



BlowFly Cricket Review 2023-24

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY:

BlowFly Cricket acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Darug and Guringai peoples, of the land on which we gather to play our wonderful inclusive all-ability sport. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

**COVER PHOTO:**

Once again our front cover promotes inclusion, diversity and the pure joy that BlowFly Cricket continues to bring to our local community and beyond. The ripple effect is largely immeasurable as it flows on to help the health care system in many ways. This photo was taken when BlowFly Cricket was visited by Glen McGrath AO one fine Tuesday afternoon in December. This wonderful initiative was supported by Cricket Australia, Channel 7 and Toyota Good for Cricket.

PHOTO CREDIT: George Davis

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Management Committee/Leadership Group



Jordan Jones
Honorary President



Bill Peterkin
Honorary
Vice-President



Mark Rushton
Honorary Treasurer/
Public Officer



Kate Guild
Honorary Secretary/
Director of Operations



Marnie Nissen
Fundraising Manager



Ben Gussey
Project Officer



Andrew Bayles
Historical Officer



Brian Binfield
Publications Officer



Craig Stubbs
Coaching Consultant



Maddie Jones
Associate Member



Ronnie MacKenzie
Associate Member



Akanksha Swarup
Associate Member



Steve Perry
Club Coach



Nicola Jones
Equipment and
Clothing Officer



Maddie Shortte
Associate Member
(Victoria)



Kevin Lewis
CSO/MPIO



Fiona Mohr-Hanks
Associate Member



Shabana Hakim
Associate Member



CHILD SAFETY & MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (CFO)

2021- Mr K Lewis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2012- Mr AR Bayles
2012- Mr BD Binfield
2012- Mr BR Gussey
2021- Mrs NA Jones

COACHING CONSULTANT

2015-24 Mr CJ Stubbs
2024- Mr C Hindmarch

ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2019- Miss M Jones
2019- Mr RF MacKenzie
2019- Miss A Swarup
2020- Miss M Shortte
2020-24 Ms S Hakim
2021- Mrs F Mohr-Hanks

LIFE MEMBERS

2018 Mr JK Buczek (# 26)
2018 Mr RF MacKenzie (# 007)
2019 Mr MW Rushton (# 003)
2021 Mr BD Binfield (# 004)
2024 Mr N Callanan-Williams (# 005)
2024 Miss A Swarup (# 006)
2024 Mr S Perry (# 007)
2024 Mr D Graham (# 008)

LEADERSHIP GROUP (JPCG HORNSBY CENTRE)

2012- Mr RF MacKenzie (Male Club Captain)
2015- Miss M Jones (Female Club Captain)
2015- Mr N Callanan-Williams
2018- Miss A Swarup
2019-23 Mr N Baker
2019- Mr M Perry
2020- Miss K Yeboah
2020- Miss P Yeboah
2022- Mr J Buczek

LEADERSHIP GROUP (WPHCCC DURAL CENTRE)

2018- Mr T Erickson
2018-21 Mr A Lezon
2018-21 Miss A Walshe
2023-24 Miss A Walshe

AMBASSADORS

2012-14 Mr C McDermott OAM
2015- Mrs D Anderson OBC
2016-22 Mr M Connell
2016- Mr E Hyde
2018- Mr A James OAM
2018- Mr B Wood OAM
2019- Mr M Gillies
2021-22 Mr R Piper
2023- Mr BJ Kimberley
2024- Mrs J Brock
2024- Ms J Davis
2024- Ms P Guild
2024- Miss E Oliveri

CENTRE COORDINATORS

Ms S Hakim (JPCG)
Miss M Jones (JPCG)
Mrs F Mohr-Hanks (WPHCCC)
Mrs K Guild (WPHCCC)
Miss A Swarup (NDCC)
Mr N Callanan-Williams (Assistant Coordinator NDCC)
The Jones Family [Nicola, Maddie, Bronte, Dominic and May (Winter Indoor Cricket)]

FIRST AID OFFICERS

Miss M Nissen
Miss M Jones
Ms S Hakim

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

Ms N Jones
Miss M Jones
Mr A Lewis
Mr R MacKenzie
Miss A Swarup

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr M Rushton (Chairperson Signatory)
Mrs K Guild (Signatory)
Ms S Hakim (Signatory)
Mr B Peterkin (Signatory)
Miss M Jones
Mr R Shivashankaran
Miss A Swarup

FOOTNOTE:

Inactive members to be included in the 2025 Roll of Honour.

Leadership Group



BlowFly Cricket's 2023/24 season has been a huge one celebrating 15 fabulous years. We recently had our 15-year anniversary dinner at Hornsby RSL Club which was a night to remember for all.

A massive congratulations goes out to Akanksha Swarup for winning club person of the year. So well deserved. It has been an honour to coach alongside such a dedicated person and an all-round champion. A big congratulations goes out to all new life members, Akanksha, Nicko and Steve Perry. Without you BlowFly Cricket would not be the club that it is today.

I would like to thank the coaches, Volunteers, and carers as well as all the players without you BlowFly would not have reached 15 incredible years.

I must also thank our mighty wheelie brave Founder, Mark Rushton and his amazing sidekick the beautiful Marnie Nissen, a big thank you for your ongoing support and friendship.

And of course, I must mention my wonderful, amazing family, my beautiful mother Nicola, her beautiful, amazing partner May, Dominic and Bronte. Without you guys in my life I would not have found BlowFly Cricket. I love you guys so much.

Of course, I must not forget our mighty brave President and best sister in the world Jordan Jones. Without your ongoing support BlowFly would not have celebrated 15 sensational years.

Thank you kindly.



Maddie Jones
Female Club Captain
CA Accredited Community Coach



Nothing much to say from me this time as I'm working harder and harder than ever before! Phew . . . that's what happens when you get older and older! Other than that, the 15th anniversary dinner was an achievement for us at BlowFly Cricket.

And the Shannons Classic held at Sydney Motorsport Park on Sunday 25 August I absolutely enjoyed so far! There was over 1800 Veteran & Classic vehicles from over 150 clubs on display and on parade, including cars, motorbikes, scooters and military vehicles, police vehicles, ambulances, and fire engines.

Oh, and one other thing is my classic mini has been fixed with a new bonnet and paint job up after a roofing tile fell onto the bonnet!



Ronnie MacKenzie

Life Member
Male Club Captain
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor's Comment:

Ronnie has been coming to BlowFly Cricket for 16 years now, having been one of our foundation members. I still remember Ronnie as an active 10yo boy who had a real passion for the game of cricket, together with raw talent and ability. Fast forward to 2025 sees Ronnie as a mature and responsible 26yo man who is a positive role model for all within the BlowFly Cricket community and beyond.

Ronnie continues to put his hand up to volunteer at most BlowFly Cricket functions.... these days showing up driving his prized classic 1998 Rover Mini Cooper. Ronnie was one of our proud club's first Life Members for his outstanding leadership skills and the example he provides to so many.

Leadership Group continued



I have been part of the BlowFly Cricket community for over 10 years and enjoyed being a BlowFly Cricket team member and a coach/coordinator.

During my time as a BlowFly Cricket coach, I have taught lots of kids between the ages of 5-12, how to play cricket, where to stand and how to throw a ball to the stumps. My favourite part about being a BlowFly Cricket coordinator/coach is seeing how much the kids learn and enjoy cricket and how much they improve. I love helping them and learn myself in return.

On Sundays, our BlowFly Cricket club plays winter cricket in Hornsby. My favourite part being part of this team is improving my skills and playing with my friends.

I have made some great friends through BlowFly Cricket. They always help me and give me advice on how I can improve my bowling. Playing BlowFly Cricket helps me gain more skills which helps with my coaching too.

On the 14th of June, our BlowFly Cricket club celebrated its 15th Anniversary. It was great fun, and I won the following awards:

- BlowFly Cricket Denise Annetts OBC Club Person of the Year shield and medal, and
- BlowFly Cricket club Life Membership.

I felt excited and lucky receiving these awards. I love playing cricket.

I had the opportunity to interview with Cricket NSW. Mark Rushton supported me with my interview, and I have been offered a casual role as a program coordinator. I am so thankful to Mark for all his support and mentoring me to learn so many skills. Above all we have so much fun at cricket.



Akanksha Swarup

Life Member
CA Accredited Representative Coach



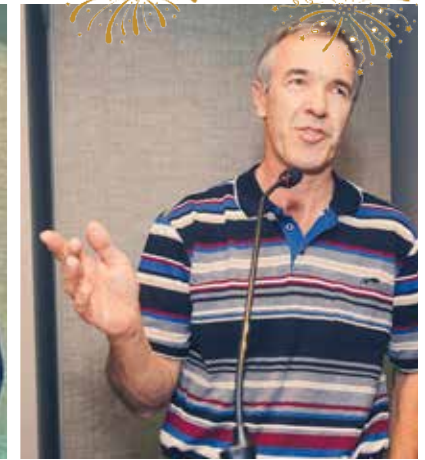
Celebrating

BlowFly Cricket's

15th Anniversary

14 June 2024





Friday 14 June was a cold and wet Winter evening, but it didn't dampen the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary for BlowFly Cricket. Our MCs for the evening, Bill Peterkin and Jared Guild did a sensational job of running the show.

There was a fantastic turnout of 150 guests, from participants, to carers, speakers, guests of honour and families and friends of BlowFly Cricket. These included, to name a few, former Mayor of Hornsby Shire, Nick Berman, Denise Annetts OBC, Daniel Anderson, and Peter Thomsett on music and entertainment.

The function room at Hornsby RSL was abuzz with excitement and looked amazing thanks to the mammoth efforts of our wonderful President, Jordan Jones.

Ronnie Mackenzie and Maddie Jones opened the evening with a light-hearted welcome, they were funny and confident in their delivery. Well done Ronnie and Maddie!

Jordan Jones gave an excellent, heart-felt speech about her time with the club as our President, as the younger sister of Maddie Jones and the impact BlowFly has had on her personally and their whole family. She then handed the microphone to Dougal Graham, our most "senior" volunteer of the club who gave us his perspective on volunteering and what BlowFly means to him.

There were awards given to the Club Person of the Year and new Life Members were announced, these awards were presented by Denise Annetts and our current Life Members.

Congratulations to Akanksha Swarup on receiving the Club Person of the Year Award. Akanksha has been contributing to the club as a player, a coach and a volunteer for many years. She is always happy and smiling and would be one of the most passionate young female cricketers we have at the club.

Congratulations also goes out to our new Life Members who were awarded this prestigious honour for their 10 years of service and ongoing commitment to our club, Nick Callanan-Williams, Akanksha Swarup and Steve Perry.



Throughout the evening, we saw videos and a slideshow, which brought back a lot of wonderful memories for so many who have been involved with BlowFly's for the past 15 years. I think there was some laughter and even a few tears during this part of the evening.

An anniversary dinner isn't complete without the fun of a silent auction and a game of chance. There were many prizes to be won and we need to thank the wonderful people who donated these prizes in order to make this part of the night a success. Thank you Kookaburra Sport, Spice Zen, Bruce Wood OAM, Jordan Jones, Mark Rushton, and Mark Fargass for the framing of the prizes.

Many thanks also go out to the team who helped make the evening a success (you know who you all are!) and to Hornsby RSL for the venue, delicious meal and wonderful service you provided on the night, both behind the scenes and on the floor.

We look forward to celebrating our 20th Anniversary in another 5 years!

Kate Guild

Secretary
CA Accredited Community Coach

BlowFly Cricket would like to thank our sponsors:





2011-2024 Honour Roll



PRESIDENT

2011-12	Mrs NJ Cooke
2012-13	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2013-14	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2014-15	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2015-16	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2016-17	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2017-18	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2018-19	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2019-20	Mrs DM MacKenzie
2020-21	Miss JA Jones
2021-22	Miss JA Jones
2022-23	Miss JA Jones
2023-24	Miss JA Jones

SECRETARY

2011-12	Ms LA Drummond
2012-13	Ms LA Drummond
2013-14	Ms LA Drummond
2014-15	Ms LA Drummond
2015-16	Ms LA Drummond
2016-17	Miss LA Cuming
2017-18	Mrs KE Guild
2018-19	Mrs KE Guild
2019-20	Mrs KE Guild
2020-21	Mrs KE Guild
2021-22	Mrs KE Guild
2022-23	Mrs KE Guild
2023-24	Mrs KE Guild

TREASURER

2011-12	Mr MW Rushton
2012-13	Mr MW Rushton
2013-14	Mr MW Rushton
2014-15	Mr MW Rushton
2015-16	Mr MW Rushton
2016-17	Mr MW Rushton
2017-18	Mr MW Rushton
2018-19	Mr MW Rushton
2019-20	Mr MW Rushton
2020-21	Mr MW Rushton
2021-22	Mr MW Rushton
2022-23	Mr MW Rushton
2023-24	Mr MW Rushton

VICE PRESIDENT

2011-12	Mr MJ Rolleston
2012-13	Mr MJ Rolleston
2013-14	Mr MJ Rolleston
2014-15	Mr P Parsons
	Mrs S Parsons
2015-16	Mr BW Peterkin
2016-17	Mr BW Peterkin
2017-18	Mr BW Peterkin
2018-19	Mr BW Peterkin
2019-20	Mr BW Peterkin
2020-21	Mr BW Peterkin
2021-22	Mr BW Peterkin
2022-23	Mr BW Peterkin
2023-24	Mr BW Peterkin

15 Year Anniversary Dinner – President's Speech



Superman is the ultimate symbol of truth, justice and hope. His story inspires belief in the good of humanity and that there are people out there willing to use their courage, care and compassion to serve others.

Christopher Reeve, superman of the 70s and 80s, played this hero's story behind cameras but lived it after a tragic accident left him paralysed from the neck down. He took his tragedy and the obstacles it created and made a miracle out of it, a foundation devoted to improving the quality of life of those with similar injuries. He said, **"A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."**

For two weeks every four years people with special needs are heroes.

They rule the world with their incredible feats of athleticism despite the obstacles that they may face. The introduction of the Paralympics challenged boundaries set by society with equality and inspiration in mind.

It's ordinary individuals finding the strength to do extraordinary things despite their circumstances. 2009. A man, his wheelchair and some particularly bushy eyebrows. But behind those eyebrows came an idea. A vision of children and adults with special needs on the big screen of the SCG hitting sixes, bowling pace and taking catches better than Ricky Ponting.

A dream was born. It took perseverance, a whole lot of patience, a pair of bats and a ball, but mostly compassion and a love for cricket. An ordinary man did an extraordinary thing.

Every single person in this room tonight is a hero. We are all ordinary people; we face obstacles daily which are overwhelming at times but what sets us apart from others is that we charge on.

Our club has reached feats beyond the dream of 2009 and we continue to grow and expand, reaching more and more people and inspiring others to join us. We, as a club, a community, a family, are redefining what it means to have a disability. We are destroying the parameters placed on disabilities in sports and making something extraordinary, and so I thank you all.

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors who enable us to provide kits, trophies and uniforms to our members. Thank you to our ambassadors and special guests for supporting and promoting our club.



Thank you to the parents, siblings, carers, and players for taking the leap to join our club. And finally, thank you to our volunteers. Our club simply couldn't run without you. You are all truly heroes.

There is one last person that I'd like to thank. I think we can all agree in saying that our Founder is the wheels of our club. From hours spent to typing out policies to tearing down shops in search of the best Christmas presents each year, our Founder never stops.

So, on behalf of all associated with BlowFly Cricket, I thank you Mark, and I congratulate you and everyone else involved in BlowFly on the impossible dream that became a reality.

Jordan Jones President
CA Accredited Community Coach



Dear all,

It is with a mix of sadness and excitement that I submit my resignation as President of BlowFly Cricket, effective upon allocation of new leadership.

I have been privileged to serve as President for the past four years, and it has been an incredible experience. During my time, we have achieved many great things, and I am proud of the progress we've made as an organisation. However, I have decided that it is time for me to step down and pursue new opportunities that align with my personal and professional goals.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your support, hard work, and dedication to BlowFly Cricket. It has been a true pleasure to work alongside such a passionate and committed team. I am grateful for the friendships and memories we've made during my time as President.

I will continue to volunteer with the organisation in other capacities, but I will be stepping down from the President's role. I am confident that the committee will continue to thrive and grow under new leadership.

In order to ensure a smooth transition, I am pleased to announce that we will be opening nominations shortly for the role of President. I believe that this is a great opportunity for new leadership to emerge and bring fresh ideas and perspectives to the role. The nomination process will be advertised through our newsletter, and all members are encouraged to participate. A vote will be held shortly after nominations close, and the new President will be announced shortly thereafter.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as President of BlowFly Cricket.

Sincerely,
Jordan Jones

Secretary's Report

I am pleased to present the Secretary's Report for the 2023/24 Summer season for our wonderful BlowFly Cricket Club. It has been a remarkable year, with minimal interruptions to play and fantastic growth of both our participants and volunteers.

Events from the season:

- Bunnings BBQs were again a huge part of our Club's fundraising and as always, we are extremely grateful to Thornleigh Bunnings for their ongoing support of BlowFly Cricket. These BBQs cannot happen without the many volunteers who give up their time to make sure they are a success, so a huge thank you to you all!
- BlowFly Cricket on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural, just finished its 6th season. Yet again we had a consistent group of between 10-14 players week in and week out and the skills of these players are developing well. There are some wonderful new players who have joined our Friday night playing group and we look forward to seeing them next season, as well as continuing our partnership with WPHCCC.

- Once again, BlowFly Cricket and the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) continued the working partnership where all donations made through the ASF for the 2023/24 season went towards developing our **"Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables"** academy. The money raised through this program is extremely helpful in assisting with the costs of training and mentoring of our new upcoming Uncoachables Coaches.
- I would like to thank all of our sponsors, because without you we would not be able to run this amazing Club and provide the equipment for our Centres, the clothing for our players and volunteers, the presents at Christmas or the BBQs we hold every week at each of the Centres. Thank you for your continued support!

Lastly, I would like to thank all our participants, supporters, family members and volunteers for their dedication and passion for cricket. Together, we have made the 2023/24 season a memorable year for our unique BlowFly Cricket Club, and I am confident that with our continued efforts, we will achieve even greater success in the future. To those participating in the indoor Winter Cricket again this year, we hope you have a wonderful season. I look forward to seeing you all again next Summer.



Kate Guild

Secretary/Director of Operations

Editor's Comment:

Kate has been a tremendous key volunteer since 2017 taking on the arduous role of Secretary/Director of Operations. I remember the first time I met Kate was at our JPCG Centre when the Guild's youngest son, Jared, came along to give BlowFly Cricket a go. I was immediately impressed by Kate's quick thinking and organisational skills. The following Saturday I broached the idea with Kate of taking on our vacant Secretary position which most pleasingly, she agreed to.

The rest is history and still today, she works tirelessly behind the scenes taking on many other duties. Kate's favourite role is the editor of our highly popular and professional newsletter.

In closing, thank you Kate for your outstanding efforts and hard work.

Treasurer's Comments

Financial Reporting

BlowFly Cricket remains classified as a Tier 2 association which is required to submit a summary of our financial affairs to the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Tier 2 associations must lodge annual financial summaries in the approved form with the Director-General, NSW Government Fair Trading, within one month after the AGM.

Tier 2 associations must ensure their financial records correctly explain their financial transactions and financial position. Tier 2 associations are those whose:

- total revenue as recorded in the income and expenditure statement (i.e., gross receipts) for a financial year is \$250,000 or less, and
- current assets are \$500,000 or less.

From the 2023–24 income year, non-charitable not-for-profits (NFP) with an active ABN need to lodge an annual return. The annual reporting requirement is designed to enhance transparency and integrity in the system, by ensuring only eligible NFPs access income tax exemption. This measure was announced by the Federal Government on 11 May 2021, with the first NFP self-review return required for the 2023–24 income year. The NFP self-review return was due by 31 October, which BlowFly Cricket complied.

Furthermore, it is now the opportune time for BlowFly Cricket to go down the path of Applying for Charity Registration with the ACNC as a Public Benevolent Institution. This will be further documented in the “2025 – Year in Review” Report.

With a continuation of astute management BlowFly Cricket continues in a strong and viable financial position. Our funding is through a number of ‘volunteer driven’ fundraising initiatives, assorted grants, donations and sponsorship including the generous support of many local businesses who have a keen and active interest in the ongoing development of BlowFly Cricket.

My sincere thanks and gratitude is extended to the following for their ongoing support of the BlowFly Cricket community: ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde)(Reena Chand), Bite Me Bakehouse (Anthony Courtney), Blitzit Plan Manager (Leane Carr), Bunnings Thornleigh, Caring Approach (Dinushi Herath & Luke Manton), Cricket Australia, Cricket NSW, Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield), Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation), McDonald's Mt Colah (Johnny Cosgrove) & McDonald's St Ives, Sommers Sports (John & Nathan Sommers), NDCC, The Centre for Volunteering, Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle and WPHCCC (Bec & Bill Peterkin and Denise & Ross Anderson).

A special word of thanks is extended to:

- Kate Guild (Director of Operations/Secretary) for your amazing levels of enthusiasm, support, tireless hard work behind the scenes and attention to detail, which continues to be second to none.
- Shabana Hakim who has taken on the arduous role of President, in the footsteps of Jordan Jones. Shabana with her delightful son, Azaan, attend most of our Centres on a regular basis and volunteer at all of our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs, and
- All of our wonderful hard-working volunteers who give up much of their time to support our cause. Our volunteers continue to be the lifeblood of BlowFly Cricket, and your individual and collective efforts are appreciated by all associated with our inclusive community.



Mark Rushton
Treasurer

Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle



Another season is over, and together with Toyota, grassroots clubs raised \$915,105 by selling 183,021 tickets. That's what you call an impressive score!

The Toyota Raffle has assisted BlowFly Cricket and clubs all around Australia to reach their fundraising goals, equipment and program upgrades. Thankyou to everyone who bought or sold tickets.

BlowFly Cricket does not want to miss out next season, so the Fundraising Committee will be registering interest in the 2025/26 Raffle, be one of the first up to bat when the Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle returns.

Ticket sellers are required so kindly register your interest by sending an email to: blowflycricket@y7mail.com

Mark Rushton
Treasurer

Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle – PRIZEWINNERS

1st Prize	Matt Harris WA	6th Prize	Michael Sweeny NSW
2nd Prize	Steve Barry NSW	7th Prize	Emanuele Chessari VIC
3rd Prize	Marcello Cardaci WA	8th Prize	Chris Appleton VIC
4th Prize	Mohamed Matt Oaten VIC	9th Prize	Caleb Web VIC
5th Prize	Joanne Loakes QLD	10th Prize	Andrew Rodway NSW

To view the full list of prize winners visit the link below:

<https://raffletix.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b664cfce609154eb9c28f4f6e&id=b067e4ceef&e=e2712bc2bb>



PHOTO CREDIT: GEORGE DAVIS



Good for Cricket

BlowFly Cricket
Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle
Final Remittance
Mid March 2025

Dear Mark

Proceeds from the Toyota Good for Footy Raffle will be remitted to all clubs mid March 2025.

The amount that was remitted was:

Amount Raised: \$1,635.00 PLUS

Anonymous Pool: \$31.43

TOTAL: \$1,666.43

If your club has not received its funds, it is because either:
Your club has not deposited its InPersonCash payments into the raffle Trust Account (or has not deposited the FULL amount)
Your club's bank account details are incorrect
In either of the above cases, please contact RaffleTix on: support@raffletix.com.au

Overall Performance

35 TRANSACTIONS ■ \$1,635.00 AMOUNT RAISED
109% TARGET: \$1,500 ■ #104 RANK

TOP TICKET SELLERS

AMOUNT SOLD	PRIZE
Boris Brownlee \$510.00	\$100.00 Bunnings Gift Card
Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen \$315.00	\$50.00 Bunnings Gift Card



Fundraising for Sport

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	END DATE	MONEY RAISED	GOAL
BlowFly Cricket 2019 Winter Season	05/05/2019	25/08/2019	\$2,928.38	\$2,500.00
<i>The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables</i>	28/02/2020	31/05/2020	\$1,546.33	\$2,000.00
BlowFly Cricket Goes To Melbourne December 2019	04/10/2019	04/02/2019	\$2,384.03	\$2,000.00
NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre	27/07/2020	27/01/2021	\$3,183.91	\$3,000.00
BlowFly Cricket Christmas 2021 Fundraiser	08/01/2021	08/12/2021	\$3,200.85	\$3,200.00
<i>The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables 2020-2024 Seasons</i>	18/08/2021	31/12/12	\$14,255.66	\$15,000.00
TOTAL DONATIONS \$27,499.16	TOTAL GRANT PAYMENT \$27,499.16		CURRENT BALANCE \$0.00	

About the Project

BlowFly Cricket actively develops our Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Coaches, firstly through the completion of the Cricket Australia Accredited Community Course (formerly Level 1).

This is followed up with ongoing mentorship and experiential learning through coaching experiences at various venues including: Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camps, programs supported by Cricket NSW.

In a number of specialised and mainstream schools, WPHCCC Schools Coaching program, Coaches' Association School Holiday Clinics and a number of Inclusive Expos facilitated by local councils and private organisations. Pleasingly, we had five (5) new CA Accredited Community Coaches join our coaching ranks in January 2024. And Akanksha Swarup successfully completed the CA Accredited Representative (formerly Level 2) Coaching Course in June, 2024.

These results augur well for the progressive nature of this unique and highly acclaimed all-abilities coaching academy. To make a tax-deductible donation to our newest ASF Project **BlowFly Cricket Future Fund**, please use the following link:

<https://asf.org.au/projects/blowfly-cricket/blowfly-cricket-future-fund>

BlowFly Cricket Fundraising Committee

Level 2 Coaching Course at Cricket Central



I am now a Level 2 Cricket Coach. I help kids learn cricket by improving cricket skills and knowledge. I have to get to know the players and make them have fun. I help improve the fundamentals of cricket – batting, bowling, catching the cricket ball and fielding. I made new friends with other coaches during the practical part of the course held at Cricket Central. I even met Josh Philippe from Sydney Sixers BBL and introduced myself to him.

I love teaching young kids and older adults playing cricket and love it. I have fun building relationships and learning what you are good at and what you need to improve. It helps improve fitness and health. Play cricket with your friends and coaches and just have fun.

Kids will understand the game of cricket, rules and experience cricket love when they grow up. Practice cricket as much as you can. It is the best way to learn as practice every day makes you perfect.

I look forward to coaching with other schools and clubs after receiving my Level 2 coaching accreditation.



Akanksha Swarup

Life Member
CA Accredited Representative Coach

Editor's Comment:

BlowFly Cricket was absolutely thrilled Akanksha Swarup completed her Cricket NSW Representative (formerly Level 2) Coaching Course. We supported Akanksha with a scholarship for the \$800.00 cost of the course.

Bill Peterkin ("Jilly") earns a special mention here as he volunteered to mentor Akanksha over the three days of the course held in Silverwater. Kudos to "Jilly" for your outstanding support

Ace Body Corporate (Ryde)



A warm round of applause and thanks goes to Reena Chand from ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde), for your ongoing support of the BlowFly Cricket community.

All associated with the BlowFly Cricket community are grateful for the ongoing support and sponsorship from Reena Chand and ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde). Reena has generously donated a further \$5,000 sponsorship for a third time which greatly assists the ongoing growth and development of our grassroots inclusive club. This amounts to \$15,000 over the past three (3) years . . . WOW.

This third round of sponsorship from Reena has been set aside for the ongoing development of our NDCC BlowFly Cricket Schools Program and the Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy as our coaches will be actively coaching at the participating schools. Thank you, Reena and ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde).



Reena Chand
Sponsor

Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy



As the Manager of the Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy, I am thrilled to report the outstanding achievements of the 2023/24 cricketing year. BlowFly Cricket has excelled at another fantastic year, with positive attendances of players and volunteers achieving fun and striving to new goals. What great news to highlight the fifteenth year. Let's make the 2024/25 season a great one!

Player development has been a priority, resulting in a more skilled and inspired atmosphere via streamlining ways of communication and participation whether it be barbecues or Saturday afternoon slogs! In further enhancing my role with BlowFly Cricket, I propose advanced leadership training in multi-purpose latitudes supporting mechanisms and training that more teaches new ways than just reacting to situations.

Increasing engagement via open mindedness, guaranteeing team skills linking to better partnerships; overall – to a stronger focus on understanding one's wellbeing and strengths and assisting others in similar paths.

These initiatives will ensure we all continue, in our ways, to providing and establishing an environment where every BlowFly Cricketer and Coach/Volunteer can reach their full potential.



Tom Casey
Manager
CA Accredited Representative
(Formerly L2) Coach

Editor's Comment:

Tom has been a popular and key volunteer for BlowFly Cricket since January 2017, attending weekly sessions at our JPCG Centre held on Saturday afternoons throughout the summer season each year.

Furthermore, Tom volunteers at most of our fundraising BBQs held at Bunnings Thornleigh and his efforts are always appreciated by other volunteers.

Tom completed his Community (formerly Level 1) Coaching qualification in March 2019 and then received a scholarship from our club to complete his Representative (formerly Level 2) Coaching qualification in June 2023. Tom continues to be a key volunteer at our club endearing himself to both members and other volunteers.

Thank you, Tom.

Bite Me Bakehouse



The bakers at **Bite Me Bakehouse** quietly prepare the day's delicious fresh baked goods on their premises. Pies, Sausage Rolls, Quiches, Toasted Sandwiches, Cakes, Pastries and more . . . all the things you could wish for in a delicious meal straight from the oven.

Choose from a variety of Coffees, Teas, Milkshakes and refreshing Cold Drinks from the fridge. Bite Me Bakehouse also offer catering for events, conferences, and parties. Call in advance to arrange your order.

Bite Me Bakehouse is an easy stop-off for breakfast, lunch, or afternoon tea. Both car and truck parking are available, with easy access from the Pacific Highway.

Bite Me Bakehouse customers continue to support BlowFly Cricket year-round through **"kick the tin"** donations in lieu of their change. This community support is second to none and allows for the ongoing development of our local grassroots inclusive club.

"We are also supported in the unwavering supply of fresh bread loaves for our weekly Saturday JPCG Centre and all of our fourth-weekly Bunnings Fundraising BBOs 'Sir Ant' also generously contributed to the costs of our 15th Anniversary Dinner."

Reviews

"Absolutely delicious meat pies, pastries and coffee on our travels."

"Great food great staff great prices"

"Baked fresh, excellent quality, great selection, and reasonable prices."

Service Options:

Dine-in · Takeaway · No delivery.

ADDRESS:

561 Pacific Hwy, Mount Colah NSW 2079

HOURS:

Monday-Friday	5.30am – 2.00pm
Saturday	6.00am – 2.00pm
Sunday	Closed

Lemonade Stand for BlowFly Cricket



When life gives you Lemons you make Lemonade

On Saturday 6 July 2024, Mahlia and Zoe volunteered their time to raise money and awareness for BlowFly Cricket. A home-made lemonade stand was set up out the front of Bite Me Bakehouse, where the wonderful Mount Colah community were generous of their support, they joyfully sipped on home-made lemonade in one hand, and a coffee and pie in the other.

Mahlia has shown a strong connection and passion for BlowFly Cricket since meeting Mark Rushton and watching the teams have so much fun playing cricket, whilst feeling a strong sense of belonging and support.

Both Mahlia and Zoe initiated the idea and were excited to plan, organise and strategise on their marketing and advertising skills.

Along with their bow-tie aprons, colourful signage, enticing display with their best ever playlist, standing strong you could hear their big hearts shouting 'come and get your lemonade and support BlowFly Cricket.' Whilst doing so, brought a new sense of awareness of this amazing charity and organisation.

With thanks to all, the girls raised \$260 for BlowFly Cricket.



Belinda Smallwood
on behalf of Mahlia and Zoe

Editors Comment:

To say I was floored when Bel, proud mum, made initial contact with me is an enormous understatement to say the least.

Bel's proposal originated from her young daughter, Mahlia and her friend, Zoe. The proposal was to set up a Lemonade Stand at Bite Me Bakehouse, Mount Colah for a busy Saturday morning.

The rest is history as this Report reveals a highly successful fundraising initiative. Well done Mahlia, Zoe and Bel on your wonderful goodwill, generosity and community minded support. All associated with BlowFly Cricket join with me in truly thanking you for your amazing efforts.

Blitzit Plan Manager



Blitzit Plan Manager proudly continues to be part of the team supporting BlowFly Cricket. We are delighted to know the funds have been allocated towards BlowFly Cricket's 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 Winter Cricket competitions with the purchase of shirts, new equipment and the hire of the magnificent NDCC indoor nets facility.

Blitzit Plan Manager is a team of dedicated professionals, passionate about delivering a quality plan management service. We provide independent and unbiased service and suggestions.

Add us to your team and discover how our easy-to-use plan management online portal, mobile app, monthly statements, tools and resources assists you to get the best out of NDIS.

Quick and easy online sign up at www.blitzit.com.au. Invoices are paid in 2 days with our fast, efficient and accurate payment service.

Our team of experts respond promptly to emails and are always ready to take your call. Get in touch hello@blitzit.com.au or call us on 1300 966 119.

In early December, Blitzit Plan Manager's staff were thrilled to receive a visit from Mark Rushton and his delightful community support worker, Suzanne Collyer armed with a memorable framed BlowFly Cricket "baggy blue" cap and photos. While not expected, we were thrilled to receive such a prized possession.

Let's chat again at the start of next season regarding how Blitzit can assist to support the team for the new winter cricket season.

Take care and I look forward to hearing from you.



Leane Carr
Blitzit Plan Manager Director



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Quick and easy online sign up at www.blitzit.com.au. Invoices are paid in 2 days with our fast, efficient and accurate payment service. Our team of experts respond promptly to emails and are always ready to take your call.

Plan Management specialists you can trust.

Add us to your team and together we will Blitz the NDIS!



1300 966 119
www.blitzit.com.au
hello@blitzit.com.au

Get in touch today!



Blitzit Plan Manager is excited to showcase our continued support for BlowFly Cricket. Blitzit has been part of the fun, at indoor sporting events, as well as attending awards nights and sponsoring the BlowFly jerseys and venue hire.

Discover more about Blowfly Cricket by contacting the team at:

blowflycricket@y7mail.com or 0401 743 747

Caring Approach 10 years



- Caring Approach is delighted to mark a significant milestone-10 years of dedicated sponsorship of the BlowFly Cricket Club. This partnership reflects our deep commitment to the local community and our passion for supporting disability events that bring joy and inclusivity to everyone involved.
- Over the past decade, our unwavering support has helped the BlowFly Cricket Club host a wide range of events and tournaments, each one a testament to the power of community and the spirit of togetherness. These events have not only provided a platform for athletes with disabilities to showcase their talents but have also fostered a strong sense of camaraderie and belonging among participants and supporters alike.
- We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mark Rushton, whose tireless efforts and exceptional organisational skills have been instrumental in the success of the BlowFly events. Mark's commitment to creating meaningful and memorable experiences for everyone involved has been truly inspiring, and we are proud to have partnered with him over these many years.
- As we celebrate this decade of collaboration, we look forward to continuing our support for the BlowFly Cricket Club and the incredible work they do in our community together, we can achieve even greater things in the years to come. There's many more events, tournaments, and moments of joy!

Editor's Comment:

Wow . . . 10 years of sponsorship is certainly an amazing milestone. I have often said to Dinushi Herath and Luke Manton that we are so indebted to Caring Approach for the continued support, interest and generous sponsorship as without it, BlowFly Cricket would not be able to achieve all that it has throughout the club's wonderful history.

And those who benefit most are our members who get the opportunity to experience many "once in a lifetime" experiences. Whether it be attending the WBBL, BBL, Twenty20 World Cup games or most recently a day-trip to the Bradman Museum in Bowral for the launch of the Unstoppables Exhibition, our members have benefited from being included in these amazing experiences.



What do we do

We provide high standards of care for the elderly, people with disabilities and assist in supporting their carers and

Social Support & Shopping:

We can assist with your outings and participation in social activities & we can do your shopping for you or we can provide companionship while you shop.

Live-in care for you:

We can provide short-term or long term live-in care for you or your loved one.

Domestic Assistance & Transport:

We can assist you with various housework duties & your transport needs to attend appointments. We endeavor to be punctual and ensure that you are supported.

Services range in duration
from 1-hour to 24-hours care.



WHO WE ARE

We are registered NDIS and My Aged Care providers across NSW and ACT. We believe our clients are the centre of everything we do.

WHERE WE ARE

Level 2, 201-205,
22 Edgeworth David Avenue,
Hornsby NSW 2077
1300 655 026 - 02 8212 5659
intakeNSW@caringapproach.com.au
www.caringapproach.com.au
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**CARING
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HOME CARE,
DISABILITY &
NURSING
SPECIALIST



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We can provide care throughout the day in the place of involving sleep-overs or night duties. We can help you with your respite needs to give you that extra support and care you deserve.

Community Nursing:

We can support your independence by providing clinical and personal nursing services in the comfort of your own home.

We provide our services in a flexible, honest, and efficient manner. We provide you with skilled caring staff to look after your needs.

McDonald's Mt Colah



McDonald's Mt Colah is proud to support and sponsor the BlowFly Cricket Organisation and the wonderful work they do every day in our community.

At McDonald's Mt Colah, we strive to support and promote an inclusivity in our food, our people and our values every time.

Come on down to McDonald's Mt Colah to enjoy our delicious, feel-good food every day from 6:00am to 10:00pm daily.



Mt Colah

513-517 Pacific Highway

Mount Colah 2079

Open Daily 6:00am – 10:00pm

Ph: 02 9476 8711

Editor's Comment:

Where Maccas came from . . . back in 1971, McDonald's opened their first Australian restaurant in Yagoona, south-west Sydney. Today there are over 1,020 McDonald's restaurants throughout Australia employing more than 110,000 people across the restaurants and management offices.

McDonald's Mt Colah have been wonderful supporters of BlowFly Cricket since 2023. Twice yearly, Johnny Cosgrove presents our club with 80 x \$10 vouchers which can be used at either the Mt Colah or St Ives store. Our members and volunteers always enjoy receiving these vouchers and heading off to redeem them at Johnny's store. The BlowFly Cricket community truly appreciate your support. Thank you Johnny and team.

Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs



How time does fly as another year of successful fundraising Bunnings BBQ requires another report. Firstly, thank you, thank you to the same faces we see during the year, the early starters, those later in the day and Mark who is there all day even just after hospital release. It is hard without you the wonderful parents, young and older BlowFly's, and our volunteers to make these days the success they are.

Having moved near the main entry again has worked in favour of all volunteer groups who use Bunnings Thornleigh. Except in torrential rain. We now have young volunteers coming from Youth 4 Difference and they have been an injection of enthusiasm and energy.

By being a volunteer at the BBQs, yes it can be busy however it is a rewarding experience sharing fun times, laughter, much chatter and encouraging community awareness of BlowFly's in a positive way.

Please consider volunteering as just an hour or two of your time would help our roster during the day.

I am happy being part of the BlowFly family.

Pat "Spud" Guild

BBQ Captain
CA Accredited Community Coach

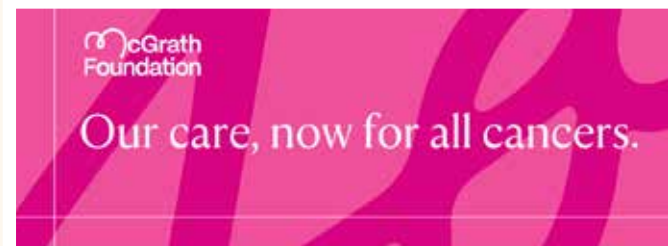
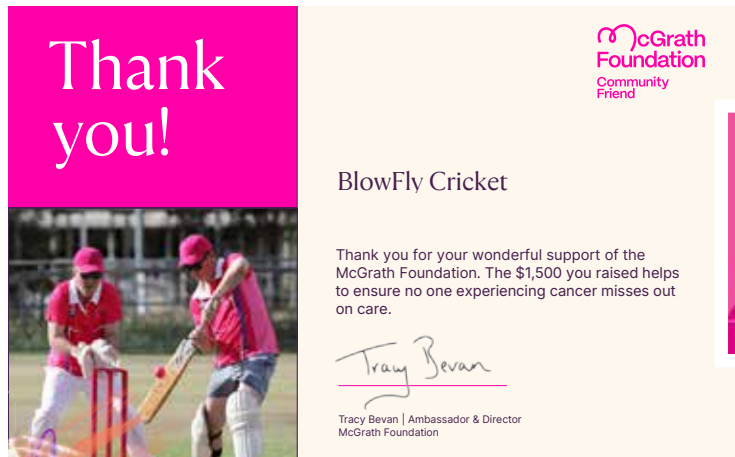
Editor's Comment:

Fourteen (14) Bunnings Thornleigh BBQ's hosted by BlowFly Cricket throughout 2024. We also had an astonishing 76 wonderful volunteers work tirelessly to ensure the success of this team fundraising activity. Our sincerest thanks is extended to our BBQ Captain "Spud" Guild and her tremendous team of volunteers.

A sincere thank you is extended to the Bunnings Management and staff for ensuring our BBQ's appear seamless on the day though always successful. Our Bunnings BBQ's are not only a good source of fundraising but also bring our team of volunteers together working as an efficient and well-oiled machine.

A final word of thanks to our customers who support us on our the respective days, we truly appreciate the kindness shown to our team of volunteers.

Supporting Our Communities



"The great challenges are not really personal challenges: How much can I do? – The great challenges are what structures can I help set in place that will alter things?"

Professor Fred Hollows (1929 – 1993), remains an extraordinary example of what just one person wanting to make a difference can achieve. Professor Hollows was renowned for his groundbreaking work in the field of eye health dedicating his life to restoring sight and transforming the lives of millions of people across the globe. He possessed an amazing resilience and the ability to inspire others with his words.

McGrath Foundation – Pink Stumps Day (PSD)

The Fundraising Committee exceeded our target by 50% raising a total of \$1,500 for this outstanding cause. BlowFly Cricket has now raised an incredible \$9,401.86 over the past seven or so seasons. The McGrath Foundation are extremely grateful for our ongoing support and hoping we will join them and go bigger and pinker than ever in the 2025/26 Season!

Online, the McGrath Foundation 'Impact' reads: "Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, our nurses have made a huge difference in the lives of those experiencing breast cancer since 2005. Around 1 in 2 people in Australia will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime, meaning the need for McGrath Cancer Care nurses is greater than ever. It's going to take more training, more fundraising, more support.

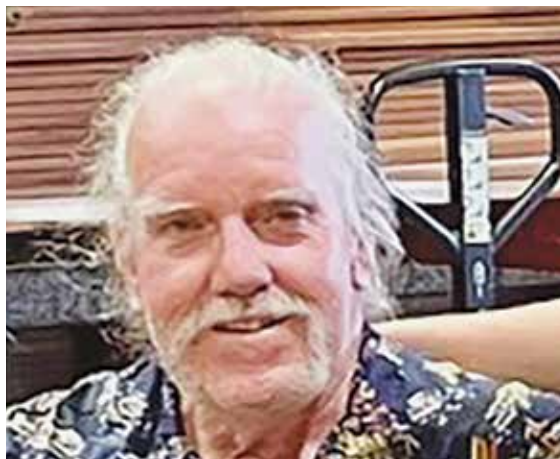
We're up to the challenge."

Movember

Men's health is in crisis. Men are dying on average 4.5 years earlier than women, and for largely preventable reasons. A growing number of men – around 10.8M globally – are facing life with a prostate cancer diagnosis.

Globally, testicular cancer is the most common cancer among young men. And across the world, one man dies by suicide every minute of every day, with males accounting for 69% of all suicides. Movember is uniquely placed to address this crisis on a global scale.

Groundbreaking projects are funded all over the world, engaging men where they are to understand what works best and accelerate change. MOVEMBER 2024 saw Club Founder Mark Rushton ditch his shaver to raise \$778 (\$14,512 since 2010) for this worthwhile cause which brings much needed attention and focus on men's health issues.



For the 2025 MOVEMBER campaign Mark will be reaching out to our community for other members, volunteers and Carers to join the BlowFly Cricket MOVEMBER team as a MoBro or a MoSis. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation during MOVEMBER please go to the link: <https://movember.com/t/pharmaceutical-amigos?mc=1>

Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)

Our friends, the Coaches' Association, continue to work in a close and supportive relationship with BlowFly Cricket. The free January coaching clinic continues to be a highlight on our calendar and is thoroughly enjoyed by all of our volunteers and members who attend on the day.

We were thrilled to remain in a position to be able to make our annual donation of \$500.00 which assists in the offsetting of costs associated with our "Uncoachable Coaches" who were employed as Assistant Coaches at the Coaches' Association School Holidays Coaching Clinics. These mainstream coaching opportunities continue to provide wonderful experiences for our members and further cements our partnership with the Coaches' Association.

Editor's Comment:

The BlowFly Cricket Fundraising Committee work in closely with our wonderful, hardworking volunteers and members to continue to raise funds each year to contribute to worthwhile causes in our communities, including the local and progressive Coaches' Association, the McGrath Foundation's Pink Stumps Day and MOVEMBER.

National Volunteer Week 2024



We are pleased to welcome you all here today, for the launch of National Volunteer Week. 2024 marks 35 years of National Volunteer Week, a week to say thank you to volunteers and shine the light on the extraordinary contributions they make to our society.

The theme of this year's National Volunteer Week is "Something For Everyone". Volunteering brings people together. It builds communities and creates a better society for everyone. National Volunteer Week is a chance for all of us to celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and to say thank you. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better.

National Volunteer Week 2024 is a celebration of our power to drive change and ensure volunteering is inclusive of all members of the Australian community. Our vision is for volunteering to be at the heart of Australian communities.

Volunteers in NSW are the lifeline of our State, imbedded into nearly every aspect of our society and culture. They service programs in health, emergency services, education, sport, welfare, housing, culture, human rights and so many other areas. The value and impact of volunteering within NSW is truly immeasurable.

The Centre for Volunteering is committed to supporting our members and the NSW community as a whole. We continue to recognise the achievements of individual volunteers and their teams through the NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards.

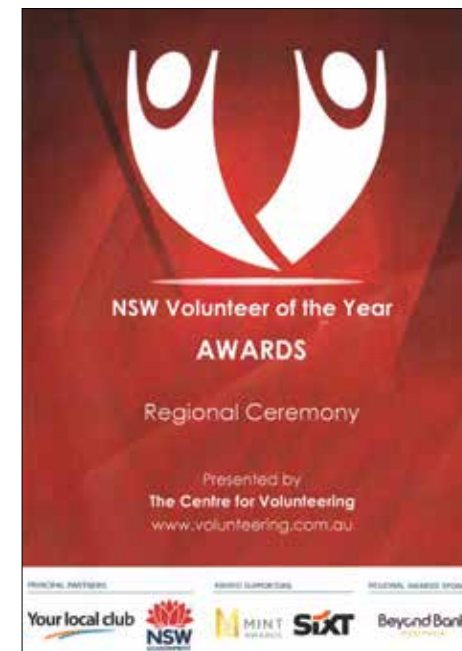
Volunteering is so uniquely Australian. Our willingness to donate our time and lend a hand is second nature, woven into the very fabric of our culture. We are absolutely delighted to facilitate and strengthen this tradition and are privileged to support this way of life – recognising the achievements of our volunteers here today amongst our peers and community.



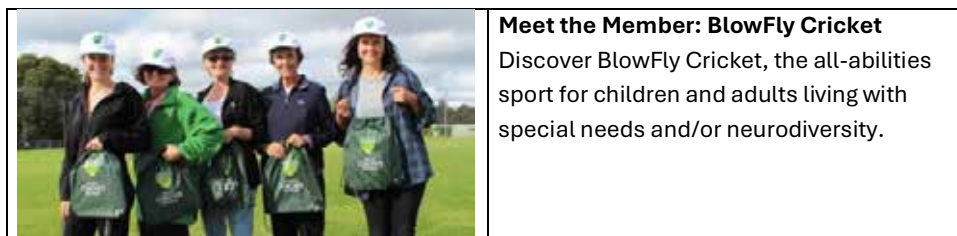
Gemma Rygate
CEO
The Centre For Volunteering



PHOTO CREDIT: Geoff Kemp ABC Sport



Changing the Game for People Living with Special Needs



Meet the Member: BlowFly Cricket
Discover BlowFly Cricket, the all-abilities sport for children and adults living with special needs and/or neurodiversity.

Socials



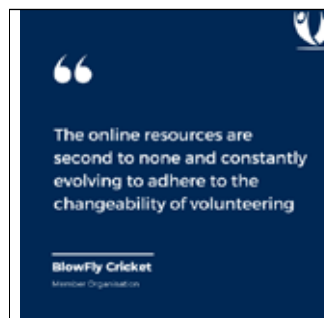
BlowFly Cricket is a grassroots organisation turning cricket into an inclusive all-abilities sport. Learn more about how they're changing the game for children and adults living with special needs and/or neurodiverse conditions: www.volunteering.com.au/meet-blowfly-cricket/



Bringing people together through a love of sports wouldn't be possible without volunteers. 150 individuals give their time as coaches, mentors and friends with BlowFly Cricket.

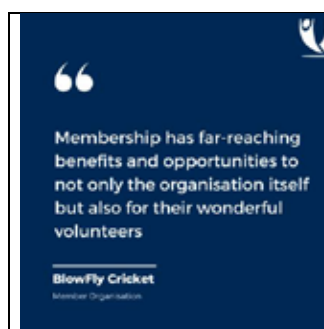
BlowFly Cricket is an inclusive all-abilities sport for children and adults living with special needs and/or neurodiverse conditions.

Learn more about BlowFly Cricket today:



Volunteer leaders provide a vital service in the community. That's why our Knowledge Base library offers free resources to simplify your day-to-day activities, so that you can focus on making a difference - like BlowFly Cricket.

Browse the Knowledge Base library today: <https://volunteering.freshdesk.com/support/home>



When you become a member of The Centre, you gain access to our full range of products and services, including networking opportunities with organisations like BlowFly Cricket.

Learn more about our member benefits: <https://www.volunteering.com.au/join-us/membership/membership-benefits/>

Blog

[Changing the game for people living with special needs with BlowFly Cricket - The Centre for Volunteering](#)

Young Volunteers



Introduction

BlowFly Cricket is an organisation that helps people living with an intellectual disability have fun, get to know each other and build up strong bonds. Hence the name, it's primarily focused around playing cricket with the sessions being held at James Henty Drive Oval, Dural on Friday evenings, as well as James Park, Hornsby on Saturday afternoons. There, friendly volunteers will setup the cricket equipment, prepare food and make sure that everyone's fine and well and having a wonderful time.

We also have monthly barbecues at Thornleigh Bunnings Warehouse where we sell sausages, drinks and sometimes tell people about who we are and what we do.

My Time and Perspective as a Volunteer

So far, I've been volunteering for BlowFly Cricket for around 2 years and my time has been incredible. To me, these are no ordinary cricket sessions and are extra special to our members as they have fun and feel great when playing, chatting with others or watching. We make sure that everyone gets to have a fair say if they need to, enjoy themselves and are all equal to each other which is why I more than agree this to be extraordinary.

As soon as I arrive, my day starts off with other members greeting me, asking how my day was and other things like that which immediately puts a smile on my face and makes me happy. The rest of the day for me usually plays out with getting to know each other's lives, what we've been up to, chatting, playing cricket excitedly and having an absolutely wonderful time.

I've also enjoyed the other experiences I've had at BlowFly Cricket such as cooking sausages on the barbecue, getting help and an inside on techniques such as bowling a ball or the strategy to bat the ball properly and using those to improve and get better over time each session.

Over time, these things have definitely helped me to grow as a volunteer and a person individually. This also influences me to always be the best person I can be, no matter what happens before. All of this is thanks to our amazing team and community who always try to do their best in making sure everyday counts and importantly, it's a good one like any other.



Blowfly Cricket's Bunnings Barbecues

Another experience that I also thoroughly enjoy as a volunteer is the Bunnings barbecues. As previously mentioned, BlowFly Cricket volunteers host and run the Thornleigh Bunnings barbecue on a monthly basis.

While there, I learn loads more valuable skills such as how to cook sausages and the correct ways to prepare orders. I also really enjoy eating the sandwiches from time to time. They also hold a raffle, where BlowFly Cricket volunteers' complimentary tickets are all put into a bag and three of them are randomly picked out by one of our members at the barbecue. The lucky winners then receive a Bunnings Gift Card to spend at their nearest location.

Conclusion

In conclusion, BlowFly Cricket is an amazing place and a pleasure to always be a part of. The memories, experience and wonderful people there will be something I will always remember and treasure.

As a volunteer, I feel really welcome there and I am also happy to make others feel the same as well, and to ensure that they're having the best fun they can. Whether it be playing cricket, talking amongst others or eating sausage sizzles, BlowFly Cricket has a little bit of something for everyone that comes there and provides an incredible long-lasting experience that will make plenty of memories for members there.



Riku Leonard

Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Young Volunteers continued



I heard my cousin Riku goes to BlowFly Cricket, I wanted to participate too and wanted to go there. I live in Japan, so I have never heard about cricket. I don't have the opportunity to interact with people with disabilities and Australians. It has been a great experience for me to have more opportunities to interact with people with disabilities.

I mainly made sausage sandwiches and offered them fruit while they played cricket. At first, I didn't feel like I was volunteering, but I felt that it's not all about helping them by being close to them, but also about helping them with what I can do. I also learned that we should not take away what they can do.

I can't speak English well, but everyone was kind and I felt comfortable. The people who came to the cricket event taught me how to play cricket and how to make sandwiches, and I was actually able to feel their help and the difference from Japan.

Through this volunteer work, I realised that it's not all about volunteering by being close to them, but also about doing what I can for them. I felt that there are still not many gatherings of people with disabilities in Japan, and I felt that Japan needs more places like this.

I'm very glad I was able to participate in the cricket volunteer work. Thank you, Mark.



Ai Kobayashi
Volunteer

Young Volunteer Report from my Perspective!



I started volunteering at BlowFly in 2018/2019, being 12 years old. My family was heavily involved, especially my older sister Maddie, who we all know LOVES cricket! Maddie has an intellectual disability which made it difficult to participate, in the beginning. She has since transformed into a social butterfly, which has made me want to provide that opportunity to others. Being able to connect and join in with Maddie has strengthened our bond. Watching her play cricket makes me extremely proud and fortunate to have BlowFly in our lives.

Volunteering brings a new purpose into my life as I enjoy helping and caring for people. At first, communication was a huge barrier for me as I avoided many social interactions.

Since becoming associated with BlowFly as a young volunteer, I feel incredibly comfortable being myself and engaging with everyone.

In early January of this year, I attended the coaching clinic run by the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) at Mark Taylor Oval, the home of our local NSW Premier Cricket club, Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC). I assisted in coaching and taught kids from ages 6 to 14 cricket skills, where I had so much fun and acquired a beneficial experience. I enjoyed being able to coach kids a sport I hold very close to my heart.

From spending five years at BlowFly, I've grown personally and increased my confidence. I have obtained roles such as schools development officer, volunteering at Bunnings BBQs and shopping for barbeque items.

I am constantly gaining valuable experiences and skills from my time at BlowFly, which are extremely beneficial as I grow up. My family and I run BlowFly's winter cricket season, where we coach, cook, and play cricket at the NDCC Indoor Cricket Centre, Mark Taylor Oval.

I'd like to mention my mother, Nicola, who travels down from the Central Coast, every Sunday to run these sessions. Without her, we wouldn't be able to have the 2024 Winter Cricket Season.



Bronte Jones
CA Accredited Community Coach

Volunteer's Report



Apologies to everyone who have to hear my dribble again, but according to Mark, he believes I'm an excellent writer . . . if only my high school English teacher could see me now!

It's been an absolute privilege to be apart of the BlowFly community as one of the many volunteers for another year. I have seen more and more of the players come out of their shells and not only develop their sporting prowess but also becoming incredible young adults who carry on the life lessons gained through BlowFly into their own communities.

To name one example out of many, Ronnie taking on the huge responsibility of being the School Crossing Supervisor for Ermington West Public School, and from what I've heard he is doing a wonderful job rain, hail or shine.

Being a part of BlowFly is an incredibly unique experience, there is no where else on earth that I would be liked and disliked on my digital radio preference. Lucky for me Triple M is Azaan approved. In all seriousness, as I make my way around the field of a Saturday afternoon, I get an insight into each players lives and I can see that every player holds the same commonality, they love cricket, but they love who they are playing it with and that is what sport is truly all about.

Despite the jeers and laughs over wickets, catches dropped and catches worthy of the KFC Classic Catch Title, big sixes that if the balls weren't plastic would surely need some panel beaters to fix the parked cars, and of course the disputes on runouts, these players have made bonds for life with their teammates.

I see this when I speak with certain players one on one where they have come to me with their triumphs outside of BlowFly, where they are so excited just to share the great news of the week with all their best friends. Nothing makes me happier to see them so proud of themselves and then to see their friends rally with pride around them. I don't think I've ever heard a negative or jealous comment, which as many would know, seldom exists in the world outside of BlowFly.

BlowFly has created a community based around mateship and sets the bar for any team in any sport or league for how team and its support crews should be.



I believe Nic put it best, simply “I’m playing with my best friends, how could it get any better” and it’s this and only this that keeps all of us volunteers official and unofficial coming back year after year, because Nic couldn’t be more right.



James Partridge
Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor’s Comment:

James has been volunteering with our inclusive club for three (3) years and what a wonderful young man he is. James has put his hand up for many roles within the club, whether it be supportive-coaching at our JPCG Centre, one-off Coaching Clinics at Centennial Park and Darling Harbour (Sydney) and many Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBOs. James with his caring, supportive nature has endeared himself to many of our members and volunteers . . . becoming a ‘friend’ to many.

I still recall James first making contact with me in 2022, expressing his desire to volunteer with BlowFly Cricket as he wanted to “ . . . give something back to the cricket community which has given me so much over the years” To say I jumped at his kind expression of interest is an enormous understatement as I had known James and his family since he was playing representative cricket for HKHDCA as a 13yo playing Gee Shield under the guidance of the team’s coach, Bruce Wood OAM. Bruce is also a volunteer at BlowFly Cricket and is a key Ambassador for our club.

Back to James . . . all associated with our inclusive all-abilities community are absolutely thrilled with having you as one of our wonderful volunteers. You are a friend to so many and we all appreciate the time you are able to spare to volunteer.

Thank you James as you are a true gentleman of the game held high in esteem by so many.

Volunteers Perspective



Elysa's love and her enjoyment in playing cricket and then a discussion with Daniel Anderson in 2021 was the start of our BlowFly volunteering journey.

In November 2023, Elysa was awarded the Australian Institute of Sport, Sport Volunteer of the Year award and when Elysa was asked what advice she would offer to those wanting to get involved in volunteering in sport. "Just do it, because anyone can get involved in volunteering in any role in any sport, even if you think you can't be on the field you can still be behind the scenes working hard and helping to bring everything out onto the field".

Elysa has volunteered as a BlowFly Cricket coach, whereas I volunteer my time to help raise funds at the regular Bunnings Thornleigh BBQs. Being a BlowFly volunteer and being a part of the BlowFly community is very rewarding knowing funds raised will help to bring fun and enjoyment to all BlowFly cricket club players. Over the past 12 months, Elysa's brother Ethan began his volunteer journey. Ethan, like his sister enjoys playing cricket and is enjoying helping and learning the importance of how volunteering can make a massive positive difference to the BlowFly Cricket community. Elysa, Ethan and I, look forward to continuing to volunteer with BlowFly Cricket and to help make a difference.

The mouse that roared . . . Ethan, one of the youngest volunteers. Quote from Elysa in 2022.

Elysa was the brainchild behind the Public Schools Program that was run at Asquith Public School in 2023 and is due to be run again as an 8-week Program in 2024.

Jack Oliveri

CA Accredited Community Coach

Elysa Oliveri

CA Accredited Representative Coach

Ethan Oliveri

Enthusiastic Volunteer

A Parent's Perspective!



What can I say but BlowFly Cricket rocks!!! And Mark Rushton as our fearless leader is the rockstar.

Chris has been attending BlowFly for quite some years now and it never ceases to amaze me how dedicated the Leadership team and host of volunteers are.

From being there for Summer Cricket, Winter Cricket and many Bunnings BBQ days everyone works tirelessly to provide an amazing, open, comfortable and supportive environment for all participants.

On days of Cricket, Chris is dressed by 6am with his cricket bag at the front door raring to go. He loves going and playing the game but also the social interactions he gets with his cricketing friends.

It's a real family outside of his family. Chris talks with pride and joy about his BlowFly Cricket to anyone who will listen.

Mark ensures the participants are given every opportunity to excel and learn more – through various coaching clinics and coaching opportunities.

Just recently Chris was given the opportunity to take part in paid coaching activities with West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC) at West Pennant Hills Public School (WPPS) off the back of receiving his coaching accreditation. One day per week for four weeks he attended WPPS with a great bunch of mentors and worked with the kids in cricket skills and fun.

It gave him a sense of self worth and pride to be able to not only participate in an activity he enjoys (cricket and socialising) but also the bonus of being paid.

BLOWFLY is a BLAST!!!!



Nikki 'Naughty' Nicholls
Parent

A Parents Perspective! continued



Nic has just completed his second season of Winter cricket with BlowFly Cricket and is getting ready to start his second Summer season.

Nic comes from a cricketing family and has always been keen to play however finding the right peer group to compete with had been tricky. We had been getting him the odd pickup game and having some net sessions, but this wasn't providing the consistency or skill level that Nic needed to develop.

Nic proactively approached the President of Castle Hill CC to discuss how he could get more involved and playing. Castle Hill didn't have a program that suited but were very keen to help find a place for Nic.

After some research they suggested BlowFly Cricket and put us in touch with Mark. From that moment everything moved very quickly, from understanding the history and scope of BlowFly to Nic having his first session. Everyone was so welcoming, and I still remember us tearing up after Nic's first session when he said, "I think I've found my people and place".

Over the past two years, Nic has not looked back, and we now compare notes on how we went at each game. Nic, as a typical cricketer is harder on his own performances than those around him and I'm always reminding him that sport is fun.

Nic delights in the coaching program and likes to discuss what he worked on at each session and who he worked with. This has not only improved his cricketing skills but his learning and development as a person and his interactions with others.

We couldn't be prouder of Nic and more grateful to the wonderful volunteers at BlowFly Cricket.



Warwick Stinson
A proud Dad

Congrats Warwick Stinson (Nic's Dad)



So, some 19 years ago Jacob at 8 years old comes to me and says "Dad, I want to play cricket". So, we sign him up for kanga cricket and I learn to coach cricket.

Nine years after that (maths may or may not be accurate) Jake says "Dad, I'm finished juniors, why don't you play seniors with me?" So, I start in a fathers/son D grade team having never played cricket before. I'm a basketballer with no known cross over of skills.

Fast forward to now, 10 years later, and I receive this – "Congratulations on being selected to Represent Veterans cricket NSW in the upcoming over 50's National Championships"

Wow what a ride and so much more to come. With the NSW City v Country match being cancelled due to rain, I'm so excited to have a crack at the next level of representative cricket without ever really seeing this journey happen."

Editor's Comment:

Wow... what an amazing rise to glory for Warwick Stinson. I was fortunate to play Masters Cricket for HKHDCA for a number of years leading up to my spinal cord injury. The competitive standard was high providing many opportunities playing against talented and experienced cricketers. Every game was always testing although a fun experience as none of us could move as quickly as our former "glory years".

And then you see Warwick's story being a "late bloomer" . . . to think some 10 years ago, he had never played cricket and today is gaining representative selection at state level.

All associated with the BlowFly Cricket community join with me in congratulating you on your selection and we look forward to your regular updates on Facebook. Well done Warwick Stinson as you are indeed a champion amongst champions.

2023 International Day of Persons with Disabilities



The Centre for Volunteering proudly supports the global celebrations for the United Nations' 2023 International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This year, the theme of "United in action to rescue and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for, with and by persons with disabilities" speaks to the importance of including persons with disabilities at all levels.

People of all abilities are motivated to get involved when it comes to giving back to the community. Our 2023 State of Volunteering Report revealed that volunteering is the largest workforce in the state, and it's important that we enable everyone to participate.

Organisations like BlowFly Cricket are a great example of how fostering inclusion and accessibility within your organisation can do the same for the broader community.

We spoke to volunteer, Julie Davis, to share her experiences:

"I left the workforce at 65...After 2 weeks, I was bored and decided I would become a volunteer and do something positive" – Julie Davis

When long-time volunteer, Julie Davis, retired, she sought volunteering as a meaningful way to spend the time. After reaching out to her local community centre, she found a role at Mary Macs, cooking and assisting homeless people with lunches.

One year later, Julie Davis was volunteering with BlowFly Cricket Australia, the all-abilities sport that transforms the beloved Aussie pastime into a rewarding experience for the whole community.

For 2023 International Volunteer Day, we're celebrating Julie Davis' story.

"I was amazed at the diversity of volunteering work . . . [At Mary Macs], I met the loveliest volunteers and homeless people".



Julie Davis

Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Observations



I feel privileged to once again be asked to pen a few words for the BlowFly Cricket Annual Report on this, the 15th year anniversary. What an outstanding achievement.

I can distinctly recall 15 years ago when Mark Rushton engineered the initiative to start up the BlowFly Cricket conception encouraging those with a disability to become actively engaged in an inclusive environment to promote physical endeavour.

A program to encourage disadvantaged people with an opportunity to grow in confidence and participate in activity that stimulates both mind and body.

Looking back over this period of time to have seen the organisation grow and prosper to where it sits in today's society is a testament to all concerned and should leave everyone with a great sense of pride.

It has been remarkable to witness firsthand what the organisation has achieved in promoting both physical and mental growth plus personal development for those with a disability. Inclusivity is the key word.

The community owes BlowFly a great debt of gratitude for the fortitude the commitment and the endeavour to all participants within the organisation.

Having been associated with Mark's dream from the outset I for one am most proud of all the achievements to date and look forward to seeing the continued growth and development for all involved in the years ahead.

Take a bow one and all.



Noel Moig
NDCC Life Member

Observations continued



Observations and Comments from Dougal Graham

Another season has now gone by, and everyone would agree it has been yet another very successful one for BlowFly Cricket.

As I pen my thoughts and as we rapidly approach BlowFly's 15th anniversary dinner I wonder whether Mark, when he came up with the concept of BlowFly Cricket, would have dared to dream that this organisation would have continued for so long and be the extraordinary success it is today.

Thinking about our club, with the eyes of a volunteer, I have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the ongoing success of BlowFly, and its uniqueness comes from a combination of two factors.

On one side, and of course most importantly, is the wonderful group of young participants who have grown to know that their club is their club and their special home where they can participate jointly in an all inclusive very happy and friendly way and continue to improve their skill levels well above their anticipated potential. They wear their BlowFly uniforms with great pride, knowing it is their club, where they can enjoy each other's company to the fullest.

The second factor, which compliments the above is the group of volunteers to combine to make the weekly events, be they cricket or fundraising days, run smoothly where we can only experience both pleasure and seeing the very positive response from our young participants.

I believe I speak for all volunteers, no matter what form their involvement takes in saying what a privilege and pleasure it is to be able to participate in a way which guarantees the ongoing success of our club. I should, at this point, also give thanks to our sponsors, who should never be forgotten for their assistance in making the club financially viable. You are much appreciated!

I don't know, with age catching up on me that I will be around to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the club! But certainly, I hope to be around next year to be able to continue to make some small contribution in a practical way.



In conclusion, on behalf of everyone may I say well done, Mark! You are truly inspirational to all! You must be very proud of what you have achieved. And of the very high love and esteem in which you are held by players and volunteers alike.



Dougal Graham
Volunteer

Editor's Comment:

Dougal gains immense satisfaction and a sense of self-fulfilment from making a positive impact in helping other people. Furthermore, it continues to inspire him to greater deeds when he sees the BlowFly Cricketers developing in confidence and improved self-esteem by learning new skills and taking on more key roles within our inclusive all-abilities club.

These new skills and roles are often outside the respective individual's expectations. Club Founder, Mark Rushton openly says Dougal's extraordinary voluntary efforts and dedication are second to none having an impression on all he meets.

This then inspires volunteers of all ages onto bigger and better things to support the progressive nature and ongoing development of our unique club.

Dougal states "at age 90 I feel extremely blessed to have been involved and to still be able to continue to participate at Saturday barbecues, some Bunnings fundraising barbecues and, in the past 4-5 years fundraising, involving the collection of bottles and cans on a weekly basis from several clubs in my area, for recycling which I feel has produced a worthwhile financial contribution for BlowFly Cricket." Dougal's selfless volunteering efforts certainly meets the criteria of a champion amongst champions.

James is off the Market Ladies



Mark has asked me to give a little update about a recent life event of mine.

It occurred on the 19 August at Balmoral Beach, I made the decision to retire from my innings as a bachelor by asking Ashliegh Fullick to marry me. She luckily said YES. Which was an absolute relief as hidden away in the background of the Bathers Pavilion unbeknown to Ashliegh, I had gathered both our extended families to spy and celebrate the big moment.

Ash and I had been dating for close to 2 years at that point and a lot has changed since our first encounter where she accused me of stalking, which was a simple misunderstanding.

Where on the way home from our first meeting I just happened to follow her all the way to her place. It sounds creepy but funnily enough we had been living on the same street only three houses between us for a number of years and at that point had managed to be completely unaware of each other's existence. So, from potential stalker to Fiancée, we have come a long way.

It was a beautiful evening with both families being present to join in on the celebrations. I had a photographer there to capture the moment and Mark has asked for some snaps which I'm more than happy to provide.

Some of you who attended last year's NZ vs AUS T20 would have met Ash, and through Azaan's Gestapo interrogation techniques learnt quite a bit about her, including her choice of radio station, Triple M, which gained Azaan's immediate approval.

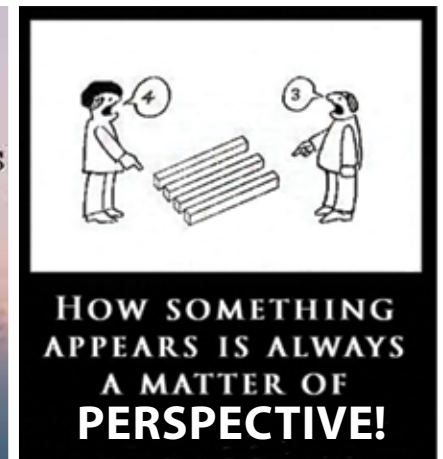
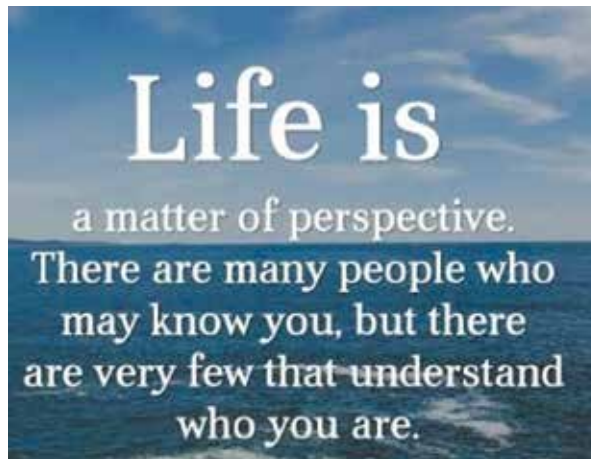
Needless to say, wedding planning has been in full swing, and I've taken the role of clueless but enthusiastic Groom to be.



James Partridge

Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Through a Carer's Eyes



Why is it that Perspective & Inclusion work hand and hand in the BlowFly Community?

Hello all, my name is Cathy Clark and I frequently partake in supporting clients at BlowFly or generally just love lending a hand to this wonderful community wherever I can.

I'm generally not lost for words, but putting pen to paper and trying to become a "wordsmith" truly scares me to death, but Mark Rushton has asked me to put something together so here I am. I have also attached a few famous "Perspective sayings" that rings true in our Blowies Community.

My background has me being involved in many sports, jobs, development, heads of sport, businesses including my own, volunteering, being a player, coach, representative, raising money, umpire, teaching and many other bits and pieces. My favourite of all is really being a Support/Care worker, both in disabilities and aged care. Blowies is a community that allows everyone to use their own perspectives to be themselves, and get to know others in their own ways, with **NO JUDGEMENT**. It truly is such a nurturing environment for everyone.

We are all so different, but alike in many ways. No one ever leaves Blowies feeling hollow or misunderstood! You are all made to feel equally important no matter how you contribute. All of us are from different walks of life and ages, have differing goals, as well as differing values, but we all respect, understand and support each others individual needs.

Each person is an important Cog that helps turn the wheel, which fits into place, no matter how small or big a part you play. You do not walk away from here without wanting to come back for more.

There are no expectations of anyone, no need for many rules, there is just a learned respect and understanding we all have for each other as individuals, it's just so welcoming and warm.

Such a pleasure to be involved and give back to a sport that I love to play.



Cath Clark
BlowFly Carer

Volunteers Register

“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves” HELEN KELLER

The BlowFly Cricket Management Committee strongly supports and recognises the value of volunteering throughout our community. We maintain strong relationships with the Upper North Shore Volunteer Hub, The Centre for Volunteering and Volunteering Australia. We are truly grateful for the hard work and support from our wonderful volunteers. Thank you everyone of you.

Denise Anderson OBC	Michael Croasdale	Connor Hindmarch	Abigail Li	Blake Noorbergen	Kirsty Smith
Darlene Apps	Margaret Cropper	Caitlyn Ho	Ken Long	Sullivan O'Brien	Phil Smith
Nanna Audrey	Belana Dasic *	Petah Hobson	Olivia MacJohn	Elysa Oliveri	Uncle Snake
Christian Azize	George Davis	Zac Huynh	Davina MacKenzie	Ethan Oliveri	Craig Stubbs
Keith Baker	Julie Davis	Azaan Husain	Ronnie MacKenzie LM	Jack Oliveri	Aditya Swarup
Andy Bayles	Marion Day *	Errol Hyde	Luke Manton	Lena Parsons	Akanksha Swarup LM
Anthony Beard	Peter Deck	Saoai Julie Iata *	Amir Marashian	James Partridge	Preeti Swarup
Hannah Beard	Rishon Devi *	Aya Iwabuchi	Cameron Marashian	Amanda Perry	Riya Swarup
Jayant Bhoopalan	Sousan Ehteshami	Rie Iwabuchi	Darian Marashian	Mark Perry	David Tanna
Brian Binfield LM	Kerry Enoka *	Alf James OAM	Kiahna Marashian	Steve Perry LM	Lisa Tao *
Varunee 'Bun'	Teanu Enoka *	Bim Jayaweera	Ryan Marashian	Bill Peterkin	Emily Temby *
Boonmetavesub *	Liza Fairburn *	Bronte Jones	Tina 'Fakhri' Marashian	Rory 'Super-Rory' Piper	Isaac Thakkar
Jan Brock	Jiayi Fang	Dominic Jones	Marie Markwick *	Russell Piper *	Catana Tolkien *
Jock Brock	Keith Fone	Jordan Jones	Cassidy Martin	Shaynal Prakash *	Akiko Tomita
Kate Brock	Anne Fulton	Maddie Jones	Liam Masters	Brendan Price	Losatisa "Rose" Tumata *
Corey Brookhouse	Alex Furner *	Nicola Jones	Somali McQuiggin	Massimo Price	Peter Verduin
Valeria Buccheri	Preeti Ganesh	Isolde Kamerman	Haley Melilli *	Julia Quigg *	Sandy Wall
Courtney Buczek	Michael 'Bazza' Gillies	Rebecca Kildea *	Andrew Miedler	Nathan Reid	Bruce Wood OAM
Jacob Buczek LM	Dougal Graham LM	Bruce Kimberley OAM	Josh Miller	Patrick Reynolds *	Stephanie Wood *
Jason Buczek	Maureen Graham	Reggie King *	Nasim Sadat Mohammadi	Jann Rose	Hannah Yap
Karen Buczek	Nicole Green *	Ai Kobayashi	Dierk Mohr	Sean Rose	Kakra Yeboah
Brad Caldwell	Alan Guild	Sav Labuschagne	Traute Mohr	Mark Rushton	Penni Yeboah
Gabriel Callanan	Damien Guild	Morwenna Landers	Fiona Mohr-Hanks	Lydia Scott *	Marcus Yeo
Nick Callanan-Williams LM	Jared Guild	Harry Langford	Noel Moig	EMI Shichinohe	Sam Yin
May Carpenter	Kate Guild	Lisa Langford	Lachlan Morris	Helen Schyvens	Stefan Zaknic
Keith Carter	Pat 'Spud' Guild	Mike Langford	Kate Muirhead *	Nishkala Shivashankaran	Bob Zhu
Tom Casey	Ben Gussey	Zoe Lee	Simione Nawawabalavu *	Rishi Shivashankaran	
Reena Chand	Shabana Hakim	Riku Leonard	Thuy Nguyen	Shankar Shivashankaran	* Support Care Worker
Dani Chivers	Robbie Hanks	Aaron Lewis	Chris Nicholls	Maddie Shortte	
Cathy Clark *	William Hanks	Deb Lewis	Nikki Nicholls	Cecelia Silk *	
Ivana Copo *	Nan Hartland *	Irish Lewis	Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen	Bel Smallwood	
Mel Cosgrove *	Dinushi Herath	Kevin Lewis	Marnie Nissen	Mahlia Smallwood	
Anthony Courtney	Kiara Hill *	Tara Lewis	Paul Nissen	Gabrielle Smith	

Fifteen Years and Going Strong!!



Thought it but, a pipe dream, then,
back, fifteen years, ago.
BlowFly Cricket's stood, the test, of time
Each year, we watch it grow!

From those earliest times, yep, times were tough!
We just took it, bit by bit.
Won the trust, of those, who started off.
Watched them grow, with every hit!

Fast forward now, those fifteen years.
You just wouldn't recognise,
those cricketers today, who come and play.
Sense of belonging, in their eyes.

Their journeys, deemed monumental!
Awkwardness, now replaced, by strength.
In a nurtured way, they now display,
leadership skills - their growth, immense!

Too many names, of those who've served,
BlowFly Cricket, in these fifteen years,
but one, it stands, above them all.
Let's give, three rousing, cheers,
for a guy who drives a wheelchair
oft' known, as Roller Boy.
Mark Rushton's dream, it's stood, the test of time.
To many lives, you've brought, such joy!

Happy Fifteenth birthday, BlowFly Cricket.
Looking forward to many more!
And, to those who've helped, in the journey,
there's a proudness, for all, to share!



Mick Adams
Supporter

JPCG Centre – Coach's Report



Well, another season of summer cricket has drawn to a close. It's been a pleasure once again to watch the team members' social development and confidence grow.

These young people leave me astounded with their ability to just "get on with it" and play the brand of cricket they enjoy. More and more, they take on different responsibilities in the running of the sessions.

It's amazing how much they all look forward to coming along to play BlowFly Cricket. It was fabulous to see some of the team impart their skills and knowledge onto other kids with challenges at the Coffs Harbour Coaching Session.

Congratulations to Maddie and Ronnie for their leadership and also the new members of the leadership group. I almost feel like a permanent spectator now.

A special congratulations to Tom Casey, who completed his Cricket Australia Accredited Representative (Level 2) Coaching Course.

I'm looking forward to another action-packed season of BlowFly Cricket!!



Steve Perry

Coach
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor's Comment:

Steve Perry first brought his son, Mark along to our JPCG Centre in the 2012/13 season. I can still recall the image as if it was only yesterday when Steve spoke to me with tears welling in his eyes saying "... how happy I am that I have found a team where Mark can play and where he will fit in and be accepted ..."

Steve's initial involvement was as a helping parent in the field keeping Mark in order and assisting in managing our 'runners'. In the 2016/17 season Steve took on the JPCG Club Coach basing his coaching style on a Fun and Enjoy model. Even now Steve remains humble and modest when discussing the growth and development of our members both individually and collectively "... it's not hard as our members love coming and are in anticipation as they can't wait to get there ..."

Thank you, Steve, as you are a true gentleman of the game.

WPHCC James Henty Reserve



West Pennant Hills
Cherrybrook
Cricket Club



It was great to again spend balmy summer evenings playing cricket with only the occasional wet weather cancellation. This season formalised our new rules for a faster and more competitive game (defined boundaries, compulsory hit and run, set batting order and the same number of hits for each player).

We now have an official scoresheet that records fours, sixes and outs (caught, bowled or run out) and the top players each night in each category get a special mention resulting in fierce competition for the top spots.

The boundaries have been progressively enlarged over the summer, to avoid a ridiculous number of sixes. The players responded to the new challenge with massive hits, which broke bats and bounced off cars in the car park.

We welcomed Nathaniel and Ashaz as regulars, both of whom give 110% and push themselves to the limit. Congratulations to David who stepped up into a coaching/player role. His patience and caring approach when teaching others is commendable.

Last, but definitely not least, the thank-yous for putting in the extra mile all season:

- Shabana - for manning the BBQ again, the sausage sandwiches are a winner for Friday dinner.
- Kate, Alan and Keith – for being official photographer, player wranglers, adjudicators and cheer squad.



Fiona Hanks

Centre Coordinator
CA Accredited Community Coach

Winter Cricket Season



We love our Sunday afternoons at Cricket in the winter months. Rain, hail or shine our Blowies are in the net honing their skills to prepare for their upcoming summer season.

The NDCC Indoor Nets Centre at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara is a state-of-the-art facility where local clubs and up and coming cricketers train, so our people are in great company practising batting and bowling. We have a regular crew who come along each week to practise as well as a group of volunteers who use their experience to help our players develop their skills.

I would like to thank the volunteers and carers who help us out with the Sausage Sizzle every week, a great reward for the hard work our players put in. We look forward to seeing how our winter crew's skills will shine in our summer games this coming Summer Season.



Nicola Jones
Winter Cricket Coordinator

Editor's Comment:

All associated with our BlowFly Cricket community join with me in thanking our "favourite family" for their amazing volunteering efforts since the inception of our Winter Cricket program some five years ago.

To Nicola, May, Jordan, Maddie, Bronte and Dom . . . thank you to each and every one of you for your outstanding contributions.

Denise Annetts Club Person of the Year



Inaugural Winner:

Congratulations to Akanksha Swarup who was the worthy inaugural winner of our club's highest award. Akanksha is a popular, keen and active member of the BlowFly Cricket community.

When considered for this award, Akanksha certainly ticked all the boxes for the strict criteria, including:

- Akanksha is a positive role model and inspirational member of our community. Akanksha volunteers her time freely and goes above and beyond what is expected from any member of our club.

- Akanksha supports all members and volunteers of the BlowFly Cricket club and community.
- Akanksha is a keen cricketer who attends 99% of the club's functions, centres and many coaching clinics in her desire to become the complete cricketer.

Award History:

The BlowFly Cricket Management Committee of the 2023/2024 Season inaugurated the Denise Annetts Club Person of the Year award.

The Denise Annetts Club Person of the Year Award is awarded and presented annually to a BlowFly Cricket individual (player, official, family member, supporter or volunteer), in recognition of performing above and beyond the call of duty normally required of a member of our inclusive all-abilities community.

This person has been considered to have made the most significant contribution to the health, welfare and improvement of the club and its members and exhibits attributes in inspiring others and keeping with the BlowFly Cricket Vision, Mission Statement and Code of Conduct.

Summary

In closing, congratulations Akanksha as you are definitely a champion amongst champions. All associated with the BlowFly Cricket community join together in congratulating you on your outstanding efforts, motivation and commitment to your game. You are a worthy recipient of this highly esteemed award.

Coffs Kids Enjoy All-Abilities Coaching Clinic



EVERYONE should have the chance to experience the thrill of playing sport. And Sydney's BlowFly Cricket Club have provided this opportunity for a group of Coffs Coast children, with the club traveling to host an all-abilities coaching clinic at Bray Street Oval.

A group of seven children aged between 6 and 13 took part in the clinic, with the three girls and four boys from the organisation Coffs Kids in Motion. Having never played cricket before, by the end of the afternoon they simply could not get enough of the sport.

BlowFly Cricket Club founder Mark Rushton said it was a special moment for the kids to take part in the clinic. "It was an amazing experience for them," he said.

"Through this clinic, we not only helped the children play and love cricket, but also helped them be more independent and responsible and created social interaction opportunities for them."

The all-abilities programs at the Sydney club were started by Mark a few years ago to prove a point. He was told once that people with disabilities were 'uncoachable' to play sport and coach sport, and he set out to prove them wrong with his **'Coach the Uncoachables'** program.

The program is an officially recognised Level 1 coaching course for people living with a disability so that they can be accredited and therefore earn money through coaching. Cricket NSW's North Coast Cricket Manager, Kate Jackson arranged for equipment kits and giveaway Woolworths Cricket Blast showbags that the children were thrilled to receive.

The children were also given engraved 'Blowflies' medals from the club, which were a hit too, and nicely topped off the afternoon's activities.

Cricket NSW is looking to create more all abilities programs across the state and will use the expertise from existing programs like BlowFly Cricket. Julie Stafford, Female Engagement and D&I Manager, Cricket NSW, praised BlowFly Cricket Club's commitment to providing all-abilities coaching clinics. "Cricket is a sport for all, and we love the expertise and guidance the BlowFly Cricket Club coaches bring to our all-abilities programs," she said,

"We are looking to roll out new Cricket NSW all-abilities programs this season in new locations."

Aiden Burgess
Reporter - News of the Area

Coffs Bowled Over by Uncoachable Coaches



The Uncoachable Coaches have become sporting heroes on the Coffs Coast after their recent school holiday tour.

Specialist Paediatric Physiotherapist, Kay Joseph, of Coffs Kids in Motion, has long seen the need to run group physical activity sessions for children with additional needs. When Exercise Physiologist, Alex Bruggisser, joined her team, it gave her the opportunity to fulfill this dream.

Coffs Kids in Motion now run sport-specific group sessions each school holidays. With Summer approaching, Alex suggested Cricket might now be appropriate.

Kay initially had some reservations about how Cricket drills and skills could be adapted to suit the kids she works with but gave Alex the thumbs up to pursue the idea.

It didn't take Alex long to find out about BlowFly Cricket and connect with Mark Rushton. When she rang to pick his brain about resources, she was overwhelmed and thrilled when he offered to bring coaches up to Coffs to run a session. On the day, power chairs, support workers and parents were left for dead as the Uncoachables enthusiastically introduced a group of 7 kids to Cricket. Throwing, bowling, batting and teamwork were the order of the day with a game and medal ceremony the highlight that finished things off! It wasn't only the development of cricket skills that made this such an incredible experience for these kids!

As well as a taste for the sport, therapeutically there were remarkable advances in social skills, trust and relationship development which several weeks later, are still evident! Hopefully we are pre-skilling some kids so that they can one day integrate into community-based cricket.

We hope the tour was just as rewarding for the Uncoachables and that with our powers combined (and the spoils of the Big Banana), that we can continue this affiliation!

Alexandra Bruggisser

Exercise Physiologist with special interest in Paediatrics
Coffs Kids in Motion

The Sony Camp 2024



SHORE



Pymble Ladies' College

Thank you for your generous support of Sony Camp 2024.

Our campers had a great time and their parents received some much needed respite.

Our Year 12 students from Shore and Pymble were amazing! They persevered when things were tough, found strength when they didn't think they could find it, were patient when they felt frustrated and always put the needs of their camper before their own, demonstrating resilience, courage and kindness.

They protected and nurtured our campers, whilst creating an atmosphere of fun and festivity. What remarkable young people we have.

In addition we had over 100 teachers, ex students, parents and members of the community provide support during the camp and many more since fundraising began. This support has come in the form of donations and fundraising contributions, volunteering and medical support.

It was simply a huge community effort and the outcomes of the camp could not have been achieved without the sum of all parts.

In gratitude we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with family and friends, warmest regards.

The Sony Camp



SONY CAMP Year 11 student volunteers from Shore and @pymblelc have trained throughout the year, learning the essential skills required for caring for a child with a disability such as dressing, eating and brushing teeth. These essential skills were put into practice on the first week of holidays as PLC hosted a four-day Camp in partnership with @sonyfoundation.

The Sony Camp is a truly special respite programme where our volunteers care for children with special needs, giving their families a well-deserved break. The week was filled with laughter, fun activities, and the creation of lasting friendships and memories for both campers and volunteers.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone who contributed their time and effort to make this Camp such a success, particularly those Shore community members who so generously donated to the funding of hampers for the enjoyment of camper's families.

Shore had the responsibility and privilege of putting together these thoughtful hampers, which are always warmly received and deeply appreciated.
#shorecommunity #shoreyear11 #itsashorething

Shore School (Facebook 18/12/2024)



SHORE



Pymble Ladies' College

Youth 4 Difference



What is Youth 4 Difference?

Youth 4 Difference ('Y4D') is a youth-led organisation that helps organise volunteering events and programs for high-schoolers. Our aim is to give back to the community while building social connections and inspiring positive social change.

At Youth 4 Difference, we believe that young people have the power to make a difference in their communities. We provide opportunities for young people to volunteer their time and skills, and we work with local organisations and charities to identify areas where our volunteers can make the biggest impact.

What we do

We offer a range of volunteering opportunities, mostly consisting of one-off events with no prior experience required, and are accessible to everyone.

This includes events like:

- Beach cleanups
- Fun runs
- Tree and native vegetation plantings
- BBQ and other fundraisers (eg at Bunnings)

We do our best to organise events outside of exam seasons, and on weekends where you are able to come. Our aim is to make volunteering as easy as possible.

We are also looking to promote social justice and community service programs for Sydney youth! Please contact us if you'd like a promotion.

Why you should join

- Make friends with people from other schools
- Feel good about giving back
- Add this experience, and social contribution, to your resume and other program applications
- Last but not least, have fun!

We are also working with schools to be able to log Y4D for community service hours in programs such as:

▪ **Duke of Edinburgh**

Knox Grammar School, North Sydney Girls.

▪ **IB Creativity, Activity, Service**

Please let us know if you'd like us to reach out to your school to accept Y4D as well.



How you can join

Please fill out our registration form at Y4D Sign Up and Registration.

Once you have filled out this email, we will add you to the mailing list so we can notify you of future events – there is no obligation to come to future events once you’ve signed up (though we’d definitely love to have you). Contact us at the methods listed below:

ayouth4difference@gmail.com

or

instagram at [@youth.4.difference](https://www.instagram.com/youth.4.difference).

Editor's Comment:

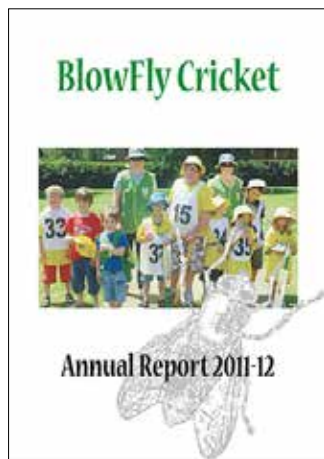
2024 Upper North Shore Young Volunteer of the Year: Jiayi Fang from Turramurra.

Recognising Outstanding Volunteering.

The NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards celebrate the work of thousands of individuals and volunteer teams from a diverse range of organisations across the state.

Jiayi is a volunteer Youth Changemaker with Kids Giving Back, where she helps prepare meals for the homeless and assembles care packs. She supports local clubs such as BlowFly Cricket through Youth 4 Difference fundraisers and supports Clean Up Australia Day, her school's Environment Committee, and Ku-ring-gai Council's Bushcare program.

Club Ambassador Comments



I'd like to congratulate BlowFly Cricket on completing 15 wonderful years of activity. It is a wonderful thing to see so many players thoroughly enjoying the game. It is remarkable how the group has grown since Mark Rushton started it at Claude Cameron Grove, Wahroonga. Mark, of course, brought a lot of "cred" to the venture as he had become an "incomplete paraplegic" as a result of a healthcare accident. As a past president of the HK&HDCA and a player in the Shires Competition he had a lot of useful contacts, including people in local government.

The organization is particularly well run by highly competent people and accredited coaches. Its Annual Reports are professionally produced and give a great summary of each season whilst the regular Newsletter produced by Kate Guild keep everyone informed. The last number contained the Winter Program for this season on Sunday afternoons at the new MTO indoor nets. What a great way to maintain continuity for the players.

Your success has deservedly been rewarded by long-term sponsors and Government grants.

Forty years ago, an O/40 competition was created in Sydney and eight regional areas in the country.

This has now progressed to O/50, O/60, O/70 and now O/75 competitions. The playing rules have been progressively modified to cater for physical deterioration. When we get to O/80 we will be faced with problems like dementia, wheelchairs and nursing homes. Hopefully, there will be a body like BlowFly Cricket to keep us going!

With very best wishes for the future.



Alfred James OAM
Ambassador

Cricket – New South Wales



BlowFly Cricket Club has been a trailblazer in promoting cricket as a sport for all. Through proactive interaction and promotion within the community, you have changed the way people think about inclusivity in sport. Your initiatives have demonstrated that cricket can be enjoyed by all, regardless of physical or intellectual abilities. This inclusive philosophy has had a profound impact, encouraging other clubs to follow in your footsteps and work towards making cricket the most inclusive sport in NSW.

As we celebrate this milestone, it is important to acknowledge the pioneering role BlowFly Cricket has played. Your vision and dedication have laid the foundation for a more inclusive sporting culture. Cricket NSW is proud to support and celebrate BlowFly Cricket Club, and we look forward to seeing more clubs embrace this inclusive spirit.

Together, we can ensure that cricket remains a sport that welcomes and supports all players, creating a community where everyone can thrive and enjoy the game.

Congratulations to BlowFly Cricket Club on your 15th anniversary. It has been a pleasure to be involved in your journey and I am confident that the legacy of the Club will continue to shape the future of inclusive sports in NSW for years to come.



Daniel Anderson
Area Manager – Sydney North

Editor's Comment:

Daniel Anderson (DA) is a kind and supportive gentleman who has embraced the BlowFly Cricket community for many years. For this, all associated with our club are grateful and truly appreciative of his unwavering support.

Daniel has always been approachable and prepared to offer his ear to my "many phone calls or emails" in relation to a myriad of ideas relevant to inclusive cricket. Some ideas have been good ones intermingled with ideas that haven't been so good . . . such is life.

Thank you DA and Cricket NSW.

Cricket – New South Wales continued



The 2023/24 season saw remarkable progress on multiple fronts with record breaking participation, diversity and inclusion initiatives and a genuine increase for the love of playing cricket statewide. NSW once again led the nation in 5–12-year-old participation with over 56,000 children registered to play cricket this season. We are proudly tracking to achieve the organisation's 'Widely Important Goal' of 80,000 by the end of season 2025/26.

Entering my inaugural season as the Sydney North-West Cricket Manager, I had heard wonderful things about BlowFly Cricket, yet my expectations were still exceeded. The vision that individuals like Mark, Jordan and the countless volunteers have is invaluable.

BlowFly Cricket epitomises the phrase "Cricket is more than a game" because the club provides opportunities and a place of belonging for anybody and everybody.

Among the highlights of this season, The Mark Taylor Oval Indoor facility was stated the national winner of the Indoor Facility of the Year in the Cricket Australia Community Awards. BlowFly have been in great partnership with NDCC hosting the inclusion centre at Mark Taylor Oval with access to their state-of-the-art facilities. A fantastic environment to boast the coaching prowess from the "Uncoachables" academy. The Hornsby & Hills District Cricket Association kicked off their Stage 1 Girls' competition with great success. We hosted 9 teams with over 70 girls playing cricket and were the state winners of the Women and Girls Initiative award.

Additionally, Kissing Point's Naveen Sivanathan was the state winner of the Young Leader of the Year. He joined a prestigious list of previous BlowFly recipients in Elysa Oliveri, Jordan Jones and Danielle Chivers.

The Impact of BlowFly Cricket now extends beyond Sydney. BlowFly coaches Jordan Jones, Penni Yeboah, Maddie Jones, Kakra Yeboah and Mark teamed up with "Coffs Kids in Motion" hosting a coaching clinic in Coffs Harbour last year. What a brilliant initiative to expand the opportunities of playing cricket to those living with a disability who may face geographical barriers.



As BlowFly Cricket Club marks its 15th anniversary, it is a moment to celebrate your remarkable achievements and commend your unwavering dedication to making cricket a sport for all. Over the past decade and a half, BlowFly Cricket has not only provided a platform for individuals with disabilities to engage in the sport but has also significantly changed perceptions and inspired a broader movement towards inclusivity in cricket across New South Wales.

A cornerstone of BlowFly Cricket's success lies in the tireless efforts of their amazing volunteers. Mark Rushton and Jordan Jones, along with many other dedicated individuals, have been the heartbeat of the club over a long period of time. Their commitment to creating a welcoming and supportive environment has enabled countless players to experience the joy and camaraderie of cricket.

BlowFly Cricket's volunteers embody the spirit of community and inclusivity that BlowFly Cricket champions.

Since BlowFly Cricket visited Cricket NSW head office a few years ago, there has been a significant increase in the number of children with disabilities participating in cricket. This growth has been bolstered by the support from the Woolworths Cricket Fund, which has provided essential resources to make the sport more accessible. BlowFly Cricket's efforts have not only created more opportunities for young players but have also inspired a wave of investment towards programs dedicated to supporting people with disabilities across NSW.

Lastly, the efforts of the BlowFly community within their suit of offerings in the NDCC Inclusion Centre, WPHCCC Centre, JPCG Centre, Uncoachables Academy and Winter Cricket Centre is tremendous. Thank you for providing these incredible services to your surrounding communities and inspiring everyone to love and play cricket.



Jacob O'Sullivan
Cricket NSW

Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC)



Northern District CC (NDCC) is delighted to be associated with BlowFly Cricket and very pleased to contribute to this Annual Report. This is an auspicious Annual Report, marking 15 years of BlowFly Cricket. We congratulate the entire BlowFly team for their work in creating a remarkable community service organisation. NDCC is based at Mark Taylor Oval in Waitara and was established in 1925 by the local cricket community.

It is the northernmost of the twenty clubs that form the Sydney Cricket Association and develop players to represent New South Wales (NSW) and its T20 franchises Sydney Thunder and Sydney Sixers.

NDCC is the club of former international players such as Mark Taylor, Peter Taylor, Brad Haddin, Adam Gilchrist and Neil Harvey and currently has Nathan Lyon and Stella Campbell in the playing ranks.

The Club has five male open teams and two female open teams. It also plays in female U18 (Brewer Shield) and U15 competitions, and male U16 (AW Green Shield) and U21 (Poidevin-Gray Shield) competitions.

Since BlowFly was created, NDCC and BlowFly have had a close and mutually beneficial association. It's been a true delight to have insight into the formation and growth of BlowFly Cricket. NDCC gives credit to Mark Rushton for his work in creating the BlowFly organisation and his strong commitment to its growth.

Since those early years there have been a number of other incredible contributors, organising, coaching, barbequing! Jordan Jones, Brian Binfield, Marnie Nissen, Kate Guild, and many others! The focus has always been on the players and making fulfilling experiences for them. That cricket has been the thread that binds is a wonderful thing for our game as it continues to evolve.

In 2019, our two organisations created the NDCC Inclusion Centre at Mark Taylor Oval. This was an important step and preceded the work at Mark Taylor Oval to redevelop it as a hub for cricket in Sydney's north. That work continues but an important piece of the puzzle is already in place with the wonderful indoor centre, used and loved by the BlowFly players.



The ground has been rebuilt and is beginning to be used again for high level cricket after three years without use. The final piece is a clubroom which will serve as a multipurpose room for meetings of all descriptions. All up the precinct will become a wonderful addition to the local cricket community.

In closing, I congratulate everyone who has been part of the BlowFly journey – and wish them well for further growth – and good times – in the years ahead.



Jeremy Hook
President, NDCC

Editor's Comment:

BlowFly Cricket is absolutely thrilled for the acceptance and support NDCC offer our community. It is a wonderful partnership which benefits both parties in many ways. BlowFly Cricket is thrilled with the availability and usage of the world-class NDCC Indoor Nets which is always an exciting experience for our members and volunteers.

Thank you "Team NDCC" for all that you do to support our inclusive all-abilities club as we appreciate it. We look forward to our ongoing relationship for the next 15 years.

The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) Report



The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) is proud to have been associated with BlowFly Cricket for the past 13 years through the provision of free coaching sessions at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara and other venues; collaboration at a senior level on strategies to enhance All Abilities cricket; and Bruce Wood regularly volunteering at the Blowies' fund-raising BBQs at Bunnings Warehouse, Thornleigh.

BlowFly Cricket proudly celebrated its 15th Anniversary at a Gala Dinner with 150 guests at Hornsby RSL on Friday, 14 June 2024. Bruce Wood attended on behalf of the Coaches' Association.

BlowFly Cricket is a wonderful organisation led by Mark Rushton (Founder/Treasurer) and Jordan Jones (President), that provides children and adults with neurodiverse conditions and/or special needs the opportunity to play a hybrid form of All Abilities cricket, participate in entry-level coaching, and form social connections in the community. The Blowies run multiple programs throughout summer and winter in which players and volunteers engage in batting, bowling and fielding activities and social games.

BlowFly Cricket was formed in 2009 when Mark Rushton had an inspired vision that all children with special needs deserve the opportunity to enjoy cricket and improve their eye / hand co-ordination and confidence by learning new skills and interacting with other children and families in a supportive, sporting environment.

HKHDCCA held a free coaching session for BlowFly Cricket in the MTO Indoor Centre on 24 January 2024 (see group photo). The HKHDCCA coaches who helped the Blowies at this session were Bruce Wood and Connor Hindmarch.

A total of 25 HKHDCCA coaches have guided the Blowies at our free coaching sessions since 2011-12, including Bruce Wood, Jamie McEvoy, Connor Hindmarch, Aaron Crofts, Nick Miller, Daniel Wood, Josh Miller, Joe Hiley, Cooper Davenport, Daniel Anderson, Braden Cheng, Tom Felton, Dani Chivers, Dylan Bish, Nathan Middleton, Justin Epthorp, Will Fiedler, John Anderson, James Madden, Ryan Swain, Jack Nati, Andrew Harvey, Utkarsh Somaiya, Elysa Oliveri & Alec Silins.



The modified coaching techniques that need to be adopted have proved to be a valuable learning tool for HKHDCCA's coaches.

BlowFly Cricket continues to provide benchmark programs for its members, including the highly acclaimed "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" program. This unique all-ability program enables suitable BlowFly cricketers to attend a modified Community (Level 1) coaching course to gain a formal accreditation, which they use to coach at the Blowflies' various programs, and where suitable, at the HKHDCCA school holiday cricket clinics.

This experience and exposure to an expanding number of BlowFly Cricket coaches helps them to develop increased levels of self-esteem, self-confidence and communication skills, as well as some monetary payments for their efforts. Josh Miller (Secretary, Coaches' Association) facilitated a modified Community (Level 1) accredited coaching course for BlowFly Cricket at MTO, Waitara on 12 January 2024.

The Coaches' Association has engaged some Blowfly cricketers as Assistant Coaches at the school holiday (mainstream) junior cricket clinics for the past 3 years, which have been partially funded by annual donations of \$500 from BlowFly Cricket to HKHDCCA. Akanksha Swarup, David Tanna, Ronnie MacKenzie, Bronte and Dominic Jones from BlowFly Cricket were given the opportunity to help out as Assistant Coaches at the HKHDCCA school holiday cricket clinics in 2023-24.

The Coaches' Association wishes BlowFly Cricket well on its exciting journey, which is benefiting so many children and adults with neurodiverse conditions and or special needs.



Bruce G. Wood OAM
President
Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)

HK&HDCA Report



I extend sincere thanks on behalf of the Association to all volunteers who dedicated their time and effort throughout the 2023/24 season. Your invaluable contributions enabled cricketers to enjoy their beloved sport, positively impacting both their physical and mental wellbeing.

Throughout this 2023/24 season, the Hornsby Kuring-gai and the Hills District Association (HK&HDCA) has continued to focus on developing girl's cricket. The All Girls Master Blasters Programs have continued with the success we had in 2023 and now the girls who complete those programs have a pathway to progress to Stage 1 (under 11) competition cricket.

HK&HDCA won the Cricket NSW Winner of the Women and Girls Initiative for 2024, receiving a special commendation from Cricket Australia for that initiative. Congratulations to everyone who helped make it such a remarkable success. Girls and Women's cricket is fundamental to our plans for inclusivity, ensuring everyone can play the great game of cricket, no matter their gender.

As HK&HDCA approach our centenary milestone, our strategic initiatives are the important next steps for and critical to our enduring strength. Our top three initiatives are:

1. Club Strength: Enhancing pathways for junior and senior players to ensure a high standard A-grade competition.

2. Girls' Cricket: Establishing and expanding our girls' competition across multiple stages by 2028.
3. Volunteer Development: Streamlining processes to optimise the invaluable time of our dedicated volunteers.

Once again, thank you to all the dedicated volunteers of BlowFly cricket for helping make your 2023/24 season a wonderful success.



Scott Reid

Executive Officer HK&HDCA

Spreading Hope, One Cape at a Time



In 2014, Rory Piper created his alter ego Super-Rory to keep his day-to-day ICT Support role separate to his volunteer role for The Sony Ignatian Children's Holiday Camp at Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview.

The Sony Camp is a four day respite camp for children aged between 5 – 15 with special needs and disabilities which he was involved in as a Superhero as well as IT & Media Team Leader for the student media team. Since then, Super-Rory has done six Sony Camps as well as assisted in fundraising through Sydney City2Surf and raised over \$20,000 AUD for the Sony Foundation to support these camps.

In 2024, marking the ten years since Super-Rory was created, he has been trying to find more special projects and causes to be involved in helping support.

Including working with BlowFly Cricket which he met the founder Mark Rushton through Sony Camp annual conferences in 2016.

Kind regards



SUPER-RORY

Spreading Hope, One Cape At A Time

To find out more:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/super-rory/>
or <https://www.superrory.com/>

Attention All LinkedIn Members:

Super-Rory has put together a new LinkedIn Company page for us to post content and advertise more for our sponsors.

If you would like to follow and connect, please go to the following link:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/blow-fly-cricket/>

We are a Gold Medal Good Sports Club



Just letting everyone know we are now a Gold Medal Good Sports club. That means we are ahead of the pack when it comes to being a healthy, safe, inclusive club to play cricket at.

What is Good Sports?

Good Sports is Australia's largest and longest running health initiative in community sports. A free program for all Australian clubs, Good Sports aims to build stronger communities by championing positive change and helping to create safe and family friendly clubs that thrive.

Gold Medal Accreditation

Being a Gold Medal member means we have supportive, effective policies and action plans in place around:

- Alcohol practices
- Licensing requirements
- Promotion
- Tobacco management
- Illegal drugs
- Mental Health
- Safe transport
- Supporting junior members



The Benefits

We're a proud Gold Medal Good Sports club! The Good Sports program:

- Makes our club stronger by reducing risky drinking and creating a healthy club environment
- Brings in members, volunteers and sponsors who are attracted to our strong organisation, community spirit and family-friendly values
- Gives us free access to program staff, tools and resources to make our club the best place it can be
- Helps us comply with legal requirements

Help spread the word

The more people know and understand about our Good Sports Gold Medal accreditation, the better it is for our club. Take a look at the Good Sports website and tell your friends. Goodsports.com.au

General Principles

A risk management approach will be taken in planning events and activities involving the sale, supply or consumption of alcohol. Such events and activities will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with liquor licensing legislation and this policy. Alcohol use can lead to risk taking, unsafe, unacceptable and/or illegal behaviour. Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be an excuse for unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy or any other policy of the club.

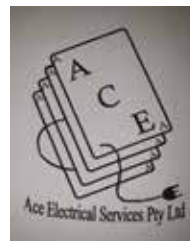
Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Visit: www.goodsports.com.au for information regarding the Good Sports program.

Business Partnerships

BlowFly Cricket is extremely grateful for the support and good will of our business partners

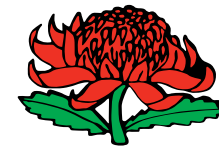




CRICKET NSW



Founded 1925



**West Pennant Hills
Cherrybrook
Cricket Club
Est. 1930**



We are a Good Sports club



INSPIRING A HEALTHIER SPORTING NATION



**GRASSROOTS
CRICKET FUND**

Blowfly Cricket Coaches
Proudly sponsored by



The Clever Curtain



**HORNSBY
RSL CLUB**



CLUBMAP

Founder's Closing Comments



Above Akanksha our newly elected Life Member and inaugural winner of BlowFly Cricket's **Denise Annetts Club Person of the Year** award, enjoying the celebrations at our club's momentous 15th Anniversary Dinner held in June at the Hornsby RSL Club.

"I love teaching young kids and older adults playing cricket and love it. I have fun building relationships and learning what you are good at and what you need to improve. It helps improve fitness and health. Play cricket with your friends and coaches and just have fun." AKANKSHA SWARUP

Wow . . . 15 years!!! From our humble beginnings originating from a chat with a mate whilst sitting on a sandstone boulder overlooking a pond. The chat went something like this " . . . I can see it now, all these kids with autism running onto the SCG in the lunch break of the Test Match in front of 40,000 people . . . "

Fast forward to where we are positioned today sees an astonishing achievement in itself. The fact that we are still around as a standalone inclusive all-abilities club is nothing short of amazing. To accomplish this has not been by accident, as early in the piece I recall many conversations about how we can remain viable, survive and where we were headed. Not only did we need acceptance and support from the cricket and sporting community, but it was paramount to our longevity and success to have the support of the local community, both residents and businesses alike. Yes, the local community was the clincher and remains to be today.

"Where are we headed" was an interesting comment repeated many times to me early in the piece which I often heard myself saying words to the effect of "I'm not too sure but maybe it's best we all sit back and enjoy the ride and see where it takes us" Moving on to the past 18 months, well it has been another significant chapter in our wonderful history. Many, many amazing moments including a spectacular and emotional charged 15th Anniversary Dinner. Though I am sure many would agree, perhaps I spoke a little too long once given control of the microphone.

We have become more focused on a couple of volunteering paradigms, including:

- Our inclusive volunteering program encouraging all of our members to take on significant and meaningful volunteering roles within their own club, BlowFly Cricket.
- Younger volunteers, who are the future of our club. Like all community sporting organisations, our longevity and success will be measured by our ability to attract young volunteers who will have fresh ideas, different skill sets and the ability to be running our inclusive all-ability club for decades to come.

My most sincere thanks and gratitude is extended to every single volunteer who ensures the viability of our club. I am in debt to you all as I truly appreciate all that you have done and continue do to ensure our members lives are truly enriched.

Which leads onto recognising our four newest Life Members. At our 15th Anniversary Dinner, the following were honoured with Life Membership: Akanksha Swarup, Nick Callanan-Williams, Steve Perry and Dougal Graham (October), our oldest though tireless volunteer. Life Membership is the highest honour to be bestowed upon any individual within our community. We are in awe of these people for their outstanding contributions and efforts.

Mark Rushton PLV
CA Accredited Representative Coach

New Life Members



Nick Callanan-Williams

"Nicko" is an extremely friendly and sociable young man who continues to be a shining light and positive role model for our members and volunteers. Nicko's roles include being a senior member at the following: Summer Centres (x 3) and Winter Indoor Cricket. Over the years Nicko has also volunteered at several Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs and the Inclusive Schools Program. Nicko has a tremendous passion for the game, is always friendly and takes on the important role of "meeting and greeting" wherever he is.

Congratulations Nicko!



Steve Perry

Words escape me when one considers the amount of volunteering our JPCG Centre Club Coach, Steve has carried out over the past 12 years. For the first few years Steve took on an assistant coach role, though for the past 7-8 years he has been the Centre Coach at our largest summer centre.

Always with a smile on his face, Steve assists all of our members and volunteers so no one feels left out.

Congratulations Steve!



Dougal Graham

Dougal is our oldest volunteer, being a spritely 90 years of age. This man has the kindest heart and is always up for a yarn or two for anyone who he engages with. Dougal is a regular at our JPCG Centre during the Summer Season where he mans the hot BBQ plates in all weather conditions. He is a regular at all of our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs and Night Markets.

Dougal also continues to collect vast numbers of cans and bottles for our Return and Earn fundraising initiative with his tally at a staggering 94,586 items (\$9,458.60).

Congratulations Dougal!



Akanksha Swarup

Akanksha, the "Miss Cricket" of BlowFly Cricket remains actively involved in all aspects of BlowFly Cricket. Her roles include being a senior member and a positive role model at our: Summer Centres (x 3), Winter Indoor Cricket, Sony Foundation Children's Camps, one-off Coaching Clinics and the NDCC Inclusive Schools Program.

Akanksha continues to take on an increasing number of important roles in our club and is a positive role model for members and volunteers.

Congratulations Akanksha!

Friends of BlowFly Cricket Register



ACE Body Corporate Management
(Ryde) (Reena Chand)
ACE Electrical Services (Boris Brownlee)
Mick & Shirley Adams
All Seasons Trophies
Daniel Anderson (CNSW Area Manager
– Sydney North)
Denise & Ross Anderson
Anglomoil
Antenna Whisperer (Ross Allen)
Asquith Public School
Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)
Bite Me Bakehouse (Anthony Courtney)
Blitzit Plan Manager (Leane Carr)
Jan & Jock Brock
Jason & Karen Buczek (Buczek family)
Bunnings Warehouse Thornleigh
Caring Approach (Dinushi Herath &
Luke Manton)
Gary & Christa Cleary

Lyn Cleary & Mick Saliwon
CLUBMAP
Club Turrumurra
Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)
Doug Connely
Country Wide Environmental & Hygiene
Consultants
Cricket Australia
Cricket NSW
George Davis
Keith Fone
Naomi & Adam Gale (Gale family)
Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield)
Good Sports
Gordon Golf Club
Grassroots Cricket Fund
Timena & Stan Grace
Dougal & Maureen Graham
Pat 'Spud' Guild
Shabana Hakam & Azaan Husain

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Community College
Hornsby RSL Club
Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation)
HKHDCA
HKHDCCA
Errol Hyde
Nicola Jones (Jones family)
Kookaburra Sport (Cameron Eve)
Ku-ring-gai Council
Ku-ring-gai High School
Legends Under Glass (Mark Fargass)
McDonald's Mount Colah (Johnny
Cosgrove)
MLC School
Nanna Audrey & Uncle Snake
NDCC
Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen
Barry Nissen
Marnie Nissen
NSW Office of Sport

James Partridge
PCYC Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai
Play by the Rules (PBTR)
Pymble Ladie's College
Cameron & Skye Rushton
Mark Rushton
Shore School
Shore School OBU
Sommers Sports
St Gabriel's School
St Ives Wahroonga CC
Studio ARTES
The Centre for Volunteering
Thornleigh CC
Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle
Veri Shades
Volunteering Australia
WPHCCC
Youth 4 Difference

A Special Thank You to Julie Davis



People of all abilities are motivated to get involved when it comes to giving back to the community and Julie Davis is one such person, saying . . .

“I left the workforce at 65...After 2 weeks, I was bored and decided I would become a volunteer and do something positive”

Initially finding a role at Mary Macs, cooking and assisting homeless people, was one year later volunteering at BlowFly Cricket, becoming a respected and integral part of the team.

Julie, “Spud” Guild, Jan Brock and Elysa Oliveri have now joined the rank of Ambassador in recognition of their outstanding support of our community.

Mark Rushton





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