank Rupert Kemeys for taking this Club to heights that, in our "Founding Members" day, would not have been something to even dare dream.

Ironically, both Clubs have new coaching staff, so the game today will be a testament to those coaches and their style of play. To make it more interesting, Olympic's new coaches, Paul Ifill and Ekow Quainoo were Christchurch United's coaches that saw them win the Chatham Cup last season.

Today is about Heart Kids NZ. We have families who have needed, and continue to need, their help and support and have been touched by their empathy and care. It is a lifetime commitment they give to those brave children, supporting them as they grow into adults, including their parents and families who, many times are separated as one parent stays with the child at Starship

Hospital in Auckland whilst the other needs to stay home and "keep going" to find some normalcy for their other children, while they cannot find any for themselves.

So we ask everyone here today, and those reading our programme on our media sites from far away, please give generously to this Charity whose commitment it is to help those going through this painful experience that none of us would ever want to.

In New Zealand, you can make an automatic \$3 donation by texting heartwelly to 2427, or from overseas, please go direct to their donation page: <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/wgtnheart> and make a donation.

We are grateful to the NZF and Christchurch United for giving us this opportunity to help this tremendous cause. Let's make it a Cup game to be remembered. Good luck to both teams today. Following the Cup presentation, we invite you all back to our Clubrooms at Wakefield Park for the after-match function.

Paul Kotrotsos

FROM THE COACH



Good afternoon everyone. A warm welcome to Martin Luckie Park for today's Charity Cup Final.

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to the board of Wellington Olympic for giving myself and Ekow the opportunity to manage, coach and mentor at the newly crowned National Champions. I must also mention the outgoing coach Rupert Kemeys who enjoyed an amazing time at the club and has certainly laid solid foundations for us to try and build on.

It's a real honour and privilege to be here and we hope to continue with the progress made over the last few seasons and carry on with an attacking brand of football.

Today we welcome Ryan Edwards and his Christchurch United team! I'm sure there will be plenty of familiar faces and it's certainly a little strange to be leading our new team vs our former team in our first competitive fixture with a trophy up for grabs.

Knowing how Ryan likes his teams to play, I'm expecting a very tough test today as he looks to have recruited well in the off-season.

I have been pleased with our pre-season and the players have shown a real understanding of how we would like to play and their work ethic to date has been excellent.

I am hopeful today we take another step forward and we can measure the things we have worked on under some match pressure.

Please get behind the players as we attempt to get our hands on the first piece of silverware on offer this season.

Paul Ifill

THE HISTORY OF THE CHARITY CUP

The Cup was first introduced in 1978 under the name "NZFA Challenge Trophy" changing its name to the Charity Cup for 2011.

The challengers for the Cup are the National League (or whatever the top league in NZ was then called) and Chatham Cup winners.

Apart from playing for "top honours", it is also a match that supports and brings awareness to those Charities nominated by the National League winners of their choice, with Olympic nominating Heart Kids NZ to be the recipient of all donations from the game today.

Spectators to the match are asked to make a donation to the charity, including for those in New Zealand watching the livestream by making an automatic \$3 donation by texting "heartwelly" to 2427, or for those overseas, a donation can be made direct to their page: <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/wgtnheart>

We ask you to please support this charity who work tirelessly both for the children and their families.

Past Winners:

NZFA CHALLENGE TROPHY

1978	Manurewa AFC
1980	University-Mount Wellington
1981	University-Mount Wellington
1982	Wellington United
1983	University-Mount Wellington
1984	Manurewa
1985	Gisborne City
1986	Wellington United
1987	North Shore United

CHARITY CUP

2011	Auckland City
2012	Waitakere United
2013	Auckland City
2014	Team Wellington
2015	Auckland City
2016	Auckland City
2017	Team Wellington
2018	Auckland City
2019	Auckland City
2020	Auckland City



 Heart Kids NZ
Tamariki Manawa Māia

HOW TO DONATE

OPTION 1: TEXT

Text 'heartwelly' to 2427 to make an automatic \$3 donation.

OPTION 2: GIVEALITTLE PAGE

Scan the QR Code below and you'll be able to make a custom donation of any amount via their Give A Little page. You can also visit the website directly at:

<https://givealittle.co.nz/org/wgtnheart>



SCAN ME



WELLINGTON OLYMPIC AFC



Following the heartbreaking loss to Auckland City FC in the 2022 National League Final at Mt Smart Stadium, Wellington Olympic set its targets for the 2023 season and with Head Coach Rupert Kemeys at the helm, the team knew it was time to pull up the socks, tie the boot laces get on the field and dig deep and give it their all for what was expected of them.

The instructions were clear and concise.

“Win everything”.

Win the Central League Championship, the O’Brien Trophy, the Venus Shield (for Reserves), the Chatham Cup and the National League Championship. And what a performance they gave.

Records were breaking and history was being made in 2023. It was a year that Olympic set the bar high and one that would be difficult to outdo.

The O’Brien Trophy was the first to be handed over to the jubilation of the Club.

Next came the Central League Championship trophy – Three times in three years, breaking the record and making history.

And taking it right down to the wire of the last game, our Reserves (2nd team) made their own history-making moment by beating Island Bay by just a mere point to

win the Capital Premier Championship and the very elusive Venus Shield. One Club, two Championship Titles and another record broken.

With nine clear points to finish the Central League/ National League Regional phase ahead of second placed Wellington Phoenix Reserves in the Central League race, and with a massive goal difference of 50 to their 18 (next best), Olympic then turned its gaze towards the National League Competition phase. They had a point to prove and they were on track for it.

Wins against Manurewa 5-2 and Napier City Rovers 7-1 were followed by draws against Cashmere Technical 3-3 and Eastern Suburbs 2-2 to leave Olympic trailing Auckland City by four points. Five consecutive victories against Auckland United 3-1, Petone 2-1, Christchurch United 5-2, Auckland City 3-1 and Wellington Phoenix Reserves 4-2 saw Olympic leapfrog Auckland City to win the minor premiership for the first time ever. Unbeaten in 2023, Olympic were now unbeaten in 17 National League Championship round robin matches since 2022.

With an eerie feeling of déjà vu, the Grand Final stage was set to be replayed against Auckland City at Mt Smart Stadium with many watching nationally and all over the world. But this time the air was different at Mt Smart. Olympic fans had come from all over the country to fly the flag, ring the bell and support their boys in blue. There would be no drowning out of their cheers by the constant chanting and drum beating by Auckland fans. Olympic came as an army to conquer.

Kailan Gould, who had scored the Central League winner in 2021, gave Olympic the lead after 58 minutes before Jack-Henry Sinclair side footed the ball into an empty net with the last kick of the match to give Olympic a 2-0 win.

As the Olympic crowd erupted in wild celebration, Ben Mata and his team forever entrenched themselves into the NZ Football Hall of Fame to become the 2023 New Zealand National League Champions while lifting Trophy No. 4.

But there was that ONE that got away. The ultimate prize. Olympic's hopes of "winning everything" crushed by Eastern Suburbs to have the Chatham Cup slip out of their grasp. The Cup that would have made a pretty picture alongside the other four and a perfect ending to the season.... But it was not to be.

But we're pleased to warmly welcome Chatham Cup Champions Christchurch United to Martin Luckie for an exciting pre-season Charity Cup match and the opportunity to support and raise awareness of Heart Kids NZ, a cause close to our hearts. We ask everyone to please dig deep and help make this Charity match one to remember for all concerned.

With Champion vs Champion, our fans are in for a mighty game. Ironically, both Clubs also have new coaching staff, taking on roles with huge expectations. Good luck to Paul (Olympic) and Ryan (Christchurch), for an exciting start and a successful year.





CHRISTCHURCH UNITED FC



With the Chatham Cup Champions taking on the unbeaten National League Champions, this should prove a gruelling match for the players, and an exciting one for the fans. Christchurch United was formed via the merger and support of several Christchurch clubs in the early 1970s, ostensibly to provide a strong Christchurch team for participation in the New Zealand National Soccer League.

The teams involved were Christchurch City AFC, Western AFC, Shamrock, and Christchurch Technical, though some of these sides continued to play on as separate sides after the formation of United.

A total of 44 players from Christchurch United have represented New Zealand at an international level, including two World Cup Captains, Steve Sumner and Ryan Nelsen.

Christchurch United embarked on their Chatham Cup journey with victories over Parklands, Universities AFC, Ferrymead Bays and Cashmere Tech. These wins propelled them to the quarterfinals where they faced off against Hamilton Wanderers and emerged victorious. In the semifinals, Christchurch United defeated Eastern Suburbs 2-1 to set up a thrilling final against Melville United.

In the final, Christchurch United prevailed 4-2 on penalties, clinching the Chatham Cup Title on its 100th anniversary. This marked United's seventh Chatham Cup victory.

The Club's achievements include:

- 6x New Zealand National Soccer League: 1973; 1975; 1978; 1987; 1988; 1991
- 2x Southern League: 2022, 2023
- 2x Canterbury Division 1: 2008, 2014
- 1x Canterbury Championship League: 2019
- 7x Chatham Cup: 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1989, 1991, 2023
- 7x English Cup: 1982, 1983, 1985, 1989, 1990, 1991, 2023

We're pleased to be back in the Capital City for another round with Wellington Olympic for this pre-season Charity Cup match in support of Heart Kids NZ and to help raise public awareness for this charity.



Holmes

Construction NZ

EST 1957



Established over 65 years ago, Holmes Construction is a family-run business built on traditional Kiwi values. Our commitment to quality, consistency, and communication has established us as one of the most respected residential and commercial construction companies in Wellington and the Wairarapa.

Level 5, 25 Victoria Street Petone 5012 | 150 Main Street Greytown 5712
0800 566 664 | office@holmes.co.nz

For more information, visit holmes.co.nz



**NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHAMPIONS**



**CHATHAM CUP
CHAMPIONS**

SQUAD LISTS

Scott Basalaj (GK)	1	Steven van Dijk
Gabriele Matanisiga	2	Riley Grover
Adam Supyk	3	Kaleb De Groot-Green
Dylan Wood	4	Sorisit Mac Prathumphitak
Justin Gulley (C)	5	Michael Hornsby
Tor Davenport Petersen	6	Ta Eh Do
Jesse Randall	7	Thomas Chao
Edward Wilkinsno	8	Eric Sugihara
Hamish Watson	9	Matt Brazier
Oliver Colloty	10	David Yoo
Kailan Gould	11	Joel Stevens
Chris Kotrotsos (RGK)	12	Adam Huskic
William Vincent	13	Tyler Hornsby
Jack-Henry Sinclair	14	Joel Peterson
Ben Mata (C)	15	Jackson Cole
Joshua Apaapa-Preston	16	Daniel Meyn
Devon Thurston	17	
Luke Tongue	18	
Samuel Mitrakas	19	
Tamupiwa Dimairo	20	
Isa Prins	21	
Lukas Halikias	22	
Gavin Hoy	23	
Jonty Roubos	24	
Joel Coustrain	25	
Oliver Davies	26	
Kaelin Nguyen	27	
Josh Rudland	28	
Joseph Hopper	31	
George Walker	32	
Alex Britton (RGK)	41	
Matthew King (RGK)	42	
Paul Ifill	COACH	Ryan Edwards
Ekow Quainoo	ASSISTANT	Jamie Forsyth
Taylor Hall-Jones	ASSISTANT	Sam Peterson
Alex Britton	GK COACH	Sean McCleary
	S&C COACH	
	PHYSIO	
Brogan Treanor	MANAGER	
Matt Kolic		
Dave Graham	GEAR MANAGER	

REFEREE
Cory Mills

1ST ASSISTANT
Ashton Davenport

2ND ASSISTANT
Cameron Gruschow

4TH OFFICIAL
Chris Bennett