



Chairman's Report 2013-2014

DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING STREAMS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK

I continue to be amazed at the work of the Lord's Taverners in helping young members in our community realise their full potential.

This year we supported the Victorian Blind Cricket team, the Lord's Taverners Indoor Cricket Team, Victorian Imparja Cup team, Lord's Taverners Australian Open Tennis Open with Ausrapid and the All Abilities Cricket Carnival conducted at Casey Fields in conjunction with Cricket Victoria.

Whilst we have raised in excess of \$42,000 to support these initiatives, developing a sustainable funding stream into the future is a major challenge for us moving forward. It is fair to say, that a number of these future programs are "at risk" if we cannot secure sponsorship and increase membership numbers.

We recognise that the current economic climate is tough and whilst the committee has worked hard to increase membership and secure revenue streams, both locally and at a national level, all Lords Taverners members have a role to play here. All of you are advocates for our work and all of you can play a vital role to ensure the on-going success of these programs.

Whether this is in signing up a new member, supporting events, or steering potential sponsorship leads to Committee, the future of our work is in all our hands through the personal contribution we make.

MEMBERSHIP

Our objective over the last 12 months has been to promote our Lord's Taverners brand as the major philanthropic group associated with cricket in this country, whilst we drive to continue to improve member experiences at major functions and events.

We also have developed a strategy targeting younger members through the proposed introduction of the Young Taverners. The Young Taverners will target membership from 18-30 year olds with special member events introduced aligned to this age group.

Special thanks go to Committee members, Peta Phillips and Anita Matthews in driving this initiative targeting existing MCC members.

PARTNERSHIPS

We continue to receive strong support from Cricket Victoria. We acknowledge and thank Cricket Victoria Chairman - Geoff Tamblyn OAM, CEO - Tony Dodemaide and Annie Hateley (Community Development), for their continued encouragement and support for our work.

At a National Level, the Lord's Taverners National Conference was conducted in South Australia during February 2014. Hosted by South Australian Chairman, Geoff Merrill, delegates from around the country discussed a number of key issues with new Cricket Australia representative, Sam Malicki. We continue to position the work of the Taverners with Cricket Australia and endeavour to maximise opportunities for collaboration in supporting respective strategic agendas. This includes support from Cricket Australia to improve the exposure of our work to the broader cricket community and align this to the 4 pillars (ie: blind, deaf, indigenous and all abilities).

A new Lords Taverners logo for each state has been developed and released. All State Branches are currently having their respective websites updated to enable hosting arrangements with Cricket Australia to be undertaken.

Robyn Smith – CEO Auspraid, also presented of overview of the programs supported by the Lord's Taverners in each state and this relationship will continue in the year ahead. There is certainly a strong level of collaboration from the various Branches in sharing ideas and best practices.

SPONSORSHIPS

We continue to sponsor major sporting events with our partners. These include the:

- 2013 Australian Indoor Championships, Queensland (Cricket Victoria)
- 2014 Imparja Cup, (Cricket Victoria)
- 2014 Australian Open Tennis Championships, (Ausrapid)
- 2014 All Abilities Victorian Cricket Carnival, at Casey Fields (Cricket Victoria)
- All Abilities Indoor Cricket (Footscray / Maribyrnong Indoor Centre)
- Australian Blind Cricket Team

The Victorian All Abilities Cricket Carnival for 2014 was held at Casey Fields, Cranbourne, in very hot and trying conditions. In partnership with the City of Casey, The Lord's Taverners Victoria, Casey-South Melbourne Cricket Club and Cranbourne Cricket Club, the tournament gives people with an intellectual and/or physical disability the opportunity to play cricket.

In its eighth year, the carnival has grown immensely, with two separate formats being staged on the day, Super League and Ten Over Tonk. The growth in the state carnival is a result of so many passionate volunteers, parents, partners and supporters in club land that work hard to ensure that cricketers of all abilities have an opportunity to play regular club cricket.



On the day, Commonwealth Bank VicSpirit WT20 captain Emma Inglis attended along with City of Casey councilor Amanda Stapleton and Lord's Taverners Committee member, Ian Crawford.

Special thanks must go to Cricket Victoria Community Programs Manager and Lords Taverners Committee member, Annie Hateley, in the organisation and conduct of the event.



We supported the Lords Taverners Indoor Cricket team attend the 2013 Australian Open Indoor Cricket Championships held in Brisbane from 20 – 27 July 2013 at the Strathpine Indoor Sports Centre in Queensland.

Congratulations must go to the Queensland for winning the Lords Taverners Shield and Victoria were proudly represented by Jarrod Connelly (Melton), Craig Whitehand (Geelong), Chris Anderson (Geelong), Shaun Wilkie (Geelong), Nathan Mahar (Ballarat), Theo Arnold (Ballarat), Shane Collins (Ballarat), Matthew Sutton (Preston), Warren Buckley (Werribee), Dwayne Templeton (Werribee), Shaun Rayment (Footscray), Joe Brizzi (Footscray), Rick Tresize (Coach) and Darren Riches (Manager)

Congratulations must go to Craig Whiteland, from the Victorian Lord's Taverners Indoor Cricket Team, who was inducted this year into Indoor Sports Victoria's Hall of Fame.

EVENTS

During the year we conducted a number of memorable events for members and their guests.

The Victorian Legends Dinner conducted in August 2013 at Royal South Yarra Tennis Club was another great night, which saw John Grant, Alan Hurst, Simon O'Donnell and the late Ian Johnson inducted as Legends of Victorian Cricket.

What a wonderful group of legends we have inducted this year and we heard citations from Kevan Carroll, Paul Sheahan, Ian Crawford and Ian Johnson's son, Dr Bill Johnson, speak passionately about 4 remarkable careers that have made an enormous contribution to cricket in this State. Special thanks must go to our MC, Graeme "Smokey" Dawson for another series of superlative interviews.

We also acknowledge and congratulate the following 2013 Lord's Taverners Award Winners:

Peter Handscombe	2013 Junior Male Taverner of the Year
Molly Strano	2013 Junior Female Taverner of the Year
Sarah Chancellor - Goddard	2013 Betty Butcher Emerging Player of the Year

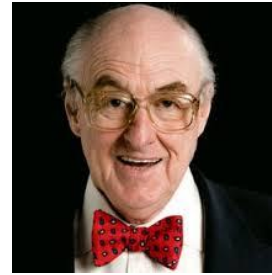


Our dinner nights at the Kingston Hotel continue to be a highlight for members and guests on our calendar. This year, we were joined by media personality, Mike Sheahan and Peter Bedford. "Wheels" Bedford is a former AFL football and first class cricketer and is best known for his time at South Melbourne where he won the 1970 Brownlow medal.

A small but intimate gathering heard Mike and Peter share their views and memorable moments in sport covering both cricket and football. For over 3 years, the Kingston Hotel evenings have become a popular event and we look forward to hosting a Kingston night with South African commentator, Neil Manthorpe, during the ICC World Cup in February 2015.

Special thanks go to MC & Committee member, Kevan Carroll for the organisation and conduct of these special events.

The annual Boxing Day Test Breakfast was again well supported by members. With regular MC, Tim Lane, unavailable due to media commitments, Howard Leigh stepped into the role. We heard from Australian Women's cricketer, Jess Cameron, and we were delighted to hear from guest speaker, Henry "Blowers" Blofeld. Work is already under way for this year's BDT breakfast with regular MC Tim Lane returning and he will be interviewing former Australian Test Cricketer, Greg Matthews and supported by comedian Peter Rowsthorn.



The National Raffle is on again with 2 tickets to the 2015 Ashes Test at Lords on offer. Our objective is to raise \$100,000 nationally and special thanks must go to our National Treasurer, John Jeffries, for the enormous hours placed in ensuring tickets are produced, circulated and managed. You can contact JJ via e-mail jjeff007@bigpond.net.au for tickets.

The Lord's Taverners and The Primary Club Charity Golf Day for 2013 was held at Peninsula Country Golf Club on 1 November. Funds raised provided recreational/sporting equipment, facilities and opportunities for people with disabilities. Special thanks goes to Tim Winter for organising the day.

AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

2014 was a wonderful in recognising the work of a number of our Taverners members for the contribution to our community in their respective fields. Colin McDonald AM, Creagh O'Connor AM and Paul Sheahan AM who were all made members (AM) of the Order of Australia, together with Drew Morphett OAM and Geoff Tamblyn OAM who received and Order of Australia Medal. All are solid supporters & members of the Lords Taverners and we congratulate them on their award and the due recognition for their contribution.

THANK YOU

I would like to acknowledge and express my personal thanks to all the Committee for their tireless work "behind the scenes".

Special thanks to retiring members during the year, Graeme Eccles and also our President, Paul Sheahan AM, for their enormous contribution to the Lords Taverners Vic Branch over many years. We will miss D'Arcy Eccles wonderful articles, stories and sense of humour; and from a personal perspective, our retiring President, Paul Sheahan's, "wise counsel and leadership". We have not totally lost Paul as he will be standing to replace National President, John Lill, at the forthcoming National AGM held in November 2014.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of Committee members, Mike Bullock, for managing our sponsorship enquiries, Kevan Carroll, Ian Crawford and Kevin Johnson in organising our amazing events, Peta Phillips & Anita Matthews in driving our membership, and Matthew Clayton for his work on the website and marketing our events.

The work of our Secretary - Carolyn Johnson and Treasurer - Tim Winter continues to amaze me and I thank them for their tireless contribution in managing our administrative responsibilities for the Branch.

WHAT'S AHEAD

In 2015, we will continue to drive the work of the Lords Taverners centred on the 4 pillars of blind, deaf, all abilities and indigenous cricket whilst developing Partnerships, securing Sponsorship, improving Membership numbers and driving Community engagement. I ask all members to become advocates for the Taverners and make it a personal goal to sign up one new member next year. As I continue to say, the future of the Lords Taverners is in all our hands ... not the select few.

John Kilgour Chairman
