

Dear <<First Name>>,

This quarter we have lots to share with you:

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### [Message from the Olympians' Commission Chair](#)

Kia ora koutou,

April 14 marked 100 days until the opening of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. As the date of the Opening Ceremony approaches, and athlete selection announcements begin to flow, we look forward to welcoming new Olympians into the New Zealand Olympian whanau. It's clear that these Games will be conducted in challenging circumstances. Our athletes are preparing for a tough and very different Olympic Games experience. News that international spectators will not be able to attend the Games (while understandably necessary) is a blow, especially for competing athletes and their families.



Because of these international travel restrictions, NZOC and its partners have sought new ways for New Zealanders to show their support. Some fantastic national and regional events are planned (we had a sneak preview at our last Olympians Commission meeting. Read more below about the Great Olympic Skate Roadshow which will be visiting 40 towns in 41 days, kicking off on Monday May 10th, with Olympians from all Games set to join for parts of the journey. If you're keen to be involved, and I encourage you to - please reach out and let us know by registering your interest [HERE](#). This is a great opportunity to support NZ's Tokyo team and to celebrate your own unique contribution to NZ's proud Olympic history.

Another unique supporter tool to keep an eye out for has been developed with NZOC partner ANZ. The ANZ Support Band is a Bluetooth wristband that will enable fans at home to send a "pulse of support" to athletes at the Tokyo Olympic Games from 23 July by tapping their device or directly through the New Zealand Team app. Athletes will be given a band which can vibrate when a pulse of support is received. It will also show athletes how many pulses of support have been sent.

In addition to the mammoth task of dealing with the impact of Covid-19 and preparing for the delayed Games, in the last year organisations of the Olympic family have also been busy formulating their strategies for the next 4 years. In March 2021, the IOC

(International Olympic Committee) approved Olympic Agenda 2020+5 as the new strategic roadmap of the IOC and the Olympic movement through to 2025. Consisting of 15 recommendations, the new roadmap builds on the achievements of Olympic Agenda 2020 and will guide the work of the IOC and the Olympic movement for the next five years. Included in the recommendations is a commitment to increasing the recognition of Olympians and of the Olympians community.

This flows directly into the work of the WOA (World Olympians Association), the global Olympians' alumni organization (and the NZOC Olympians' Commission). In the last five years, WOA has established itself with widely recognised impact, stable and cleanly audited finances and six staff to run programmes and support the needs of NOAs (National Olympian Associations (including NZOC's Olympians' Commission). With this base firmly in place, WOA is moving on to the next stage of its development: continuing to build the strength of NOAs and providing more benefits and recognition for Olympians and enabling Olympians to give back to their communities. Last year, Kiwi athletes benefited from a WOA service to society grant, with Olympians Mike Dawson (#1136), Sarah Cowley-Ross (#1134), Ben Sandford (#991) and Luuka Jones (#1051) using the funds to set up the Rad Charitable Trust. Check out their website at <https://www.radcharitabletrust.org>.

As so too here in New Zealand, the NZOC and Olympians' Commission have been considering our strategy for the next four years. As a Commission we have given a lot of thought to our purpose – why is it that we exist and what do we do. Our priority over the next four years will be to create and encourage a sense of whanaungatanga amongst New Zealand's Olympians. Whanaungatanga is a Maori word which means relationship, kinship, sense of family connection - a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging. And we will continue to advocate for opportunities to develop this. As I've said before, as Olympians we share a unique connection both with other New Zealand Olympians and with the world's 100,000 living Olympians. As individuals and as a group Olympians can inspire others and share the Olympic values of friendship, excellence and respect.

And finally, to close out this edition of our Olympians' newsletter, a look into the more distant future. The IOC has confirmed Brisbane as the preferred candidate to host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. An Australian Olympic Games would provide a huge boost for Olympic sport in New Zealand. Sydney 2000 Olympians will recall only too well the energy and excitement generated by competing at an Olympics in our own backyard. This would be an epic opportunity for the next generation of Kiwi Olympians.

And on that note of hope and excitement for the future, we turn our eyes back to the imminent Tokyo Games. On behalf of the Olympians' Commission, I'd like to wish all our Tokyo Olympians the very best for a safe, successful and inspiring Games experience. We'll be there in spirit, cheering at our TVs, shouting at our devices and sending you pulses of support from Aotearoa. Kia Kaha.

Olympians. Once. Always.

**Chantal Brunner (#692)**  
**Chair, NZ Olympians Commission**

## [MARTIN BRILL - Profile Olympian #411](#)

**Sport:** Fencing

**Olympics:** Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988

Martin Brill is a double Olympian and six-time New Zealand Fencing Champion.

Martin competed at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, finishing 15th, and at the 1988 Seoul Games, where he finished 7th and received the IOC Diploma for Excellence in Sport.

He studied in Paris and qualified as a French Fencing Master (Maitre d'Armes). At the 1992 Barcelona Games he was a NZ Team Coach.

Martin Brill is a member of the NZOC's Olympians Commission and is passionate about the Olympic values and movement as he works on initiatives which offer Olympians opportunities to connect Olympians.



Martin lives in Christchurch, where he is actively involved in fencing, from beginner to masters fencing and the training of our future fencing coaches.

## BELIEVE IN SPORT AMBASSADOR - Alexis Pritchard

The New Zealand Olympic Committee is delighted to announce Olympian Alexis Pritchard has been nominated as an athlete ambassador for the IOC's Believe in Sport campaign aimed at preventing competition manipulation. As part of this campaign, Alexis will be working with other athlete ambassadors from around the world to raise awareness and educate athletes on the risks involved in competition manipulation.



Taking up boxing at the age of 14, Alexis rose to the top of women's boxing in New Zealand and abroad, proudly representing New Zealand at the 2012 London Olympics. Competing at her second Commonwealth Games after Glasgow 2014, Alexis won Bronze at Gold Coast 2018.

Alexis joins a community of over 20 athlete ambassadors and is excited to work on this important campaign in protecting the integrity of sport.

Competition Manipulation is a real threat to each and every sport and can take place when an athlete or official knowingly underperforms or deliberately makes wrong decisions affecting the course of a competition, in order to get an unfair advantage, normally in the forms of a financial or sporting benefit. Protecting clean athletes and keeping sport fair is a top priority for the Olympic Movement and both the IOC and NZ Olympic Committee are committed to fighting all forms of cheating that threaten the integrity and essence of sport.

The IOC's Believe in Sport campaign was launched in 2018 to raise awareness amongst athletes, coaches and officials of the threat of competition manipulation. As part of the Believe in Sport campaign leading up to the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic Games, Alexis will be engaging with New Zealand's athlete community through online webinars and social media messages to highlight the risks involved and educate them on how best to safeguard and protect themselves in light of opportunities to manipulate their competition."

For more information on the Believe in Sport campaign, check <https://www.olympic.org/prevention-competition-manipulation/believe-in-sport>

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## THE NZ TEAM UPDATE - TOKYO 2020

There are now less than 100 days to the Tokyo Olympic Games and the New Zealand Team has grown to 47 athletes, with selections in full swing.

Men's canoe sprint K2 1000m athletes Kurtis Imrie and Max Brown were the most recent athlete selected to the New Zealand Team for the Games, with the final team expected to number 200+ athletes.

We are expecting a very different Olympic Games and have been working with athletes to prepare them for a Games in the Covid environment. Covid countermeasures will include health monitoring, restricted access to venues outside the Olympic environment, social distancing, Covid-19 testing and more.



The IOC and Games organisers are also encouraging all delegations to be vaccinated where possible. We have been working with the New Zealand Government on a process to balance the needs of the New Zealand public, in particular those most vulnerable, with the timing of an appropriate vaccination schedule for our team.

In mid-March we also learned international spectators will not be able to attend the Games. Although this situation is challenging for New Zealand fans and athletes, the difficult decision was made to reduce public health risks in Japan and to enable organisers to focus resources on delivering a safe and secure Olympic Games for athletes.

## THE GREAT OLYMPIC SKATE

*Get on Board New Zealand!*

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May will see the start of the **Great Olympic Skate Roadshow**, starting in Kaikohe and heading as far South as Invercargill before arriving back to Auckland over 40 days later. Our super-sized skateboard will set a new world record as the largest skateboard in existence.

The roadshow will celebrate the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games as a truly global sporting spectacle – with new sports, new athletes and a diverse, exciting New Zealand Team which is ready to take on the challenge ahead. The Skateboard will travel through over 40 New Zealand towns and cities, and we hope to see as many Olympians in attendance as possible. We will be provide you with further information and details next week regarding where we will be and when.

The roadshow will conclude in Auckland and the skateboard will be housed at the Cloud where we will be running a fanzone during Games time.



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## POWER UP WORKSHOPS

The NZOC will be hosting our first in-person Power Up workshop where athletes will learn about themselves through reflection, games, story-telling, discussion and questioning among many other key learnings from the workshop and interacting with other athletes. The workshop uses a "Me Map" tool, where you bring together a number of keywords about yourself to help you find purpose and direction in your post-sport career.

*If you have any interest in attending the workshop (date TBC) please contact [djforbes@olympic.org.nz](mailto:djforbes@olympic.org.nz) for more details*



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# Power up your future

## BUSINESS ACCELERATOR ONLINE

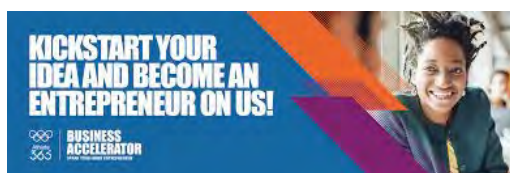
Open to all Olympians to kick-start your business, we invite you to sign up to a three-hour virtual bootcamp for an introduction to the Athlete365 Business Accelerator.

Does your business idea need an extra push to get started? The Athlete365 Business Accelerator is a free-to-use entrepreneurial journey funded by Olympic Solidarity, which will provide you with the tools to kick-start and then supercharge your idea. Attend an exclusive virtual workshop with us, take our online course, and apply to receive mentoring from experts around the world.

For more information, click [HERE](#)

### *Quote from Shea McAleese (NZ Olympian #1057)*

*"For anyone looking to start their own business or even try to make a simple idea into a reality I highly recommend this course. You get to fine tune your idea online, then if you make it to the next phase, work with highly skilled professionals and like minded athletes. I was able to turn my idea in a fully fledged business that I am proud of".*



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## OLYMPIC DAY - 23rd JUNE

With the Tokyo Olympic Games and Olympic Day fast approaching you may be asked, or volunteer your services, to speak at a school about your Olympic experiences. If you would like any advice, help, or extra resources to use in your school please email [education@olympic.org.nz](mailto:education@olympic.org.nz) and we can help out with ideas, videos, slides, and other resources.



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## ADECCO JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking to transition out of athlete life into full time employment?

Adecco are looking for athletes who have a background in or are interested in Marketing and Communications. If this sounds like you there are two opportunities, one based in South Auckland and the other in Cambridge.

- **Marketing and Communications Manager** - For more info, click [here](#)
- **Marketing Coordinator** - For more info, click [here](#)

Expressions of interest, please contact Tracy Smith 021757561,  
[tsmith@adecco.co.nz](mailto:tsmith@adecco.co.nz)

## SHARE YOUR OLYMPIAN EXPERIENCE AND EARN

Share your personal Olympic journey as a host on Airbnb's innovative Olympian & Paralympian Experiences programme during Tokyo 2020 and earn money at the same time.

Whether you're celebrating the Games around the world or competing at Tokyo 2020, you can build your brand and inspire a global audience by registering as an Airbnb Olympian Experiences Host and turning your Olympic experiences into a business venture.

By teaching guests a new skill, describing what it feels like to compete on the world's biggest stage or what it means to be the flagbearer at an Opening Ceremony, you can shape your own one-of-a-kind experience in a wide range of ways, all with guidance from Athlete365 and Airbnb.



Hosting is online and can be done from anywhere in the world and, if you are already an Airbnb host, this is a great way to add a Tokyo-themed offering to your profile.

[Register here](#) by **Friday 30 April 2021** to get involved with this exciting opportunity.

Have any questions? Don't hesitate to get in touch at [airbnbexperiences@olympic.org](mailto:airbnbexperiences@olympic.org).

**Quote from Sarah Cowley Ross (NZ Olympian #1134)**

*"The Airbnb experience hosting is a great way for Olympians to connect with others around the world and share their sporting insights as well as other hobbies and interests they are passionate about. I really enjoyed connecting with others during lockdown and sharing my part of the world with others around the globe"*

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## OLYMPIAN MERCHANDISE DISCOUNT

**A reminder that we have an exclusive offer during 2021 to all New Zealand Olympians at [thenzteamshop.com](http://thenzteamshop.com) with 20% off a range of styles (Code: NZTEAMOLY).**

This includes our metallic 100 year celebration medals tee shirt, replica team backpack, 100 year celebration shoe emblazoned with the silver fern and more. The perfect gifts, or well-deserved treats for yourself as you show your support for our athletes and the New Zealand Team. Enjoy your NZ Team shopping, but remember it is exclusive to NZ Olympians.

We Are The New Zealand Team  
Ko Tātau Te Kapa O Aotearoa  
[START SHOPPING NOW](#)



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We caught up with Olympian #136 **Barry Magee** to chat about his experiences at his two Olympic and two Commonwealth Games.

Barry's Olympic experiences were the highest and lowest times of his life. The highlight of standing on the Olympic dais to receive his Olympic bronze was offset by trying to race on what was later described as a stress fracture.

Barry recalled some fantastic memories of travelling the world with Peter Snell and Murray Halberg that resulted in their group of seven athletes (Peter Snell, Murray Halberg, John Davies, Bill Baillie, Jeff Julian, Ray Puckett, Barry Magee) claiming six Olympic medals and breaking 17 world records back in a time when New Zealand's population was only two million.



Barry retired at 69, after 54 years running. Barry always loved competing but he had no problem letting go of the training and racing as he had already transitioned himself into full time coaching.

Nowadays Barry is coaching all over the world and throughout NZ with fantastic results. The most successful result in recent years has been Bryan McCorkindale from Christchurch who in the last 10 years set 4 World Masters Ultra Records and Sally Gibbs in Masters Women with 1 World 10k Record in Masters.

Barry now resides in the Murray Halberg Retirement Village in Lynfield, Auckland. In his spare time he does public speaking where he works to inspire others to chase their dreams.

So, what advice does Barry have for today's athletes? "Never lose sight of your dreams and goals, as good things take time. There are three secrets to success... 1. Training, 2. Training and 3. Training!

### Profile of Barry Magee

One of New Zealand's greatest talents of the 1960's, Barry has used the knowledge instilled in him by the unrivalled Arthur Lydiard to assist with other great talents coming out of New Zealand and many other parts of the world over the past 40 years.

His accolades include wins and places in some of the top marathons as well as 5000 & 10,000 metre distances and 17 New Zealand titles.

- Bronze medallist in the Olympic marathon in Rome 1960 (2:17:18)
- Fukuoka International marathon winner 1960
- 4 x 1 mile world record holder 1961 (4:7:2)
- Ranked no 1 in world 1961 for 10,000 m (28:50:8)
- Ranked no 3 in world 1961 for 5,000 m (13:39:2)
- Ranked no 2 in world 1963 for 30,000 m (1:34:55)
- Ranked no 2 in world 1964 for 30,000 m (1:34:47)



Barry continued from his era of glory in the '60's to run sub 2hr 30m marathons at the age of 48 and 49.

## OTAGO MEDICAL SCHOOL NZ Athlete Health Survey

Olympian No.173 David Gerrard invites all NZ Olympians to take part in this novel project by the Otago Medical School. For more information: [www.otago.ac.nz/games](http://www.otago.ac.nz/games)

To complete the survey: <https://recap.link/games>

RESEARCH



### Calling all current and former Olympians, Paralympians and Commonwealth Games athletes

On behalf of researchers from the University of Otago Medical School, I would like to invite you to participate in a novel project.

As Aotearoa New Zealand faces an ageing population, one in three New Zealand adults is reported as obese and/or inactive, associates known to diminish life quality. And while the literature suggests that elite athletes tend to live longer and remain healthier compared to the general population, there are no New Zealand data to support these claims. Hence our desire to interview Olympians, Paralympians and Commonwealth Games athletes and compare findings with age- and sex-matched controls.

Your involvement would simply require you to complete an anonymous online questionnaire about your past medical history, present health and current exercise habits. There will be no compulsion and at any time you may withdraw from the study.

While monitoring the health of our highest performing athletes, this research has potential to inform important public health initiatives. We will share findings through public lectures and academic publications, at all times respecting the anonymity and confidentiality of all participants.

So thank you for considering our invitation and sharing this message with others you feel may be interested.

Nga mihi nui  
  
David Gerrard, Olympian 173  
Emeritus Professor  
Otago Medical School



To complete the survey:  
<https://redcap.link/games>

For more information:  
[www.otago.ac.nz/games](http://www.otago.ac.nz/games)



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### [NZ OLYMPIANS FACEBOOK PAGE](https://www.facebook.com/groups/nzolympians)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nzolympians>

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### OBITUARIES

#### Remembering those New Zealand Olympians that have left us

John Hicks - Olympian #227 (Hockey) 1968  
Mexico City Olympic Games



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