

Mid year greetings from the team at CFS

Unfortunately 2023 hasn't been the best of years for me personally, and I say this not only because I'm typing this one handed while nursing a broken wrist from a mountain bike fall, such an event is merely part and parcel of an active life.

The reason for my sad start to the year is because our company founder and my father, Bill Currey, passed away in February this year. As the family gathered to remember a life well lived, it soon became apparent that we were lucky to have him this long after all. A quick list of his near death events were:

Getting lost in the South African bush during a 100km canoeing event, requiring hospital care, 1978.

Losing the keel and capsizing his yacht while sailing in the Bay of Islands. Fortunately only adults that could

swim were aboard, 1996.

Requiring the Chilean navy to extract him from a yacht at Cape Horn and subsequent hospitalisation and blood transfusion, 2006.

Getting lost on the Aotearoa walking trail between Kaitaia and Mangamuka and requiring a Doc rescue, 2010.

Unfortunately we're all 'checking out' at some stage, just make sure you're well provisioned to enjoy the journey and have strategies and polices to mitigate the risks. In remembrance of Bill I have written a couple of my favourite rugby stories, as told by him.

Vale Bill Currey 1944 -2023

Rugby - before the television match official

Back in the late 60s and early 70s when the mighty Taranaki would travel to play the mighty King Country for bragging rights, it was said that King Country played with 16 players, because Colin "Pinetree" Meads provided refereeing assistance.

In a particular game in Te Kuiti, Taranaki had a young lock keen to prove himself against the mighty Pinetree Meads. Young Ian 'Legs' Eliason at the first lineout leapt up and beat Meads to the King Country throw in. At the next break in play

Pinetree was heard to congratulate Legs but also warned that one steal was all that was allowed. As you can imagine Legs was full of youthful zest and keen to show his mettle, so it wasn't a surprise when Legs again won another King Country lineout.

And it shocked no one when the players got up after the next ruck and found Legs was 'out cold' and had to be revived. In his defence Pinetree had warned him....



Amateur rugby

Up until the 1970s, it was quite normal for the winger to throw the ball into a lineout. As a regular winger for Taranaki in the late 60s, Bill Currey would have this task.

Back then both wingers used to have to know the forward lineout calls, an anomaly compared with today's teams where no one outside the half back knows anything the forwards are doing!

Well in one particular game, the lineout call was made and Bill prepared to throw the ball in, only to be shocked by the loud voice of his team mate Brian 'Jazz' Muller, then All Black and Taranaki prop, telling everyone 'That's me'. Very seldom was the call made to throw the ball to Jazz, and it should come as no surprise that even fewer calls were made after this.



A singular world view



A worldwide survey was conducted by the UN. The only question asked was: "Would you please give your honest opinion about solutions to the food shortage in the rest of the world?" The survey was a huge failure. In Africa they didn't know what "food" meant. In Eastern Europe they didn't know what "honest" meant. In Western Europe they didn't know what "shortage" meant. In China they didn't know what "opinion" meant. In the Middle East they didn't know what "solution" meant. In South America they didn't know what "please" meant. And in the USA they didn't know what "the rest of the world" meant.

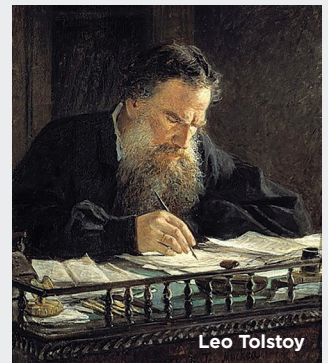
People who understood our limitations:

'Someone is always confusing if they're not giving you the answers you want to hear.' **Anon**

'If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.' **Albert Einstein**

'It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends on his not understanding it.' **Upton Sinclair**

'The most difficult subjects can be explained to the most slow-witted man if he has not formed any idea of them already; but the simplest thing cannot be made clear to the most intelligent man if he is firmly persuaded that he knows already, without a shadow of doubt, what is laid before him.' **Leo Tolstoy**



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