



Annual Report 2023

*Giving the Young and Disadvantaged
a Sporting Chance.*

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

PO Box 4133, Goonellabah
NSW 2480

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

<https://www.facebook.com/LTNNNSW>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/lord-s-taverners-northern-nsw/?viewAsMember=true>

https://www.instagram.com/lords_taverners_nsw/

Contents

President's Report	3
Chairman's Report	4
Flood Assistance	5
Secondary T20 Cricket Program	9
Volunteering	9
Taverners National Sporting Chance Raffle 2022/2023.....	9
"Our House" Program.....	10
Grants (Financial Assistance) Program	11
Further Education Program	12
TAFE Grant/Resilience and Southern Cross University Scholarship recipients	12
Spirit of the Game awards.....	14
All Abilities Sports Program.....	15
2023 and beyond	15
The Team	15
Financial Management Program.....	16

2023 Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Executive

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

President Bruce Ward

Chairman Joanne Cooper

Co-Chair Warren Phelps

Secretary Ruth Tinker

Treasurer John Buttrum

Committee: Graeme Hoskins, John McCaffery, Grahame Gooding, Ralph Gregory, Naomi White, Jenny Cook, Suzette Pearce, Steve Clough, Denis Byrne

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



President's Report

Free of the restrictions of 2022, Lord's Taverners Northern NSW had another productive year. Resumption of sporting events resulted in a lift of our sporting grants over the previous 24 months. Grahame Gooding and his team have been assiduous in assessing and funding these grants. Volunteering at the Darryl Chapman Fun Run, the Sampson Challenge, the Lantern festival as well as our Bunnings and Adam Gilchrist cricket barbeques has resumed and been coordinated terrifically by Graeme Hoskins. These barbeques have brought in similar amounts of money to our large production dinners.

John McCaffrey has been able to resume his all-abilities activities through the schools and the Cerebral Palsy League. Hopefully, we will be able to resume the Corndale SS camp this year after a long hiatus. It was a great shame that, despite enormous efforts from John Bancroft and his committee, the T20 schools' competition fell over due to lack of commitment by the schools. There must be doubt that this long-standing competition can be revived.

Joanne and I attended the National Taverners conference in Brisbane in February and I went to the last day of the National Cricket Inclusion Championships. I saw the finals of the Blind, Deaf and Intellectually Impaired Interstate competitions. Margie and I then went to the presentation dinner. If we ever doubted the reasons why Lord's Taverners is such a great charity, then this day assuaged all doubts. The skill, the sportsmanship and the camaraderie shown by all involved stood in stark contrast to my memories of adversarial grade cricket in Brisbane. I was so pleased to be involved in my minor way.

The advanced educational grants program continues to broaden with Chester Commodities coming on board as a corporate sponsor and Rugendyke and Bashforth significantly increasing their sponsorship commitment. I'm continuously looking for new businesses to approach for support. We could use up 10 times the funding that we have.

We were able to award 4 SCU scholarships in the latest round including 2 Indigenous scholarships funded by Seawind Ctamarans.

The TAFE assistance and resilience awards program continues to expand and will involve all northern NSW TAFEs from Taree to the border from next year.

I look forward to next year with optimism.

Bruce Ward
President

Chairman's Report

Another challenging but rewarding year.

A big focus was on assisting schools and pre-schools who had been impacted by the floods and lost in particular outdoor and sporting equipment. We all know how important sport and exercise is to personal development and we felt that it was vital for schools to have this equipment. We devised a formula based generally around the student enrolment numbers. Around \$14 000 worth of vouchers were purchased with Sportspower and distributed to five school. Seven schools were given allocations to spend with InterSport. Some schools are still in temporary accommodation and have nowhere to store equipment. I have included the many comments from schools and pre-schools later in this report. I would like to thank the Seaton Foundation for matching our donations. I believe we certainly made a difference.

Our individual grant program for people to access sport continues to be popular. Again, many recipients have been flood impacted. We have set up two surveys to try and assess the social impact of this program and some of the comments are also included later on.

Over the past year we have also reviewed our various policies and procedures and instigated an Environmental Sustainability statement and Indigenous Australian statement. These statements acknowledge our commitment in these areas. As we are also registered with the Office of the Children's Guardian, we have also developed a Commitment to Child Safety statement.

I attended the Taverners Australia AGM in November via zoom and the Taverners Australia National Conference in Brisbane. These are great opportunities to engage with other branches, share ideas and work on national strategies.

Taverners Australia are major sponsors of the National Cricket Inclusion Championships for intellectually disabled, blind and deaf teams. We felt that we would like to move into this space and applied for a Club Grant with the Lismore Workers Club to run a multisport day for people with low vision or who are blind. The Tasmania branch runs a similar event and a few of us spoke to Sunny about this prior to putting in the submission which we recently heard was successful. This will be a great addition to our suite of programs.

As Chairman I am on the Further Education committee and find it very rewarding to assist the SCU scholars and TAFE grant and resilience award recipients.

As Chairman I am also asked to represent Lord's Taverners at events. This has included speaking at the Goonellabah Probus Club and shortly Alstonville Rotary Club. I also attended the Our House 10th Anniversary. We have also become Community Partners with Our House/Our Kids which was a logical progression considering our involvement with the Samson and Darrel Chapman Fun Run.

This job is not able to be undertaken without the complete and unwavering support of the executive. I thank them all for their commitment to this organisation and support of the executive. Each contribute in a different and special way. Together we make an awesome team and have been able to achieve some great outcomes for the disadvantaged in our community.

Joanne Cooper
Chairman

Flood Assistance

From Schools

"We are just finalising what we require and are looking forward to putting the very generous donation of \$4000 to great use very soon for the benefit of our students. Many thanks again for thinking of us at Mullumbimby Public School. We are extremely grateful for this extremely kind gesture and I look forward to getting back to you soon."

"We are so incredibly overwhelmed with this donation from your organisation and also for The Seaton Foundation to match it is just amazing! Our students are going to be so excited to get some new sports equipment!!!"

"Thank you so much for your generosity, makes times like these so wonderful!"

"Broadwater Public School would be delighted to receive funding to support the purchase of sporting equipment that we lost in the March floods."

"Thank you for your email. We would be most appreciative of any assistance you are able to offer."

"Thank you so much for your email and also your kind donation of \$500 to purchase sporting equipment for Empire Vale Public School. Our children will be very happy with this!"

"With regards the offer of support from Lord Taverners we would very much like to replace our high jump mats and poles, gym mats and volleyball nets and equipment. We lost all our sports equipment in the floods and are in the process of replacing it. Any financial assistance that could be offered would be greatly appreciated."

"Oh my goodness! Amazing news. Thank you Thankyou Thank you! We are so incredibly grateful."
"Yes, we would love financial assistance to help get some sporting goods. That's amazing, thanks so much for your hard work organising these donations"

"As you are aware, we lost everything in the Lismore floods in February this year and we are slowly rebuilding our resources and we have been very blessed with the support that has been offered. We still have limited sporting equipment, so your email is definitely welcomed."

"Our sports shed was inundated from the flood. I have spoken with our sports coordinator and we are participating in a tennis program and we no longer have any tennis equipment, so purchasing some new tennis racquets, balls and nets would be a huge assistance to our school."

"Thank you so much for your generous offer. We happily accept and appreciate the assistance and opportunities your organisation is providing for our students."

"Thank you so much for this! Amazing, I am also grateful for the longer time to spend the money also. Once again, thank you very much for your generosity, we really appreciate it."

South Lismore Public School - We now have a boy and girl school soccer team because of your donation. The uniform and shoes are on display here!

Empire Vale School is about to make an order. They are still in temporary accommodation and probably will be for another 12 months.

From Pre-Schools

“We would very much appreciate any assistance that you can provide to us. We were impacted by the flooding earlier this year. Our shed had water through it which resulted in damage to our outdoor play equipment, including: mats, soft-fall cushions, bikes and garden tools.”

“We are very grateful for your support - totally blown away actually and we cannot wait to get the cubby back up and functional as it is such an important play space for our kids “

“Thanks so much, this is very out of the blue and incredible. The children of East Lismore Community Preschool would like to thank you for the contribution of \$2000 you recently donated. During the 2022 flood, our preschool lost all its educational and sporting equipment that we have built up over the last 30 years. You’re incredibly kind donations goes a long way to replacing the lost equipment. While we are in our temporary location, we have purchased small but no less fun equipment and add to it regularly. Soccer and cricket are at the moment front and centre of lots and play.”

“Your help is much appreciated and will make a huge difference to the lives of the children enrolled at our preschool. We can’t thank you enough.”

“On behalf of the management committee, children, families and staff at Lismore Preschool we thank you for your kind donation.”

“During the flooding in February/March this year, we were very lucky to not receive any water damage to our class room ,but our outdoor area and soft fall were damaged in the flood waters, the resources were paced away and we were lucky not to lose any of our toys or play equipment.....if you would like to donate some money for equipment to extend on our children learning here at the preschool , any fund will support us in purchasing new equipment for the children in 2023, we are a non-for-profit community preschool and a registered charity.”

“Thank you so much for considering our preschool for some assistance in recovering from the flooding on the Northern Rivers. We have an amazing nature classroom that we have run for the past 4 years- we have wanted to purchase a go pro for the children to use to document their learning in the bush. (We have in the past purchased a cheap version that didn't work!)”

“We currently need a new cover for our sandpit. We lost our last one in the February floods.”

“Thank you for your email. We would really appreciate some support with purchasing new play mats for gymnastics outside. We had to throw many of ours out due to the mould we dealt with in the flood times.”

Federal Community Children’s Centre

We have finally received the order we placed last year with your kind donation. Due to the floods are centre was impacted by loss of a number of outdoor items due to the extreme weather. We were able to purchase some new outdoors soft mats which the children absolutely love. Thank you for your support.

We also provided \$2000 to Richmond River High to replace sport shirts.

Other flood related assistance

Caniaba Public School – high jump mats

We are seeking funding for high jump mats to allow our students to confidently compete in high jump events in Athletics each year. Caniaba PS has never been able to afford to purchase high jump mats, which has impacted our student’s ability to move through to Zone, Regional and State Athletics. In previous years we have sourced high jump mats from other schools, usually for a week. We are always grateful for the generosity of other schools, however we feel our students will benefit from having our own mats, to provide us more time and teaching lessons to develop their high jump skills. This will also allow other schools in the area to borrow them and use throughout the year as needed. The amount we are seeking to pay for a high jump mat is \$2500, which is an estimated cost from Knight Sports.

Whilst our school site was not impacted by the recent floods, just over 50% of our families were directly impacted - some rescued from the roofs of their houses, many losing their business and income, many still trying to restore their houses to be liveable. Like many in our communities and surrounding areas, our students have all been affected by the flood in some way. We are hoping that the remainder of the year is more ‘normal’, and we can provide our students with memorable experiences that bring a smile to their face.

Dennis Pitt

Dennis is an athletics coach from Newcastle who responded to flood by gathering sporting equipment (generally athletics related) and distributing this to schools as well as running sports days. Dennis has been sourcing equipment and people to assist him with the recovery of the athletics program in Lismore. At the moment he is after funds to replace athletics equipment and is seeking \$1400.

Northern Rivers Children Services _ Family Day Care

Thank you so much for your offer it is very kind of you and your organisation. Our playgroup, toy library and some of our FDC services were flooded and sadly everything was lost. Due to the sewerage in the water everything had to be thrown out so we would appreciate anything that you would donate from puzzles, toys, bikes, balance beams, outdoor equipment etc.

We also assisted Chris Axtens and the Workers Wallopers Twilight Cricket team. Their equipment was lost in the flood so we purchased a new kit – thanks to Keith Dudgeon for their support. Bruce, Jenny and Graeme were pleased to present this to Chris.



The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus
5d

New sports uniforms

A huge thank you to **Lord's Taverners Northern NSW** for the generous donation of \$2000 that assisted out PDHPE Faculty to purchase a huge box of sports singlets. Also a big thanks to **Lismore Embroidery & Apparel** for the great work they did producing these. We have now got singlet sets for Basketball, Touch, Athletics and Cross-Country teams. Thank you for your kind donations.

John Eakin | Relieving HT PDHPE



103 9 Shares



Secondary T20 Cricket Program

Sadly, the T20 Cricket Shields are now in a hiatus period due to

- Difficulty with securing and paying for venues
- Shortage of Umpires
- Confusing School Protocols and
- Other logistical difficulties

I hope it can be resurrected at some point as many schools are still keen
John Bancroft – for the T20 Committee

Volunteering

Another year of Lord's Taverners NNSW volunteering is completed. Things are still getting back to normal within the area but we were involved in supporting the Our Kids Samson Strength Challenge, Darrel Chapman Fun Run, Lismore City Council Flood Cricket Match, The Lantern Parade and a couple of sausage sizzles at Bunnings in Lismore. We average around 15-18 volunteers for the water stations at The Samson and the Darrel Chapman as well as the Bunnings gigs. All these functions are great fun while at the same time helping out these essential community organisations.

So, when you see a call for helpers from the Taverners, if you can spare a couple of hours please throw your hat in the ring, it will be well worth it. To this end, all proceeds from the Darrel Chapman Fun Run are used to purchase medical equipment for the Children's Ward at Lismore Base Hospital. The Bunnings Sausage Sizzles enables us to raise funds which we use to continue our support of local entities and the disadvantaged in our communities. We would love to see you at our events.

Graeme Hoskins
Volunteer Coordinator

Taverners National Sporting Chance Raffle 2022/2023

Once again, the raffle has been a success in raising funds for our branch.

LT NNSW Income	\$8456
Sporting Clubs & Associations	\$ 4355 (Tickets sales are shared on 50/50 basis.)
Members/Branch Sales	<u>\$ 4101</u>
	\$ 8456

Results

1 st Prize – NSW	2 nd Prize – SA
3 rd Prize – VIC	4 th Prize – VIC
5 th Prize – VIC	6 th Prize – NSW (Ticket sold by LTNNSW)

Many thanks to our Members, Sporting Clubs & Associations for their support to our branch.



The sporting clubs who supported our raffle were Bangalow Cricket Club, Diggers Cricket Club (Griffith), Maclean & District Orchid Society, Mullumbimby Golf Club, North Coast Hockey, Casino Rotary, United Cricket Club (Taree), Trinity Catholic College, Bangalow Lions, Eureka School P & C and Marist Bros Junior Cricket

Warren Phelps
Branch Raffle Co-ordinator.

“Our House” Program

Following almost 10 years as head of the Our House dinners committee, Warren Noble stood down and handed over to Denis Byrne. We all owe a debt of thanks to Warren for what he achieved as Committee Chair. Warren always said that Bev Phelps and Margaret Byrne did all the work, and he is correct. The rosters run smoothly because of these 2 ladies. So thank you to Warren, Bev and Margaret. When necessary, teams or individuals leave and are replaced seamlessly. As for the staff of Our House we need to thank Ruth, Gay (who has now retired) and Tanya. I can see no reason why the rosters will not continue as in the past but if so we'll move quickly to rectify the situation. Finally, thanks to the teams and the individuals in those teams for their tireless work and commitment.

Denis Byrne
Our House Coordinator

Ruth from Our House sends me the results of the Our House Guest surveys. It is always great to read about the impact of the Social Dinners. Here are some comments:

“I was so thankful for these nights. Fresh salads and lovely conversation with amazing volunteers”
“It was wonderful that the volunteers cooked for us. Not a huge fan of dinner with strangers but everyone was nice.”
“Wonderful home cooked country meal. Great atmosphere.”
“The dinners were extremely helpful when my ability to provide myself a decent meal was a struggle.”
“Thoroughly enjoyed our BBQ on Thursday night, Thank you”
“The meal on Tuesday night was excellent could not fault. Please convey our thanks to your staff and volunteers.”
“Very enjoyable dinner by Rotary. How fantastic to meet others and this lovely community.”
“The dinner on Tuesday night was just right and everyone was so friendly”
“Excellent home cooked meal boosted morale and was a relief when tired from being at the hospital all day, or coming and going.”
“So grateful for the amazing dinners and social outlet. Many thanks to all the participating groups.”
“It was the first time we had the opportunity to participate in the social gathering and dinner in the evening. A big thank you to the retired teachers and partners that supplied the BBQ and drinks, it was a most enjoyable evening.”
“The Tuesday and Thursday evening meals are a great idea, and much appreciated.”
One guest also indicated that the best part of their stay was the social dinner.

Thanks to those members who volunteer, to the Our House Committee and those who organise the roster.

Our House also celebrated 10 years and many members attended the celebrations.



Grants (Financial Assistance) Program

Following the almost complete cessation of representative sport over the previous two years because of Covid, the number of Applications for Support increased dramatically over this Financial year.

During the year the Committee received and considered 31 Applications for Financial Support, making Grants totalling \$27,803. This is the largest annual total in the 15 years the Grants program has been running.

The applications were for support to compete in 12 different sports. These were Athletics, Karate, Cricket, Netball, Basketball, Swimming, Football, Futsal, Oz Tag, Rugby Union, Rugby League, and Touch Football.

The Committee receive many notes of thanks and reports on the events that the Recipients attended expressing their gratitude for the support we have given them.

Grahame Gooding
Chairman, Grants Committee

Some thanks from grant recipients

“Cherish really enjoyed the carnival and we cannot thank Lord Taverners enough for their help attending the event”.

“I cannot thank you and Lord Taverners enough for your support. Our appreciation for all you do will forever be a part of her karate career.”

“I am writing to you this morning to thank Lord’s Taverners for your generous support that you have provided me with to get to Spain for Futsal. Recently my Green and Gold uniform arrived and I am flying out on the 26th! Thanks so much again, “

Hi Grahame This is greatly appreciated, please pass our thanks onto the committee.

We also decided to try and evaluate the impact of this program via a survey. Here are some responses to questions about the impact on the applicant or family

- First time on a plane for my daughter, new team that she only had 2 hours to train, come back with so confidence.
- First time attending state championships event, competing with large amount of teams
- Lord Taverners were very helpful. Thank you

Some statistics about our grants

9 recipients identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; 9 were from single parent families; all were under 18; 8 had been impacted by the floods; 8 were from 2480 postcode; 6 were from 2478 postcode; 7 went to Regional; 8 to State and 4 went to international competitions. 13 recipients were female and 7 were male.

I am writing to you this morning to thank Lord’s Taverners for your generous support that you have provided me with to get to Spain for Futsal. Recently my Green and Gold uniform arrived and I am flying out on the 26th!

Thanks so much again,

Max Alcorn

PS Max captained the team all the way to the quarter-finals



Further Education Program

This program continues to be popular and rewarding.

We had over 30 applicants for the SCU scholarships this year. The Seawind Catamaran scholarship is for an aboriginal student and the Lord's Taverners one is for a disadvantaged student. Unfortunately, one of our 2022 scholars has withdrawn from university. However, this allowed us to grant two SCU scholarships this year. In all we awarded four scholarships to students studying full-time and part-time. Our total expenditure was \$22,500 for the year.

The TAFE grants were also popular and there were many worthy recipients. Due to the number of applicants, we devised a formula to assess the various disadvantages. A number of our 2023 recipients were victims of domestic violence and it is great to be able to assist these students on their career path. Recipients indicate what the assistance will provide and can be up to \$2000.

The resilience awards are also an important program as it is teacher nominated. Details of recipients are below. These students receive \$500. We have recently been contacted by the Lower Mid North Coast TAFE and asked to extend our program into that area.

The committee fully understands and appreciates the importance that education and training can make to the lives of those who are disadvantaged and our Further Education programs are certainly an important component of our branch suite of programs.

Joanne Cooper and Bruce Ward

TAFE Grant/Resilience and Southern Cross University Scholarship recipients

The Further Education Committee decided to award four Resilience Awards to TAFE students.

Caleb is a young apprentice chef who left behind a drug and alcohol fuelled violent household. His teacher nomination stated that all of the students he had had in his classroom "none touch you as much as Caleb's story because he refuses to be a victim, he is a survivor and an excellent young chef"

Emily is 15 with a hearing disability. At the beginning of the year her family was homeless as they fled domestic violence. Emily is carer for her siblings as her parent is gravely ill. She is looking forward to a career in dentistry.

Mick was studying a Diploma of Screen & Media. His home was impacted by the February flood and assisted in the clean up through Helping Hands. The impact of the flood on the Lismore campus saw Mick offer his experience to other students who were struggling with their studies.

Jocelyn completed a Cert IV in Community Services after their hospitality business was forced to close due to covid.

SCU Scholarships awarded to

Alice is undertaking her Honours in Psychology part time. She volunteers with Lifeline and believes that giving back to the community is important.

Shauna is a foster mum from Lennox Head who has embarked on her Bachelor of Arts degree part time. She is a sole parent with a diverse background. One of her majors is Indigenous Knowledge.

Tim is undertaking a Bachelor of Education degree as a mature student. His wife is not well and Tim provides support for her and their two children. He is invested in the development of young people and was chuffed that community groups such as Lord's Taverners wanted to be part of his journey.

Bethany is a young lady commencing a Bach of Psychological Science and Bachelor of Laws. Life has not been kind to Bethany and her family but she is committed to her education and providing support for those who find themselves in a similar situation to the one she has experienced.

MEET RACHEL



TAFE GRANT COFFS HARBOUR

Rachel has studied a Certificate IV Film & Media at TAFE NSW. She has used the grant to replace her laptop which she lost in the Lismore 2022 floods. We look forward to seeing her develop her skills further.



MEET TAYLAH



TAFE GRANT COFFS HARBOUR

Taylah is studying a Certificate III Applied Fashion Design & Technology. She will be using the grant to support her in getting supplies for her studies.



MEET MICK

RESILIENCE AWARD WINNER

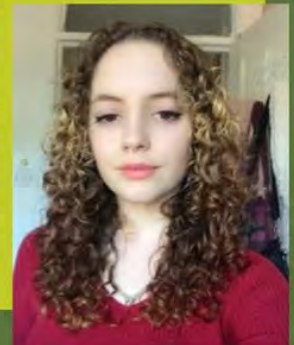
Mick is studying a Diploma of Screen & Media through Lismore TAFE. He has faced many adversities due to COVID and the 2022 Lismore floods. He has a passion for working behind a camera and we look forward to watching his skills develop further.



MEET LUCY

RESILIENCE AWARD WINNER

Lucy is studying online through TAFE NSW. She has faced many adversities due to COVID and diversity. We look forward to seeing her develop her skills further.



"I feel super blessed and deeply honoured to have been chosen as a recipient of a Lord's Taverners scholarship through Southern Cross University. In part, the grant has affirmed my decision to, despite my nerves and the competing demands of being a parent and carer, return to study and re-train to be a teacher. I've become more and more passionate about developing resilient and confident young people, and in doing so have wanted to make a contribution. Teaching was my choice and the scholarship is an incredible support. Practically the grant has already provided me with equipment I needed for study as well as alleviating some of our families financial pressures. I feel empowered through Lord's Taverners and their partners' support and want to offer the same to the students I will eventually teach once I graduate."



Lord's Taverners Northern NSW
May 24

Katie is a deaf, single mother currently studying through TAFE NSW. She has plans to buy a new laptop to continue her studies and further her skill development. We look forward to seeing her skills develop during her studies.

Welcoming

Katie



Katie received a Lord's Taverners Northern NSW TAFE Grant which she plans on using to help her buy a new laptop to support her in her studies. We look forward to seeing her develop her skills further.



Spirit of the Game awards

This is another of our rewarding programs that currently covers five sports – basketball, netball, cricket, softball and rugby league. Each association asks clubs to nominate an under 16 player who epitomises the Spirit of the Game. Not the best player, but the club player. Someone who helps coach, look after equipment, referees etc. Details of our 2023 recipients are listed below.

Nathan – Byron Bay Basketball - Nathan has been selected by the coaching team at Byron Bay Basketball as he truly demonstrates what this award is all about. With a love for the game of basketball, his skills, talents and attitude is one that any coach dreams of having on their team. His willingness to learn and be coachable, his inclusiveness and support within training and games, and his positivity and support of team mates. However, it is his off the court demeanour that truly impresses his coaches and the club overall. Nathan is always there encouraging other teams and teammates on, helping with fundraising activities, and competitions for the club. We are truly grateful to have someone like Nathan playing and being involved with the Byron Bay Basketball Club.

Kai – Tintenbar-East Ballina Cricket - Off the field, Kai has worked hard and does extra training sessions. He's always helping his mates with batting and bowling advice and loves the game. This year, he also umpired the Ballina Under 13 Cricket Carnival with distinction for the whole week. I believe Kai represents the spirit of the game because he started young, had his challenges but overcame them to be one of the most talented batsmen in the region and regularly received higher honours with representative duties. He also gave up a week of his school holidays to umpire in Ballina Under 13 Carnival which matched teams from Sydney metro, NSW rural and QLD.

Lachlan – Far North Coast Softball - Lachlan is an honest and friendly young man, as well as being a dedicated softball player. His happy to share his knowledge with everyone and has a great rep ire amongst his peers and coaches. He happily umpires when he can on the weekends and is working towards obtaining his Level 1 Umpiring accreditation. I believe that Lachlan would be a worthy recipient of any awards that come his way

We presented Abi-Gail Garland and Laura Parsons Spirit of the Game awards. Abi-Gail plays netball for SCU and Laura plays for Lismore Rugby Union Club. It was a lovely morning at La Baracca with the girls, their families and a number of executive members.



All Abilities Sports Program

Our principal support this year was to Biala special school in Ballina. We assisted with wheelchair sport in term three of last year and this was run by Paralympian David Johnson from the group Social futures. Taverners paid for the court hire and assisted with the running of the group. These were the final sessions of wheelchair sport for the year but we would certainly support again if requested.

We continued to run weekly activities for the school at Ballina Indoor sports centre covering general sports activities like basketball, football and ball skills for an average of 8 weeks per term.

During the year we supplied new equipment that was identified as being suitable to be used at Biala school itself. This equipment included new dodgeballs and Pickleball gear including a net which could be used in the limited spaces available on site at the school.

As we move forward we are currently making bookings for the second half of this year and looking at some new activities. A new golf driving range and putting facility has reopened in Ballina and the school is very keen to try it out. We will pay cost of the activities and provide support and supervision on site.

We stayed in contact with Wilson Park school and hope to provide assistance there again in the near future.

Thanks
John McCaffery

2023 and beyond

The capacity of the branch is only limited by our imagination and funds. We do have a few new programs/activities in the pipeline and we hope to develop these further.

Multisport Day for blind and low vision people – we were successful in our application for a Club Grant with the Lismore Workers Club to run this event. The major outlay is the cost of specialised equipment for various sports. We hope that this can become an event that we can hold a couple of times a year or even a cricket competition.

TAFE – extending our TAFE Grants and Resilience awards into the lower Mid North Coast.

The Team

All our executive team members contribute to the running of the branch. In brief:

Denis – oversees the Our House program and facilitates grant applications

Jenny – is our Malawi liaison and has a focus on Females in Sport

Suzette – liaises with our SCU scholars

Graeme H – coordinates our volunteer activities

Naomi – is our social media guru

Grahame G – coordinates the sporting grants program

John M – coordinates our All-Abilities Sport program

Steve – school liaison and our Camp Coordinator

John B – our Treasurer, keeper of invoices and all of us honest

Ralph – payer of bills, sender of invoices, manager of monies

Ruth – somehow manages to minute our meetings

Warren – coordinates our raffle and is great to run things by

Bruce – knows people and has an amazing ability to get them to believe in and donate to our programs

Joanne – manages our admin and considers herself lucky to work with such a great team

Financial Management Program

*Lord's Taverners Northern NSW Incorporated
Financial Report for Year ending 30 June 2023*

Bank Account Balances Suncorp

Further Education Account	\$ 5030.00
Further Education Account Saver	\$40437.32
General Account	\$ 1107.62
General Account Saver	\$35003.22
Total Bank Accounts	\$81578.16
Net Loss for year	\$44341.66

I should be noted that we have changed the name of our Scholarship Accounts to Further Education Accounts to reflect the assistance given to TAFE as well as university students.

This year's loss was budgeted for \$50962 as we had committed approximately \$50,000 to assist schools and pre-schools that had been adversely affected by the devastating floods in February and March 2022. There is still approximately \$10000 of the committed funds to be spent in 2023/2024 financial year as some schools have not spent their allocation. We are very appreciative of the generous benefactors whose donations this and last year assisted us in helping the affected schools.

We continued to receive very generous support from our Corporate Partners and some other individuals & organisations which allowed us to continue our Further Education Programs at Southern Cross University and NSW TAFE as well as flood assistance as noted above. I particularly thank these generous organisations and individuals.

I once again thank John Buttrum, our Honorary Treasurer, who carries out his very important job with his customary efficiency. 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.

A special thanks to our Chairperson Joanne Cooper whose expertise and commitment to our branch is inspirational. A special thanks also to our President Bruce Ward who has shown great leadership as well as organising a number of very generous corporate partners.

I specially thank our Honorary Auditor Chris Shevellar who has helped us immensely over the last few years but has now indicated he cannot continue after this audit. We all wish him well for the future.

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

Kids on 4th

Parker and Kissane Solicitors

O'Brien Plumbing & Electrical

Morgan's Financial Services

Rugendyke & Bashforth Contracting

Goonellabah Medical Centre

Lismore Workers Club

Seawind Catamarans

Coachcap

Lismore City Printery

Lismore City Toyota

Kerrys Klothes

MEB Agribusiness

Mountain Blue Farms

Chester Commodities

Our community partners also assist us in various ways

NTech Media

Lismore Swans Junior AFL Club

Southern Cross University

Lismore Rugby Union Club

Our House/Our Kids

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.