

# Melville Magic



**Melville United v Metro**

**May 4, 2013 Gower Park  
Northern League Div 1**



**Secretary:** Andrea Timings  
Ph 847-8111 0273 403-841  
timings5@clear.net.nz

**President:** Bruce Holloway,  
bhollow@iconz.co.nz

PO Box 8074, Hamilton  
[www.melvilleunited.co.nz](http://www.melvilleunited.co.nz)

**Clubrooms:**

Gower Park

**Ph:** 834-1391

**Patron:** John Cameron

**Club Captain:** Phil Wheatley

**Treasurer:** Rory Noorland

**Groundsman:** Mike McMillan

## TDO - The Dinsdale Office

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## From the chairman

Today we welcome Metro, a club we have enjoyed some torrid battles with over the years. We did not clash last season, and have not lost to Metro in the past eight encounters between the clubs, and Melville fans may find that slightly reassuring ahead of a match which could well define the nature of our mid-season campaign.

A glance at the northern league table suggests this should be a very close match today. Not only do both teams have three wins, two draws and a solitary loss, but they have also netted 14 goals each. (All but two of Melville's goals have come in two matches.) Metro drew 1-1 last week with Ngaruawahia, having earlier beaten North Force 4-3 (away), Hibiscus Coast 3-1 (home), lost to Glenfield Rovers 0-3 (away), drawn 2-2 with Eastern Suburbs (away), and beaten Forrest Hill 4-2 (away). So they have drawn with the teams we have drawn with, lost to the only team we have lost to, and beaten the teams we have beaten.

The parallels go further. Both clubs have previously been significant enough to have competed at national league level in the past, but are now in a rebuilding phase.

At this point the league has a two-faced look to it. The league has almost split in half, with a top six all looking to have a shot at promotion - and a bottom six five points adrift, running at a point a game or less. It certainly is unusual, after six rounds, to have five teams with one win or less.

A common refrain after last week's 4-0 win was the the goals were great - it was just all the rubbish inbetween that was a concern. That's understandable, though we should not forget Melville are in the midst of a very tricky assignment this year, given we have effectively lost 21 of the 25 players who made first team appearances last year. We are "growing a whole new limb of the club", as Steve Williams observed midweek.

Nikali Finlay has enjoyed his 15 minutes of fame with his wonderful diving header last week, scored less than 10s after coming on as substitute. It was a super peice of technique, but perhaps we should also acknowledge the cross from Tewi Te Pou.

I can't recall Melville scoring from a single header in the league last season. This year we have two already (Jordan MacCarter the other). The cross is the second most dangerous ball you can play in football (behind the shot) and yet we don't see nearly enough crosses delivered with purpose (the no-look cross doesn't quite count). Easter has well and truly gone, but it is good to see our crosses becoming easier to bear.

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There has been a lot of ferment in the football fraternity about Waikato FC's appointment of Peter Smith as new coach ahead of Mark Cossey, who took the

**COVER:** New boy Justin Harden has been consistent and reliable at the heart of the Melville defence this season. **PHOTO:** Grant Stantiall

helm for the second half of the 2012-13 summer.

Mark did a fine job in exceptionally difficult circumstances when he stepped into the breach, and I can understand his disappointment at being overlooked. At the same time, there has been a complete handover of power at Waikato FC, with the federation now running the ship, and they are well within their rights to decide they wanted a clean break and to appoint personnel without strong club affiliations.

Mark can quite rightly raise questions about the processes employed in appointing the new coaching team (Che Bunce the assistant and Norm Rose the manager) but given the new criteria and policy direction being set, it was hard to see how the outcome would ever result in Cossey's reappointment. That's a shame, because Cossey has possibly the biggest football contact book in the Waikato, vast experience at national league level as a player, a real determined streak and desire to do the job, and is one of the few people working full time in the game here.

But the bottom line is a new Waikato FC board has stepped up to the plate and taken on a major challenge. We must respect their right to set out their stall how they see fit. I just hope we don't descend into another bout of Waikato blood-letting as a result of this.

My view is it would always be better to have someone like Mark inside the tent, pissing out - than outside the tent pissing in. And Waikato will really miss the input of former team manager Nobby Nobilo, who was an exceptionally able and intelligent operator.

If we count the short-lived reigns of Kevin Fallon and Ray Pooley, Peter Smith will be the 10th Waikato FC coach in 10 years. And Peter is arguably the most inexperienced of them, and facing a tough job to cobble together a competitive squad as someone few Hamilton-based players are yet familiar with. So it's not inconceivable that sometime in the future Cossey may yet get another phone call. But in the interim, those of us who support Waikato should wish Peter and Che all the best and look to assist how we can. -- **Bruce Holloway**.

## Enterprise Motor Group



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## Chatham Cup 2013

**Rd 1 Northern Region, Sat11 May (2pm)**

### **Waikato and Bay of Plenty:**

Old Blues v Hukanui Rototuna  
Waikato Uicol v Ngaruawahia Utd  
Whakatane Town v AFC Fury  
Melville Utd v Ngongotaha AFC  
Takapuna v Claudelands Rovers  
Waitemata v Tauranga City Utd  
Taupo AFC v Metro FC  
Cambridge FC v Lynn-Avon Utd

### **Auckland and Northern:**

Drury Utd FC v Albany Utd  
Beachlands Maraetai v Air Force  
Mt Albert-Ponsonby v Papatoetoe  
Hibiscus Coast v Bohemian Celtic  
Forrest Hill Milford Utd v Waiuku  
Fencibles Utd AFC v Navy  
Westlake BHS v Manukau City  
Papakura City FC v Puhoi Wolfpack  
Warkworth AFC v Western Springs  
Eastern Suburbs v Oratia Utd  
Glenfield Rovers v Te Atatu AFC  
Pukekohe AFC v Mangere Utd  
North Shore Utd v Ranui Swanson  
West Auckland v Onehunga Mangere Utd

## Melville Reserves

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Stu Campbell      |
| 2  | Johan Crocker     |
| 3  | Peter Kennedy     |
| 4  | Thomas Wade       |
| 5  | Dan Brown         |
| 6  | Sid Raju          |
| 7  | Nicky Sikongo     |
| 8  | Paul Ruddell      |
| 9  | Yamil Casas       |
| 10 | Kent Henderson    |
| 11 | Eli Muller        |
| 12 | Thulani Msimanga  |
| 13 | Avneet Raju       |
| 14 | Jake Bayliss      |
| 15 | Ahmed Abdi        |
| 16 | Joshua Noojen     |
| 17 | Grayson Sutcliffe |
| 18 | Campbell Wood     |
| 19 | Daniel Gardiner   |

The logo for Research Motors LTD features the company name in a stylized, italicized font. 'Research' is in red and 'Motors' is in black, with 'LTD' in a smaller red font. A thick black horizontal line runs beneath the text.

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NORTHERN LEAGUE DIV 1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Glenfield Rovers	6	6	0	0	18	4	14	18
Takapuna	6	4	1	1	20	7	13	13
Ngaruawahia United	6	3	3	0	17	8	9	12
Eastern Suburbs	6	3	2	1	20	8	12	11
<b>Melville United</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Metro</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>
North Shore United	6	1	3	2	15	19	-4	6
Forrest Hill-Milford	6	2	0	4	12	20	-8	6
Mt. Albert-Ponsonby	6	1	2	3	6	16	-10	5
Hibiscus Coast	6	1	1	4	11	16	-5	4
North Force	6	0	1	5	5	20	-15	1
Papatoetoe	6	0	1	5	5	22	-17	1

Today's draw				
Melville United	v	Metro		
Mt Albert Pons	v	Hibiscus Coast		
Takapuna	v	Ngaruawahia		
Eastern Subs	v	Forrest Hill Milford		
North Force	v	North Shore	(SUN)	
Glenfield Rovers	v	Papatoetoe		
Next week's draw				
Melville United	v	Ngongotaha	(CUP)	2PM
May 19				
North Shore	v	Melville Utd	(SUN 2.45PM)	

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## Melville United

Coach: Steve Williams  
Asst coaches: Jeremy Ollington,  
Howie Bettridge, Kit Fagan  
Manager: Harry Noorland  
Asst manager: S Smith, S Bettis

<b>GK</b>	<b>Ally Houston</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Nikali Finlay</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Nathan Canton</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Scott Hilliar</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Ellis Appleton</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Jama Boss</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Tewi Te Pou</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Mike Cosgrave</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Baashe Boss</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Josh Billman</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Shaun Kipara</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Connor Higgins</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Ahmad Zammit</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Gavin Douglas</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Justin Harden</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Jordan McCarter</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Nirav Neel Prakash</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Connor Taylor</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>RGK</b>	<b>Stuart Campbell</b>	<b>20</b>
		<b>21</b>
		<b>22</b>
		<b>23</b>

## Metro

Coach: Jacob Mathews  
Assist coach: Chris Gage

<b>Josh Fsadni</b>
<b>Bright Nkrumah</b>
<b>Kellen Ganiko</b>
<b>Anthony Curry-Irons</b>
<b>Ben Cliffe</b>
<b>Sebastian Egana Vera</b>
<b>Ceagan Carvalho</b>
<b>David Featonby</b>
<b>Peter Wild</b>
<b>Kuyama Toma</b>
<b>Devneel Chand</b>
<b>Jan Fischer</b>
<b>Omid Barzegar</b>
<b>Bawa Abdulayi</b>
<b>Karl Bryant</b>
<b>Hamish Phillips</b>
<b>Garth Manual</b>
<b>Chris Gage</b>
<b>Jesse Van Kekem</b>
<b>Brendan Deacon</b>
<b>Joel Mathews</b>
<b>David White</b>
<b>Rafi Mohammadi</b>

Referee: Anna-Marie Keighley. Assts: Nadia Browning, Sarah Walker