



Annual Report 2021

*Giving the Young and Disadvantaged
a Sporting Chance.*

President: Bruce Ward
Chairman: Joanne Cooper
Co-Chairman: Warren Phelps

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2020-2021 Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Executive



Back Row: Graeme Hoskins, John Buttrum, Bruce Ward, Warren Phelps, John McCaffery, Grahame Gooding

Front Row: Ralph Gregory, Ruth Tinker, Joanne Cooper, Jenny Cook, Don Whitelaw,

Absent Suzette Pearce, Steve Clough

President's Report

We have finished the year in the same position as we started it – in hibernation due to Covid restrictions. That is not to say that we have not had a successful year – we have had some marvellous successes.

Substantial donations by 2 Foundations and one individual have allowed us to fully embrace our University and TAFE scholarship programs with the addition of Resilience Awards, designed to recognise and reward individuals who have astounded their teachers by rising above adverse conditions to achieve their academic and vocational goals.

The All Abilities program was active for many months under the care of John McCaffrey until the recent lockdown. How pleased were we all to see John recognised with an Order of Australia recently.

We were able to accommodate a visit by Sir Peter Cosgrove in May. Sir Peter held over 300 year 12 students spellbound while addressing them on public service in their working lives. His talk was followed by over half an hour of questions and then seemingly endless selfies with the students. Later that evening he was our guest at a dinner for nearly 200 at Trinity College and was interviewed by Jenny Dowell. One Green Acre were the caterers and comments on the food were very positive.

One of his duties was to present our inaugural "Spirit of the Game" Award for cricket to Nathan Pryke of Pottsville Beach CC. Sponsored generously by Intersport, this award is being widened to also include rugby, netball, softball and football in 2021-2. The award is for a 16yo, nominated by their club, who embodies all the favourable attributes of their chosen sport.

Graeme Hoskins coordinated a Bunnings BBQ day which was successful and will hopefully become a regular feature of our fundraising.

The Our House dinners were reconvened this year but the recent outbreak may well interfere again.

We were able to hold a few other social events at the Eltham Pub and La Baracca but several others had to be cancelled.

Let's hope that 2022 will be freer with the restrictions easing as vaccination levels reach those required.

Fingers crossed.

Bruce Ward
President.

Chairman's Report

This year has again been a challenging one for LTNNSW with Covid-19 impacting our programs. The silver lining was that it encouraged us to look at programs or activities that might be pandemic proof. Out of this came our TAFE Resilience Awards. We are pleased to be able to extend this program to Southern Cross University and add the Resilience Award to their suite of Student Excellence awards offered from 2021.

In January, we were named winners of the Lismore City Council Services in Community (Group). This is a great recognition for all the work our members have done over the past 11 years. The certificate is currently displayed in the foyer at Our House.

I have continued to look at the administration of the organisation. As a result, we again have a number of proposals to update the constitution especially in regards to the use of technology for meetings and payments. We have also updated our pull-up banner, created a LinkedIn group, uploaded photos to our branch gmail account, and updated our webpage. We also reviewed our committees and programs with a subsequent reduction from 19 to 9 committees with a number of coordinators. All corporate and community partners were issued with a certificate that they could display indicating their support of our association.

Our 2020 Indigenous University Scholar also created a design for us that we have had printed on cards. This was a great way to acknowledge indigenous heritage and culture.

This year we have again received wonderful support by our corporate partners and some private donors. We welcomed Seawind Catamarans, MEB Agribusiness and Kerrys Klothes as corporate partners and recently the Lismore Rugby Union Club as a community partner.

Unfortunately, due to the drought, covid and lack of members the Narrabri Cell has decided to close. We thank them for their support and activities over the years.

We must also thank our patron Adam Gilchrist. Due to time and proximity, Adam has resigned as patron and we thank him for his support over the last 11 years.

Finally, I would like to thank the members for their support of our organisation. The executive committee is a wonderful, supportive and committed group that certainly do you proud in allowing us to provide the young and disadvantaged with a sporting chance.

Joanne Cooper
Chairman

***The capacity to learn is a gift;
The ability to learn is a skill;
The willingness to learn is a choice***

Brian Herbert

We are grateful that all program participants have chosen to learn.
We hope you enjoy reading about our programs in our annual report.

“Our House” Program

The Our House Dinners were very severely affected by the Covid crisis that impacted Australia and from about early March 2020 the Dinners were suspended for safety reasons by the Our House Management.

In their place replacement dinners were purchased from a Lismore Restaurant and supplied to the Residents once a week. This was possible by the kind donations supplied by a number of our Dinner Team Members and supplemented by the Our House itself. Thankfully, this helped to in some way make up for the loss of the Dinners provided each Tuesday and Thursday by all our Teams.

From the middle of January 2021 the Our House Dinners resumed again on our regular basis and continued right up till being suspended again (due to the outbreak in Sydney) about 3 weeks ago (ie. mid June). Hopefully this pause will not continue for too long and we can get back to providing food and fellowship to all of the Our House Residents.

Again, I would pay tribute to the wonderful work in organising the Teams which has been carried out by Margaret Byrnes, June Gilchrist and now Bev Phelps. After great service since we started these Dinners to the Our House June Gilchrist has decided to retire and Bev Phelps has now taken over her role as organising the Tues. Roster. June was very instrumental in setting up the Dinners when we started and we thank her and pay tribute to the passion she had for this service and we look forward to a long relationship with Bev.

As a sub-committee we have not had a need for many meetings this year but thanks also goes to Heather Noble and Ruth Harrison for their input to those meetings. I would also like to thank Ruth and her Team at the Management of the Our House for their wonderful guidance and support that they have given us . They have always been great to work with. Hopefully we can look forward to the Covid interruption being short and we can all get back to doing what we love.

Warren Noble

Chair of the Our House sub-committee of Lords Taverners Nth. NSW

National Raffle Program

The take up for the raffle from clubs and organisations for the 2020/21 National raffle was down from previous years. Due to Covid restrictions two of our regular participants and big volume sellers could not participate. A few other regulars could not participate due to the timing of the raffle and their other commitments.

We did however have the support of eight clubs covering areas from Ballina, Narrabri, Taree Woolgoolga, Griffith and our local area. Their total ticket sales reached \$4985 of which \$2492.50 went to The Lord’s Taverners.

Brian Storey

Raffle Coordinator

Secondary T20 Cricket Program

As Chair of said Committee I sadly advised that we had to cancelled the October 2020 shields (Gilchrist , Phelps and Larsen) due to Covid stresses

On the bright side we had record nominations over the 3 shields with 3 new schools coming on board they being Emmanuel AC, Mt St Patricks Murwillumbah and Summerland Christian College

13 schools nominated a total of 35 teams hence forcing the Committee to investigate a 2 pool system, one being on the Tweed and the other in Lismore

Draws were being compiled along such lines but, once the Dept of Education Covid Guidelines, and the Covid rules enforced by some of the venues were considered, it became virtually impossible for us to tick all the boxes

The Committee, in conjunction with a few of the major schools involved, deemed it too hard to comply – hence we look to 2021

With respect to the 2021 event (to be held October 26th) , at this point in time we have 15 teams nominated with strong representation from the Tweed and Lismore areas once again. A final “reminder to nominate” email will be sent to all schools end of July with entries closing late August. The event will be our 10th offering to schools – maybe we should do some media around that fact?

I thank the Committee for their efforts in 2020 and 2021

John Bancroft
High Schools T20 sub committee

Other financial assistance

Throughout the year the committee has also approved the following requests for assistance.

Special Olympics North Coast. This group has around 60 participants and asked for assistance to purchase cricket equipment. With the support of Keith Dudgeon, we were able to supply them with junior and senior equipment.

Rappville P & C. The playground equipment at Rappville school was damaged in the recent bushfires and we supplied the funds to purchase the sand for the new playground. LT Sydney branch assisted with the purchase of the shade sail.

Crossfit Coaching. We received a request from a 15 year old Coffs Harbour girl who was seeking Crossfit Training qualifications. Her employer and the branch funded her travel to Sydney to complete this training. This from her family “Lord’s Taverners *Females in Sport* program was instrumental in aiding Nicki to meet this hardship. Lord’s Taverners helped support Nicki financially in pursuing and participating in her accreditation goal. In doing so, they gave her, as a rural girl, the opportunity to focus solely on her skills and theory study, while they effectively took care of the geographic disadvantage.”

Malawi Cricket. We had received a donation to assist with sending an intern to Malawi as we had previously. As this was not an option our donor kindly agreed that this money could be used to purchase equipment which was sent in June.

Volunteering

As with previous years, our Lord's Taverners NNSW members are always at the forefront when called on for assistance from other organisations.

Unfortunately, along with everyone else, events this last year, have been severely curtailed with the presence of Covid-19. One of our normal largest volunteer days, the Darrel Chapman Fun Run on behalf of Our Kids, did not happen in 2020 as a physical event due to Covid and it was run purely as a virtual event so no volunteers were required for that. The virtual event did turn out to be very, very successful and was a wonderful fundraiser for the cause. The planning for the 2021 fun run is well underway and this years event will, again, be a totally virtual run due to Covid-19.

We also had a large turnout of volunteers for the Samson Strength Challenge earlier this year as we ran the drink station in Goonellabah on the day as the 520 odd competitors ran up and back on their way to the swimming pool.

Added to our list of volunteering was a fundraising Bunnings BBQ for our own branch this year which was a lot of fun and we expect to be repeating the Bunnings visit later on in the year.

We also helped out again this year at the Lantern parade at the Showground where we were tasked with checking tickets at the entrance to a number of the grandstands in preparation for the parade and fireworks.

Lastly we are still heavily involved with providing meals for the residents at Our House in Lismore and we continue to have 6 teams operating there and they provide and serve meals a number of times a year. While this is certainly appreciated by the residents, it is equally enjoyed by the volunteers from Lord's Taverners NNSW who are involved.

Graeme Hoskins
Volunteer Coordinator

Grants (Financial Assistance) Program

In the June Quarter of 2020, we had received a number of Applications for Grants for the Winter Sports season. However because of the impacts of Covid all of these competitions and carnivals were cancelled and there were no Grants made until conditions began to improve towards the end of 2020. Our first Grant for this Financial Year was not made until December.

As many sports were again able to hold limited competitions this year there has been a trickle of Applications for Assistance received. During the last seven months we have approved nine Grants to applications covering Athletics, Golf, Cricket, Hockey, Netball, Surf Lifesaving, and Soccer. These Grants have totalled \$6,800. All of the recipients have expressed their great appreciation for the assistance we have been able to provide to them to achieve their sporting goals.

Grahame Gooding
Grants Committee Chairman

All Abilities Sports Program

Hello everyone 2020 - 2021 was certainly another strange year which sadly became worse as we got closer to the end of June and continues to spiral down ???

We were lucky with our All Abilities sports programme to be able to continue many of our activities. Unfortunately, we didn't manage to get started back with Wilson Park school because of strict Covid restrictions and we had just arranged a meeting for the beginning of term three this year book a programme for primary and secondary students when Covid struck back as you will all be aware. We hope that we might do something for term four and if not there is always next year!

Our basketball group for young adults with Autism continued through the second half of last year at Alstonville indoor stadium up until November when we lost the site to a movie production company. The group continued until Christmas at GSAC in Lismore. Over the Christmas break a number of the main players started doing sports with a Disability service organisation and we decided to finish our support because the participants were well catered for with this group.

We continued working with young clients from Cerebral Palsy Australia in Alstonville. This is a regular Friday afternoon programme run in conjunction with their Physio Alex. These sessions were conducted at their Alstonville site until around November 2020 and then moved to GSAC Lismore in their stadium court which allowed a good sheltered environment and access to more activities.

The sports activities are done with Physio Alex who plans activities to simulate skills needed for different sports. We supply and set up sports equipment and assist in running the group. These sessions are run weekly on Fridays during the school terms and break over the holidays. We finished at the end of term two and are currently waiting to set a restart date depending on our current Covid 19 restrictions so fingers crossed.

Luckily our support to students of Biala Special School in Ballina has continued throughout most of the year and is continuing in term three on a fortnightly basis at Ballina Indoor Sports Centre where we cover the cost of court hire. We supply and set up sports equipment for students to use. These sports include basketball, soccer, football, hockey and pickleball as well as other ball sports and activities. Biala has very limited space for activities at the school so these sessions are a great outlet for the students and support staff to enjoy these activities. We will continue this support until the end of the year if restrictions allow.

We updated some of our equipment in May as we hadn't purchased much for a while. The new gear includes an Indoor hockey set which has been well used so far, pickleball net, bats and balls. We also purchased new dodge balls which are very useful and safe to use for a large number of sports, a number of these were donated to Wilson Park and Biala to replace balls that had been donated in the past.

John McCaffery

All Abilities Sport Chair

Further Education Program

Our Further Education program continues to be an important one. The exec decided that Joanne, would liaise with the universities and Bruce with TAFE. This has worked well. Suzette has joined the committee as a student liaison. Don and David round out the committee.

In March we offered a scholarship to Brianna, a Nursing students at Southern Cross University. We have been concerned about the lack of applicants for the scholarship in past years and so reviewed the agreement with SCU which should see more students eligible to apply in future years. Thanks to our private donor we again offered the Indigenous Honours Scholarship. A requirement of the scholarship are updates from the students. Here are excerpts from their letters of thanks.

I am currently participating in a Primary School Practicum and your donation has been my only source of income during this process. While I was aware this day would arrive, I did not factor in the full financial extend of being a single mother to three teenage children. Without your generosity, I would not be financially able to continue with my practicum and be forced to withdraw from the degree. I will forever be extremely grateful for your assistance and your faith in my developing abilities.

The Lord's Taverners Northern NSW have continued to be incredibly welcoming and a support group that I know I can call on whenever I need them.The changes I have gone through in employment over the last year and a half have been challenging but knowing that I had the finical support and the overall support of the Lord's Taverners NNSW made this period a lot less stressful and I cannot thank them enough for their continued support.

I just wanted to say that I am beyond grateful for being awarded this scholarship, as I am not better or superior to anyone that could've received this scholarship, you chose me, and I am completely and utterly grateful. This scholarship has made me want to work harder and harder for this degree and will continue to try my best to achieve that, as I cannot promise I will get 100% in everything I do, I promise to always try and do my best to the best of my abilities. Once again thank you so much, this scholarship is deeply appreciated and will help me throughout my uni journey.

Thank you so much for granting the scholarship and supporting me in my aspirations regarding higher education qualifications.

The executive recently decided not to continue with the scholarship with the University of New England after the current scholar finishes her degree. A number of reasons contributed to this including the distance to attend university functions with the student and the majority of our sponsors being local.

We are fortunately that the Seaton Foundation has joined with us to support of our TAFE Grant program. The executive had discussed expanding this program to include the northern rivers not just the Lismore, Ballina and Casino campuses and the support from the Seaton Foundation made this possible.

We again had two quality applicants—both are indigenous students enrolled in Commercial Cookery. At the Grafton campus. We are sure that our support will greatly assist them with transport and other costs required to attend TAFE. Luckily President Bruce was able to attend TAFE and present these worthy students with their cheque.

Joanne Cooper and Bruce Ward

Financial Management Program

Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Incorporated
Financial Report for Year ending 30 June 2021
Bank Account Balances Suncorp

General Account	\$ 1 099.05
General Account Saver	\$32 672.34
Scholarship Account	\$55 037.98
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$88 809.37</u>
Net Profit for year	<u>\$29 788.68</u>

This year's result is particularly pleasing considering the disruptions caused by the Covid 19. We were able to proceed with most of our programs despite these disruptions and managed to hold a very successful function that being Sir Peter Cosgrove Dinner in May 2021.

The favourable result was also aided greatly by some very generous donations from Corporate Partners to the Further Education Program (University scholarships and TAFE Grants) and also from individuals within the community to assist us with our other programs.

I particularly thank these generous organisations and individuals.

I thank John Buttrum our Honorary Treasurer who carries out his very important work with competence and diligence. His knowledge and experience is also great assistance to me as a member of our Finance Committee.

I also thank the Executive and Committee Chairs, particularly our Secretary Dr Ruth Tinker and particular members whose hard work contributes greatly to the success of our branch.

I make special mention of our Events Committee who did such a wonderful job in organizing the Sir Peter Cosgrove function.

A special thanks to our Chairman Joanne Cooper whose expertise and commitment to our organisation is outstanding.

A special thanks also to our President Bruce Ward who has also shown great commitment and leadership in these challenging times.

A final thank you as well to our Honorary Auditor Chris Shevellar for his invaluable assistance in auditing our financial records.

Ralph Gregory,
Chairman Finance Committee

Our Corporate and Community Partners.

We have outstanding support from our Corporate Partners:

Morgans Financial Services

Frizelles Sunshine Automotive

Lismore Timezone Watchmakers

Priceline Pharmacy Lismore

Parker and Kissane Solicitors

O'Brien Plumbing & Electrical

Morgan's Financial Services

Rugendyke & Bashforth Contracting

Goonellabah Medical Centre

Lismore Workers Club

Seawind Catamarans

Coachcap

Kids on 4th

Lismore City Toyota

Kerrys Klothes

MEB Agribusiness

Mountain Blue Farms

Lismore City Printery

Our community partners also assist us in various ways

NTech Media

Lismore Swans Junior AFL Club

Southern Cross University

Lismore Rugby Union Club

NIAS (Northern Inland Academy of Sport)

Trinity Catholic College

The Book Warehouse

Seaton Foundation

La Baracca

“Giving is not just about making a donation.

It is about making a difference”

Kathy Calvin, CEO & President of the United Nations Foundation

We hope that our corporate and community partners agree that their support does make a difference to the lives of the young and disadvantaged through the programs of the Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Branch.

