



# Annual Report 2024

*Giving the Young and Disadvantaged  
a Sporting Chance.*

President: Bruce Ward  
Chairman: Graeme Hoskins  
Co-Chairman: Warren Phelps  
Vice Chairman: Joanne Cooper

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NSW 2480

<https://www.lordstaverners-northernnsw.com.au/>

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## 2024 Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Executive

These people have served on the executive over the last 12 months

President	Bruce Ward	Chairman	Graeme Hoskins
Co-Chair	Warren Phelps	Vice Chairman	Joanne Cooper
Secretary	Ruth Tinker	Treasurer	Ralph Gregory
Committee: John McCaffery, Grahame Gooding, Ralph Gregory, Naomi White, Jenny Cook, Suzette Pearce, Steve Clough, Denis Byrne, Neil Boyd, Lisa Fahy and Jennifer Mossfield			



Left to Right Back row - Jennifer, Ralph, Denis, John, Jenny, Bruce, Graeme, Warren  
Left to right front row – Ruth, Joanne, Lisa Missing – Neil, Graham, Suzette, Steve and Naomi

## President's Report

We've had a solid year coming out of the constraints of Covid.

My focus was on the University and TAFE scholarship program and increasing our funding for those. To that end, we welcome Indigo Rose as a corporate sponsor and welcome Tom Rocks, the new dealer-principal of Lismore Toyota, who has renewed our ties with his firm with an increased commitment.

We currently support seven students at SCU on either a full or part time basis, having taken over the responsibility for the two Gilchrist Foundation scholars when that foundation was wound up.

Fourteen TAFE students have been supported this year with applications being many times that number. We could support many more worthy students if we had the resources.

Against a background of our ongoing programs, two of our activities stood out.

Sui Watts is an intellectually disabled woman with Down's Syndrome who was selected in the Australian Equestrian team to compete at the Virtus European Championships in the UK. This pocket-sized athlete was placed second individually and the Australian Team second overall while riding horses that they met only two days before. Les Eastaway, long standing Taverner from Taree was instrumental in our support for Sui. It took less than a week to arrange a \$7000 grant to get her to the UK.

We ran our first sports day for visually impaired athletes this year. Bowls, soccer, frisbee and tennis were the events covered and the response of the athletes was inspirational. To see a completely blind fourteen-year-old nailing an overhead smash and two adults having a rally across a net was absolutely special. We are to do it again in October.

Two of our Life and Executive Members died this year and their loss is keenly felt. Don Whitelaw was committed to the Corndale sports camp, which has now been named in his honour, and to our education program following his long and distinguished career in education.

John Buttrum was our Treasurer and stalwart of fundraising and the Corndale camp. He is to be remembered through an award in his name at SCU and a named award for the student who contributes most to the camp.

I like to think that, while we don't make too much of a fuss, we are making a difference and I'm proud to be President and be associated with such a fine bunch of people. I acknowledge the hard work of all those who contribute.

Bruce Ward  
President

**Our Life Members** - Who have served our organisation with dedication and commitment for more than 10 years.

June and Stan Gilchrist, Denis Byrne, Ruth Tinker, Warren Noble, John Buttrum, Don Whitelaw, Warren Phelps and John Bancroft, John McCaffery, Jenny Cook, Graeme Hoskins, Bev Phelps, Margaret Byrne

Last year Ralph Gregory was issues with Life Membership

## Chairman's Report

The end of another year of involvement with the Taverners and my first as Chairman and it has flown by. I seriously doubt that there is a better organisation to be a part of anywhere. The work that we do in helping those in need both around our area of the state and locally is incredibly rewarding for those we assist as well as for our Taverners members.

No organisation can be successful without willing members and our branch has an excellent core of volunteers that are always ready to give their time and expertise to complete the jobs that we take on.

As per past years we provided volunteers for running the water stations for both The Samson Challenge as well as the Darrel Chapman Fun Run helping out the wonderful Our Kids in the essential work that they do. We also continue to assist a number of students at Southern Cross University in their chosen field of study and are heavily involved in supporting TAFE students in a similar vein.

We continue to provide grants for disadvantaged school children which enables them to achieve their targets in sport be it providing funding for travel or enabling them to acquire required sports equipment. One such example was the help we provided for Sui Watts from the Taree area. Sui is a disabled equestrian rider specialising in Dressage events and we were able to assist her in travelling to the Virtus Open European Dressage Championships in England. Sui has an incredible association with horses and she performed brilliantly on a horse that she only "met" a couple of days prior to the Championships and she performed wonderfully well finishing in 2nd place individually and was a member of the Australian team who also finished 2nd in the team Championships. This really was an incredible effort and we sincerely congratulate Sui on her results.



Taverners members have continued our fund-raising efforts with a number of BBQ's at Bunnings. These are always busy days for the volunteers and they are always a profitable day for us.

One of our other great ventures this year was a very successful Blind and Low Vision Sports Day organised by our Deputy Chair, Joanne, who worked long and hard in the organisation of the sports morning held with excellent co-operation of the East Lismore Bowling Club and the East Lismore Tennis Club. We had a number of sight impaired participants who got very involved in tennis, soccer goals scoring, lawn bowls and frisbee throwing and it was so successful that we are holding another low vision sports morning on Sunday, October 20th at the Bowling Club and we hope to see a good number of participants.

As I said earlier these fantastic organisations like ours do not operate or run by themselves and my thanks go to Joanne who, as Deputy Chair, does the bulk of the office work for the Taverners, I would also like to thank Bruce, Ralph, Ruth, Warren and all the Executive for being such a friendly and helpful group to make this Lord's Taverners NNSW branch such a wonderful organisation

Graeme Hoskins  
Chairman

### **Admin Report – Deputy Chairman**

As Deputy Chairman I undertake admin duties and those of the Public Officer. This year I have started the process of updating our contacts with the ATO. There are particular responsibilities here and with the ACNC due to our tax deduction and charity status. Thanks to Ralph for his assistance with this. Some of these items include maintaining the Working with Children Check Register and Responsible Person Register.

We have also looked at policies or guidelines for our many outdoor activities to do with being sun-safe and environmentally conscious. It is not always possible but we strive to do so where ever possible. We also schedule a review of our guidelines, policies, web site etc annually.

I liaised with Denis on the Workers Club grant to receive funding for our Blind Sports Day. This money assisted us purchase the special sporting equipment suitable for people with low vision. Sad to say it was cheaper to buy the items from Canada – who also did not charge freight. I also was successful in gaining a Workers Club In-Kind grant which will pay for the room hire for our AGM and special meetings at the Workers Club.

Recently I signed LTNNNSW up for the Return and Earn program. Hopefully this will allow people to donate to us while they recycle.

I continue to issue the newsletter to members and sponsors/partners and hope that all enjoy reading about our activities.

Joanne Cooper  
Deputy Chairman

### **Volunteering**

We certainly showed the Taverners Shield around the area again in 2023-24 with our volunteering activities. We are still heavily involved with helping in The Samson Challenge as well as the Darrel Chapman Fun Run, both of these being in support of the Our Kids Organisation. We ran the water station on Oliver Ave during the Samson Challenge from 7am until 3pm as well as helping to set up the event on the Friday before the Challenge.

During the Darrel Chapman Fun Run we had volunteers providing drinks at 4 water stations out on the 4, 10 and 21km courses as well as helping with other sections of the event. We provided around 15 helpers at both of these very successful events both of which raise funds for the purchase of medical equipment for the local public hospitals.

Volunteers also donated their time selling raffle tickets in the Lord's Taverners National Raffle at various events around Lismore and we also ran a number of very successful BBQ's at our local Bunnings store raising funds to help finance our Taverners Sporting Grants and in fact we have another Bunnings BBQ happening on Sunday September 1st and I will have an email out to our members asking for them to give us a couple of hours for that event.

Volunteering is a great way to socialise and to put back into society so give it a go!

Graeme Hoskins  
Volunteer Coordinator



## Taverners National Sporting Chance Raffle 2023/2024

Our Lord Taverners Raffle has once again proved a good source of income for us in 2024.

44 Members purchased tickets	845 @ \$5.00	= \$4225.00
Tickets sold by members at various functions	452 @ \$5.00	= \$2260.00
Tickets sold by clubs on a 50/50 share basis	760 @ \$2.50	= <u>\$1900.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE FOR LTNNNSW		\$8385.00

To all members, clubs & helpers a big thank you for your efforts and I hope I may call on you all in 2025.

Warren Phelps  
Branch Raffle Co-ordinator

## Grants (Financial Assistance) Program

The past year saw a decline in the number of Grant Applications received compared to the high experienced the previous year.

Applications received totalled 24, with \$16,250 being approved in support. Again there was a wide range of sports being applied for. Athletes sports supported included Soccer (5), Athletics (3), Touch Football (4), Netball (6), Swimming (4), Disabled Equestrian (1) and Rugby League and AFL (1) each. A number of Applications were for Athletes in more than one sport.

We look forward to continuing to support Disadvantaged and Disabled Athletes from our local area to achieve their sporting goals.

From a recipient

*Good morning Grahame. Sharing with you Connors outcome for the trip to Ireland. Thanking you for your donations. Connor came home with Bronze medal in the OzTag world cup. Such a great and life changing time away. From Connor and myself we thank Lord's Taverners Northern NSW for their donations in supporting Connor to make this dream come true. It truly was appreciated in so many ways. Thanking you*

Grahame Gooding  
Chair, Grants Committee.

## Spirit of the Game awards

Unfortunately, due to lack of interest in nominating candidates we have decided to cease this program.



Our last recipient



### Malawi Cricket Intern

Despite securing funding and the support of the Malawi Cricket Association we were unable to agree on a mutually suitable timeframe so unfortunately will have to work towards 2025

### All Abilities Sports Program

This last year we continued to run weekly activities for Biala special school in Ballina . These activities were run at Ballina Indoor Sports Centre for eight weeks of each term.

Taverners paid the court rental costs and supplied all of the equipment. We set up gear for activities so the school would arrive with the students and start activities straight away and leave when finished. We pack up the gear so all time at the Center is used for activities to maximise the best use of the time for students.

In the first term of 2024 we identified a number of pieces of equipment that could be used at school and allow more sports in the limited space available in the school grounds. We expect to continue these activities until the end of the year and we explore other sports options as well

John McCaffery

### Further Education Program

Southern Cross University

This year we awarded two Lord's Taverners scholarships. Both students are studying part-time. Jane and Rebecca

We again awarded a Seawind Caramaran and Indigenous scholarships. From one of our recipients *"My name is Anna. I am motivated to enhance well-being for people and planet. I live near Lismore. In 2022 I was personally impacted by the devastating floods. In the two years since I have worked (initially as a volunteer) with the Northern Rivers Community Healing Hub, a flood recovery service founded on Indigenous healing principles and practices, with a particular focus on Dadirri or Deep Listening. I found the gift of listening to be profoundly healing. I am currently undertaking a Bachelor of Indigenous Knowledge with Honours. Through my studies, I hope to explore the ways listening can assist healing from trauma and whole community healing. I am so grateful to the Lord's Taverners scholarship for enabling me to get a new laptop to study on as it was very difficult without one!"*

This year we have also added SCU prizes to our suite of programs. The Buttrum-Whitelaw memorial prize will be for a Bachelor of Education student with the highest marks in both Teaching Students from Diverse backgrounds and Inclusive and especial education units. We also have a Lord's Taverners award for commitment to community welfare for a social work student who has completed a placement with the most disadvantaged or vulnerable and demonstrated the values of the professional code of ethics.

TAFE

During 2024 we issued six TAFE awards. Three to the value of \$1500 and three for \$1000. Upon advice from TAFE we have amalgamated the TAFE grants and the resilience awards and negotiated a new agreement. The recipients have a disability, are victims of domestic violence, single parents etc. They are studying courses from Cert II Animal Care to the Diploma of Nursing.

Joanne Cooper and Bruce Ward



“My name is Bex. I'm a full-time student and full-time creatress, currently living and learning on Gumbayngiir Country. Inspired by my own wild experience of life and a path of much adversity, I am engaged in the Diploma of Counselling with the intention of increasing my skillset, enhancing my capacity for healing, and finding my unique way of contributing to the world. The Lord Taverner's Grant has supported me to attain a new laptop to ensure I can continue and complete my studies with ease - Thankyou.”

### WELCOMING OUR NEWEST TAFE GRANT AWARDEE

Rebecca - TAFE



### MEET CRELLEAIN - TAFE GRANT RECIPIENT



HI MY NAME IS CRELLEAIN ROBERTSON AND I AM 45 YEARS OLD WITH 6 KIDS AND 3 GRANDKIDS. I AM CURRENTLY STUDYING ENROLLED NURSE AT THE BALLINA TAFE CAMPUS. I AM SO THANKFUL TO RECEIVE THE LORD TAVNERS GRANT. THE MONEY I RECEIVED WILL GO TOWARDS FUEL COSTS AND ASSIST AT HOME AS I WENT FROM FULL TIME WORK TO PART TIME WORK SO I WAS ABLE TO STUDY.



### MEET GABRIEL - TAFE GRANT RECIPIENT

I AM VERY COMMITTED TO COMPLETE MY COURSE. I WAS BORN IN SUDAN AND SPENT 12 YEARS IN A REFUGEE CAMP IN KENYA. I WAS SPONSORED BY A UNHCR AND NORTHERN RIVERS SANCTUARY. I WORK SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE. I HIGHLY VALUE EDUCATION AND HAVE COMPLETED OTHER COURSES AT TAFE. I SUPPORT 14 CHILDREN IN KENYA, INCLUDING MY WIFE AND 4 CHILDREN. I PAY FOR 10 CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOL IN KENYA. THIS GRANT WILL HELP ME BUY A COMPUTER AND FINISH THIS COURSE. I AM VERY PLEASE AND THANK YOU FOR THE GRANT.



“Jo delved into the world of performance at Ultimo TAFE, earning a Diploma in Music Industry (Performance) in 2014. She is continuing to refine her craft with studies at TAFE Grafton Campus. A multi-disciplinary visual and performance artist, Jo's mission is to compose and produce high-quality,”

### WELCOMING OUR NEWEST TAFE GRANT AWARDEE

Jo-Anne - TAFE Grafton





## Don Whitelaw Small Schools camp

We held another successful Small School Camp at Corndale. Thanks to Deanne and the P & C for their support.

We decided to honour two of our small school camp stalwarts – Don Whitelaw and John Buttrum. The camps are now named after Don who was the chair of this committee for many years. We started a John Buttrum Sportsmanship Award to recognise John and his involvement in the camp for many years. We are currently planning the 2024 event.

We have also spoken to the people at the Ballina Pod village about an activity or camp for the 20 children who currently reside in the village.



One of our SCU scholarship who drove from Glenreagh to Lismore to meet us at the SCU Student Excellence Awards



## Blind Sports

Following the interest in the National Cricket Inclusion Championships held in Brisbane in 2023 it was decided to try and hold a blind sports event. We applied for and were successful in receiving a Club Grant from the Lismore Workers Club to host an event in April. The event was held using the facilities of the east Lismore tennis Club and East Lismore Bowls Club. This allowed us to offer bowls, tennis and soccer. While the build up to the day was wet, we managed to get in a morning of activities. Four participants attended. Two adult males and 10-year-old boy and a 14-year-old girl. All with varying degrees of site. We were very fortunate to have volunteers from a local soccer club and a tennis coach as well as lots of members on hand to cook the BBQ and assist with activities.

Various sporting equipment suitable for visually impaired people was needed. This was purchased from the braille Store in Canada who did not charge shipping. This allows us to have a stock of equipment on hand for future events. All participants enjoyed the day and the two adults have since met for a game of tennis. A wonderful outcome.

Joanne Cooper





## Our House Rostered dinners

For yet another year the Tuesday and Thursday dinners at Our House have been successful. Tuesday' Roster is under the control of Bev Phelps and Thursdays by Margaret Byrne. In each case the ladies send out the Roster for the next month just to remind the teams when they are on duty. Throughout the year only 2 teams failed to turn up. Staff at Our House receive many cards or letters from previous tenants with glowing reviews of the dinners and the team members. To view these just call into the Office and ask to see them. We thank the staff at Our House for their total support and also thank all teams for their volunteer work. We look forward to continuing the great work in 2024/25.

Denis Byrne



***Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Incorporated***  
***Financial Report for Year ending 30 June 2024***

Bank Account Balances BCU Bank

<b><i>Further Education Account</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 3 300.00</i></b>
<b><i>Further Education Account Saver</i></b>	<b><i>\$75 574.37</i></b>
<b><i>General Account</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 2 007.18</i></b>
<b><i>General Account Saver</i></b>	<b><i>\$22 491.48</i></b>
<b><i>Total Bank Accounts</i></b>	<b><i>\$103 373.03</i></b>

***Net Profit for year*** ***\$18 022.02***

The profit of \$18022 was mainly due to an unexpected receipt of funds from the Gilchrist Foundation which was closed near the end of the financial year for family reasons and we readily agreed to continue their commitments to the established university scholarships.

An amount of \$40 000 was paid to Southern Cross University for our scholarships as well as the Gilchrist Foundation scholarships in early July so this was not included in June 2024 accounts.

It should be noted that we changed our bank from Suncorp to BCU Bank as at 30 June 2024. Suncorp had closed both Lismore and Ballina branches with made it difficult to do business and BCU Bank has a Lismore branch and we are committed to assisting local businesses.

Listed below are the main items of income and expenditure for the year.

Income

Corporate Partnership Donations	\$30 200
Gilchrist Foundation	\$20 000
National raffle	\$ 6 014
Membership fees	\$ 4 940
Interest received	\$ 3 523

Expenditure

Grants – TAFE	\$19 000
Grants – athletes	\$16 250
NCIC	\$ 5 400
National Cricket Inclusion Championships	
Schools Sports Camp	\$ 2 487

We are also very appreciative of the generous and continued support from our Corporate Partners and other individuals and organisations which allows us to continue our University programs at Southern Cross University and NSW TAFE.



I particularly thank the Executive and Committee Chairs and involved members whose hard work contributes greatly to the success of our branch.

I also want to thank our newly appointed Honorary Auditor Steve Grayndler who performed this very important task with his thorough and practical approach.

Lastly but certainly not least I wish to pay tribute to our founding Treasurer John Buttrum who sadly passed away during the year quite suddenly. He was a stalwart of this organisation and is sadly missed by us and all who knew him.

I also pay tribute to another founding and executive member Don Whitelaw who also passed away during the year. Both these fine men are greatly missed

Ralph Gregory,  
Chairman Finance Committee

***Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Incorporated***

***Auditors Report***

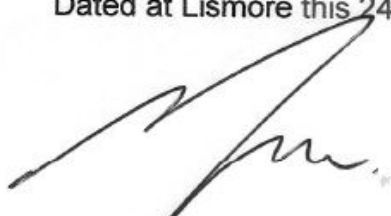
I have examined the income and expenditure statements and balance sheet for Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2024

It is not practical for the organisation to have accounting controls over all transactions to ensure all transactions have been accounted for but in my opinion all transactions have been accounted for and recorded correctly.

In my opinion the statements and balance sheet show a true and fair view of the financial result of fundraising and other activities conducted during the year.

It should also be noted that reporting requirements for government organisations such as ACNC and Fair Trading have been submitted on time as per their requirements

Dated at Lismore this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024



**Steve Grayndler**  
**Honorary Auditor**



## Our Corporate and Community Partners.

We have outstanding support from our Corporate Partners:

Morgans Financial Services	Lismore Workers Club	Seawind Catamarans
Lismore Timezone Watchmakers	Coachcap	Lismore City Printery
Parker and Kissane Solicitors	BCU Bank	Lismore City Toyota
O'Brien Plumbing & Electrical	Kerrys Klothes	Indigo Rose
Rugendyke & Bashforth Contracting	Goonellabah Medical Centre	
Chester Commodities	Mountain Blue Farms	

Our community partners also assist us in various ways

NTech Media	Trinity Catholic College	Lismore Swans Junior AFL Club
The Book Warehouse	Southern Cross University	Seaton Foundation
La Baracca	Our House/Our Kids	Lismore Rugby Union Club

***“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 different to the lives of the young and disadvantaged through the programs of the Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Branch.