

BlowFly Cricket Annual Report 2021-22



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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.

RIGHT:

Artwork by Rheanna Lotter. Description: The rainbow serpent with the blue circles represent the past, present and future players, while the browns are the values of Cricket NSW and the acknowledgment of Aboriginal land.

COVER:

Photo Credit: Baulkham Hills High School

Commentary: A very proud parent sharing a wonderful moment with her daughter on receiving her 2021 Premier's Challenge award. It is certainly inspiring to see many of our Blowflies receiving important awards during their respective school years and beyond.



Management Committee and Roll of Honour



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
*Member Protection
Information Officer*



Fiona Hanks
Associate Member



Shabana Hakim
Associate Member

PRESIDENTS

2012-13 Mrs NJ Cooke
2013-20 Mrs DM MacKenzie
2020- Miss JA Jones

VICE-PRESIDENTS

2012-14 Mr MJ Rolleston
2014-15 Mr P Parsons
Mrs S Parsons
2015- Mr BW Peterkin

SECRETARIES/DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

2012-15 Ms LA Drummond
2015-16 Miss LA Cuming
2017- Mrs KE Guild

TREASURERS

2012- Mr MW Rushton

MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (MPIO)

2021- Mr K Lewis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2012- Mr AR Bayles
2012- Mr BD Binfield
2012- Mr BR Gussey
2013-18 Mrs MA Allman
2021- Mrs NA Jones

COACHING CONSULTANT

2015- Mr CJ Stubbs

ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2018-19 Mrs MA Allman
2019- Miss M Jones
2019- Mr RF MacKenzie
2019- Miss A Swarup
2020- Miss M Shortte
2020- 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)

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

LEADERSHIP GROUP CONT

2019- Mr N Baker
2019- Mr M Perry
2020- Miss K Yeboah
2020- Miss P Yeboah

LEADERSHIP GROUP (WPHCC DURAL CENTRE)

2018- Mr T Erickson *(Cpt)*
2018-21 Mr A Lezon
2018-21 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
2019- Mr M Gillies
2021-22 Mr R Piper

CENTRE COORDINATORS

Miss M Jones (JPCG)
Miss A Swarup (JPCG)
Mrs R Peterkin (WPHCC)
Mr M Kinchington (WPHCC)

CENTRE COORDINATORS CONT

The Jones Family [Nicola, Maddie, Jordan, Bronte and Dominic
(Winter Indoor Cricket)
Miss Aya Iwabuchi (NDCC Centre)

FIRST AID OFFICERS

Miss M Nissen
Miss M Jones

CLOTHING COMMITTEE

Mrs N Jones
Miss M Jones
Mr M Rushton
Miss A Swarup

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr MW Rushton *(Chairperson Signatory)*
Mrs KE Guild *(Signatory)*
Miss J Jones *(Signatory)*
Mr BW Peterkin *(Signatory)*
Miss M Jones
Miss A Swarup

President's Report



First we saw intense bushfires that swept more than 10 million hectares of land, then a global pandemic that we are still fighting today, severe flooding, a complete change of government and now ice-cold, torrential winds. It really seems like we have had almost everything under the sun thrown at us which got me thinking, why us? Why did we have to experience fires, floods, severe weather and our fair share of the global pandemic?

The answer came to me almost instantly: because we are resilient. No matter what is thrown at us, we deal with it. We find ways around obstacles and solutions to problems that seem unsolvable. At BlowFly Cricket, each player, volunteer, sibling, parent and carer has shown me this same resilience.

No matter your level of ability, knowledge of cricket or coordination, each and every member has had a go. For that, I congratulate all of you for your determination, resilience and ability to just have a go.

Unfortunately, I missed a few weeks of our WPHCCC James Henty and James Park sessions, along with our NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre for 5-12 year olds as I had a bit of knee surgery on both of my knees. It was a lengthy recovery process but the inspiration I felt from our players at BlowFly Cricket really helped me push through.

The weeks I did see at our summer sessions were awesome! Our captains and coaches really took charge with running the centres and allocated batters and managed their time in bat and directed the bowlers. We have our new roll-out pitch for James Park stored safe and sound in the equipment shed ready to be used for next season which is very exciting!

Well done to our BlowFly coaches and a big thank you to the NDCC Women coaches for taking on the role of running the centre and activities. Thank you also to Daniel Anderson and Aya Iwabuchi for getting the centre sorted and set up for the coaches at BlowFly and NDCC to ensure a smooth start up and running of the centre.

We were lucky enough to have had *The Project* film a few interviews during an Inclusive Centre session for a section of their show. Well done to Maddie Jones, Aya Iwabuchi, Mark Rushton and all of the other coaches and volunteers for showing everyone how awesome BlowFly Cricket is!

BlowFly Cricket's winter season started off with a (very cold) bang. We had a good turn out and ran smoothly from 5.30pm to 7:30pm. We would love to see some more players come along to our winter season at PCYC so if you're interested in playing some indoor cricket on Sunday nights then register and come along! One of the highlights of our winter season is the crazy chicken run to the cars from the warm indoor centre of PCYC to blast the heater. Thank you to Nicola Jones for your incredible work in running our winter centre and Shabana Hakim for your much appreciated help.

I would like to take the time to say a massive thank you to some of our key sponsors and organisations that support BlowFly Cricket. A big thank you to Caring Approach for your ongoing support and much appreciated financial contributions.

Thank you to Bite Me Bakehouse for your support and donations (if you haven't been to Bite Me Bakehouse in Mount Colah you must go! Their coffee and pies are incredible, not to mention the always friendly and smiling faces).

Thank you to Blitzit Plan Management and Ace Body Corporate (Ryde) for your highly appreciated sponsorship.

Thank you again to the Coaches' Association and Bruce Wood for your incredible support and empowerment of our BlowFly Cricket players. Our BlowFly Cricket members thoroughly enjoy coaching and participating in your coaching clinics.

Thank you to Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia for your ongoing support.

Finally, thank you to the Centre for Volunteering for your ongoing support of our volunteers and club. Each and every donation and display of support goes to helping our club grow and reach more and more individuals who are in need of a supportive club to play sport and grow socially, or individuals who are looking to make a difference by volunteering for a great club.

Once again, congratulations to each and every one of you for a great year and your determination and resilience to push through any challenges thrown your way. It has been a tough past few years, not only for our club, but for the individuals within the club, our sponsors, supporters and the wider community.

We likely have another few tough years ahead of us as our nation continues to fight the pandemic and recover from the severe weather we encountered but that is not to say that we should give up. That is to say that we should stand taller and stronger as individuals, a community and an all-ability, inclusive multi-cultural cricket club because if we stand united then there is nothing we cannot face.

Thank you all for a great season and I look forward to seeing you all back for the start of the next season!



Jordan Jones
President
CA Accredited Community
Coach

BLOWFLY'S MISSION STATEMENT:

To enrich life by promoting BlowFly Cricket as an inclusive multicultural all-abilities sport for children and adults who have special needs and/or intellectual disabilities.

BLOWFLY'S CORE VALUES . . .

- ✔ Integrity
- ✔ Innovation
- ✔ Commitment
- ✔ Creativity
- ✔ People
- ✔ Passion
- ✔ Goals
- ✔ Growth
- ✔ Connection
- ✔ Inclusivity

BlowFly Cricket is committed to enriching the lives of our members by developing unique skills programs, voluntary roles, future sports administration employment and other roles catering to the respective individual's abilities and capabilities.

We aim to empower our members by actively encouraging them to take on achievable key roles to improve; self-esteem, self-confidence, self-belief, self-worth to enable the individual to fulfil and / or maximise their potential. In time, this will then flow on to benefit the broader community.

From Little Things



My initial meeting with Mark was as a referee in the local KDFFA 5aside Football Competition (now NSFA 6aside) which he both organised and ran for the Association, some 20 years ago. Over the proceeding seasons he mentioned this plan of giving parents with disadvantaged children the opportunity to learn and compete in a modified version of cricket with the strange name of "BlowFly Cricket". His first venue was at Claude Cameron Grove in Wahroonga where every Saturday the group would play the original version of BlowFly Cricket. It was also on one of these Saturday's I was to meet Santa, a role I still visit today.

Initially the BlowFly was a cutout Blowie attached to the stumps, the children were encouraged to run after hitting the ball and smash the "Blowie" off the stumps at the other end. One run and one dead "Blowie".

Funding was meagre, in those days sausage sizzles were a "new" innovation, early mornings standing outside Office Works (Hornsby) were to become a source of income for the Blowies.

Andy Bayles and his "gourmet" BBQ's, which he ran for 5 years at the 5aside competition held at St Ives Showground, a number of benevolent sponsors and Mark's deep pockets were the Blowies major source of income.

Having never worked with disadvantaged children before I had some hesitation getting involved, however after minimal involvement I discovered that they don't bite (only sometimes), are intelligent, willing to learn, love to help and get involved if given the chance.

With my personal "hang-ups" out of the way and a working model evolving we had the opportunity to take up an invitation from Giant Steps based in the old Mental Hospital, Punt Road in Gladesville. Giant Steps operates a School and Adult Services Program specifically for children and adults between the ages of 5 and 35 all with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

BlowFly was asked to run a weekly summer session for one term as an alternative sports program for a number of their older students. These children, ages ranged from 12 - 18, many were profoundly autistic requiring 1 on 1 care. The program was initially ran within the school grounds using batting stance footprints (printed onto board and laminated), which was easy to understand, replicate and was to become used as a template.

Fielding, catching, throwing and bowling were again demonstrated via printed and laminated images showing what was required. As you can probably guess it was at times a long and frustrating exercise but after five or six sessions "muscle/memory" and repetition kicked in and we could start to see improvement with most of the participants. The program was such a hit with the children, the school teachers/carers (*all participated in the games*) and school principal we were invited back for another season.



We were fortunate to be able to access the grass oval at the foot of the school which was aptly named Bedlam Park, this presented another set of problems. The cognitive students trundled down to the oval with their carers but the problem ones were bused. A number of the students got straight back into the action, a number lost complete concentration and tried to go AWOL and one did an infamous streak across the oval.

After a couple of weeks the group was selected into teams for mini games and on one occasion we were fortunate to have both Craig Stubbs and Craig McDermott OAM turn up to give them tips and also participate.

The program highlighted a number of participants with sporting ability: Pat (*master batsman, every ball was a four or six, he didn't like running singles*), Mary (*a great all rounder, could bat, field and bowl*), Little Johnny (*the demon fast bowler, who would go back to his mark polishing the ball, sprint down and deliver his 20kph rockets*) were the stand outs, for a number of students it was a change to their normal routine, an opportunity to sit in the sun, play with a ball. All showed improvement in their hand eye coordination, social interaction and communication skills.

After what was a success at Giant Steps the BlowFly model was further streamlined and taken to a number of other schools and camps where similar positive results and exposure of BlowFly Cricket occurred:

- (i) ABBOX/SONY Foundation Children's Camp* held at Abbotsleigh and alternatively Knox College;
- (ii) Camp Breakaway Respite Camp* based in San Remo on the Central Coast;
- (iii) Mary Brooksbank School based in Rosemeadow.

** Both are free camps for children with intellectual disabilities and special needs.*

Over the following years, further refinement to modify the game, the involvement of players in both coaching and management within the club, fantastic corporate sponsorship, a large supporter and volunteer bank, the opening of a number of new centres, interstate participation sees the game is still evolving and growing today.

As Paul Kelly wrote
"From Little Things . . . Big Things Grow".



Brian Binfield
Life Member
CA Accredited Community
Coach

From the Leadership Group



COVID-19 - description of emotion and the Blowies weather the storm. Great to see everyone doing the cricket BBQ crew . . . thanks. Since the world has begun to return slowly back to normal. BlowFly Cricket has also joined the party and returned almost back to normal. Whenever the sun was out, the Blowies were all super interested in being involved in the whole BlowFly community.

For me personally, it was about getting out of the ordinary routine and being proactive in making a change in my life. This year we had some new people join the club and it was their first time playing at BlowFly. It is really good to see new people join, and I think we have been doing well in making the BlowFly Cricket Club bigger and better than the years before.

I want to thank everybody who is involved in the whole club and that includes people who run the BBQ to the ones who book the fields and get us ready to play. You all have done an amazing job of organising us all so that we can continue on in the future and keep achieving our goals!



Ronnie MacKenzie LM
Male Club Captain and CA Accredited Community Coach

Here Is My Annual Report, just a quick wrap-up of BlowFly Cricket's 2021/22 season. The 2021/22 Season for BlowFly Cricket has been an amazing, wonderful season full of ups and downs but BlowFly still managed to play the sport we all love.

So many wonderful highlights for this season but I must say my favourite highlights throughout the season were being featured on The Project to talk about the club I love being a part of, playing the game I love and just hanging out with such good friends.

I love coaching at the most amazing club ever. I just love being part of BlowFly Cricket. I was so lucky to come across BlowFly Cricket, such a loving group. Thank you so much to all volunteers, players and coaches for making BlowFly Cricket the club that it is today.

Without you BlowFly would not exist and a huge thank you to our mighty and powerful founder Mark Rushton and his sidekick Marnie Nissen for always being the biggest supporters of BlowFly Cricket there ever was.

And to our President and my Loving sister Jordan Jones without your ongoing support BlowFly Cricket would not be the club that it is today.

Thank you Kindly Everyone.



Maddie Jones
Female Club Captain and CA Accredited Community Coach

BlowFly Cricket faced many challenges in the 2021-22 season due to Covid 19 and weather.

The first half of the season was interrupted by Covid 19. Cricket season started late with many constraints to maintain social distancing and avoid infection. Despite this we had good attendance at the sessions in James Park. It was a shortened season but we managed a great Christmas party and end of year presentation.

The second half of the season was plagued by rains which washed out most of the sessions.

I, along with Ronnie, James and Harry attended the Source Kids Expo. We supported Cricket NSW to promote cricket for special needs kids. It was a fun day as we did a demonstration and had some volunteer kids participate.

Despite the challenges this year, BlowFly continues to strengthen its governance and grow.



Akanksha Swarup
CA Accredited Community Coach

Penni and Kakra: *"We love going to cricket, our favourite part of going to cricket is seeing all our friends and catching up. We enjoy keeping healthy and active by bowling and running around it, it is our favourite day of the week."*

Penni: *"I am a very confident bowler and runner, I enjoy trying my hardest in a team."*

Kakra: *"I like chasing after and catching the ball, it keeps me healthy and fit."*

Penni: *"I love it, it's so much fun. I like meeting new people and seeing my friends."*

Kakra: *"I enjoy talking to friends and enjoying my day at cricket with my team mates."*

Penni and Kakra: *"We feel included and very welcome at cricket, everyone is kind to us and get along with us well."*



Penni Yeboah
CA Accredited Community Coach



Kakra Yeboah
CA Accredited Community Coach



Vice President's Report



Once again I am sitting here reflecting on another amazing year for BlowFly Cricket!

Another year unfortunately interrupted by COVID and then crazy amounts of rain – we didn't however allow it to dampen our spirits!!

The Community that has been born from BlowFly is beyond words with many lifelong friendships developed.

Our senior playing group has grown and matured and really is a driving force behind the entire organisation. With players now entrenched in committees and decision making roles it provides life experiences well beyond playing the game of cricket.

In partnership with the West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC), BlowFly Cricket was able to offer Akanksha Swarup, Aaron Lewis and Nathaniel Baker the opportunity for some more coaching on a Saturday morning assisting our head coach Dani Chivers. We hope they enjoyed it and look forward to offering this again next season.

Each week we receive our newsletter and I know there is hundreds of people who like me flick straight to the joke section for a bit of a laugh!

In all seriousness the newsletter is a fantastic part of BlowFly and once again I must give my thanks and gratitude to Kate Guild for preparing and sending this out to everyone each week.

To all our sponsors I cannot thank you ALL enough for your contributions – it is all your generous support that allows this association to continue to grow and just get bigger and better every year!

To our volunteers, a thank you never seems enough but without you guys BlowFly Cricket would not be what it is today. Every single one of you has made a huge contribution to the ongoing success of this amazing Cricket Association. It is amazing to think of just how many people help out in some way to make this what it is.

To Wayne, Ray and the entire team at George's Fine Meats at Cherrybrook Village – Thank you for the wonderful meat you provide every Friday for our barbeques.

To Gavin Taylor and the team at Veri Shades – Your ongoing sponsorship is fantastic.

I would also especially like to single out Mike Kinchington, your help, support and guidance to all the players every single week is amazing. We are very lucky to have you and can't thank you enough for your ongoing support. We hope that you may be back next season!!!!

I always leave this bloke to last but whatever I say about him is never enough!! To Marky Boy once again Thank you for all you continue to do. Personally, I take huge inspiration from knowing the challenges you face daily and the positive outlook and attitude is contagious. If more people had Mark's outlook the world would be a better place.

I hope to see everyone out there again next year playing cricket and having fun with their friends



Bill Peterkin
Vice President
CA Accredited Community
Coach

Secretary/Director of Operations Report

The 2021/2022 Cricket season was once again a successful and fabulous season. Even though COVID is still in our lives, we were able to push through the season with minimal interruptions. It is with great pleasure that I provide you with the following Secretary's Report for our Club.

Events from the season:

- Bunnings fundraiser BBQ's were back on this year after last year's COVID interruptions, and we are forever grateful to Thornleigh Bunnings for their ongoing support of our Club.
- We had a successful fourth season of BlowFly Cricket on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural, run by West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC). Each week we see our players both young and old, engaging in friendships and building their social skills. We look forward to continuing this partnership with WPHCCC.
- BlowFly Cricket and the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) continued the working partnership where all donations made through the ASF for the 2021/22 season went towards developing our "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" program.

The money raised through this program is extremely helpful in assisting with the costs of uniforms, equipment, training and mentoring of our new upcoming Uncoachables Coaches.

- With Mark Taylor Oval under construction this season the second year for the NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre for 5-12-year old's was moved to James Park, Hornsby on Tuesday afternoons and the very popular Women's Social Cricket competition was held at Asquith Oval on Wednesday evenings. Congratulations to everyone who was involved in both of these events.

Congratulations to the following award winners from the season:

- **Jordan Jones**
 - 2021 NSW Volunteer of the Year for the Upper North Shore region, and
 - 2021 NSW Young Volunteer of the Year for the Upper North Shore region.
- **Brothers, Robbie and William Hanks**
 - Schools Community Service Award from the Lions Club of West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Inc. Robbie and William attend Galston High School and nominated BlowFly Cricket to receive the donation of \$100.00. These funds were used for the end of season awards at the WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre held on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural.

- **Bruce Wood OAM**

Congratulations Bruce on this highly considered award and recognition for your exemplary contribution to the local game over many years. You continue to be a wonderful volunteer and role model for all things good associated with grassroots cricket.

Lastly, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who assists week in and week out at all of the BlowFly Cricket Centres and respective functions. Our amazing club wouldn't exist without the efforts of the volunteers who make up the committee, along with the family members, parents, carers and of course our players, who week in and week out make BlowFly Cricket the great Club that it is.

To those who participated in the Winter Cricket season at the PCYC Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai, Waitara on Sunday evenings, it has been tremendous to hear you all had a blast!

I look forward to seeing you all again throughout the 2022/2023 Summer Season.



Kate Guild
Secretary

Member Protection Information Officer's Report



Overview/Summary

I was recently asked by Mark Rushton to take up the role as the Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) for the BlowFly Cricket Club. This role is a requirement, whereby all sporting associations who have children as members, are required to have a MPIO. Prior to taking on this role, I was the MPIO for Judo NSW where I performed in that role for 7 years.

My role as the Club's MPIO, has required me to undertake a number of on-line training programs and to attend MPIO workshops as part of the Play By The Rules MPIO Training. A MPIO plays an important role within any sport and our Club is no different. Things can go wrong at times, but hopefully we now have the processes and systems in place to deal with issues when they arise.

As many of you are already aware, there have been changes regarding 'The Working With Children Check' (WWCC).

Any person, 18 years of age and older, working or volunteering in a child-related sport, needs to have a WWCC clearance.

Key Activities and Achievements in 2021/22

Over the last 2 years many organisations have had to manage to overcome dealing with COVID-19 restrictions and BlowFly Cricket was no different.

Part of my role is also to verify member's WWCC application and renewal and with that, to maintain a database of members and their WWCC numbers. Members have been asked to ensure that they review when their WWCC is due and to take action to renew prior to the expiration date. To date, BlowFly Cricket has 66 people on our books who have a WWCC.

Members are to ensure that:

- They need to be aware that they are required to update their personal details.

- People with WWCC clearances must update their personal information within 3 months or risk a fine, and
- The Office of the Children's Guardian can contact people when it's time to renew their Check.

Key Focus for 2022

I regularly receive relevant emails containing information to keep up to date with my understanding of this important child safety role. These are sometimes communicated through our newsletter.

I ask that members take a visit of the Office of Children's Guardian website at: <http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au> to look at frequently asked questions, facts sheets and resources that are available to clubs.

If you need any information about member protection issues, please contact me on kevirish@bigpond.com.



Kevin Lewis
Member Protection
Information Officer



Treasurer's Comments

Financial Reporting

BlowFly Cricket continues to be 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.*

Current assets refers to assets (other than real property or assets that are capable of depreciation) held by the association as at the end of the association's last financial year. It includes amounts held in financial institutions, stocks and debentures.

With astute financial management BlowFly Cricket continues to remain in a strong and healthy financial position when one considers the small size of our progressive association.

Our funding is strictly through a number of 'volunteer driven' fundraising initiatives, assorted grants, donations and sponsorship including the generous support of many local businesses who take such a keen and active interest in the ongoing development of BlowFly Cricket. A special word of thanks is extended to:

- **Ben Gussey** (*Project Manager*) for his diligence and commitment to the task at hand. Grants remain the lifeblood of our organisation . . . thank you Ben.
- **Fiona Hanks** (*Assistant Project Officer*) for her initiative, motivation and energy in pursuing the notion of a BlowFly Cricket van, which will be used for members who don't have transport to be transported to and from our various Centres.
- **Kate Guild** (*Director of Operations/ Secretary*) for her ongoing high levels of enthusiasm, support, tireless behind the scenes hard work and attention to detail, which is second to none.
- **Marnie Nissen** (*Fundraising Manager*) for her outstanding energy levels, motivation and tireless efforts in promoting so many fundraising initiatives . . . thank you Marnie; and
- All of our hard-working volunteers who give up so much of their time to support our cause.

Acknowledgements

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 and Luke Manton),
Coaches' Association – HKHDCCA (Bruce Wood OAM),
Cricket Australia,
Cricket NSW,
Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield LM),
Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation),
Kookaburra Sport (Cameron Eve),
NDCC,
Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle and WPHCCC (Bec and Bill Peterkin).



Mark Rushton
*Treasurer
CA Accredited
Representative Coach*

Fundraising Manager's Report



"Marnie, have you done your Fundraising Report?" "Marnie when will you send me you're Fundraising Report?"

Yes, this year I found myself behind in submitting the 2021-22 Fundraising Report, though the same cannot be said for the ongoing strength of BlowFly Cricket's Fundraising initiatives. This season we returned to face to face play, by far and away the best play to date. Bowling at a fast pace or magically spinning the ball all players are improving their respective bowling skills. When batting, hitting more sixes than can be counted on two hands interspersed with other-worldly fielding. The raucous celebratory screams when a catch had been held could be heard for miles around.

Off the field the fundraising didn't miss a beat. With the four burners at the Bunnings Warehouse Thornleigh Fundraising BBQ turned on for cooking from 8:30am – 4.00pm on the last Saturday or Sunday of the month. Total funds raised this year was \$6,146.00 . . . a great team effort from our wonderful hard working volunteers.

Thank you to all our volunteers who make these days run like clock-work and most importantly you make it enjoyable. There is never a frown or complaint. Thank you.

Stepping away from the the burners to the sound of counting plastic/glass bottles and cans into large 240 litre plastic bags as well as the neatly stacking of glass bottles into milk crates for the exchange of money. Ten cents a piece. This season saw an amount in excess of \$4,000.00 raised.

Thank you to those constantly supporting our BlowFly Cricket Return 'n' Earn initiative. This initiative is now four years old. The remarkable Dougal Graham continues to defy his age by putting in a herculean effort in collecting thousands of cans and bottles at a frenetic pace. Congratulations to everyone involved. Every ten cents counts.

And lastly BlowFly's long standing partnership/supporter relationship with the McGrath Foundation's Pink Stumps Day. BlowFly Cricket has been supporting the Pinks Stumps Day initiative for 12 years.

This season BlowFly Cricket raised the amazing amount of \$1,214.89 for this extremely worthwhile cause.

The Toyota Good For Cricket Raffle was once again a successful fundraiser with over \$1,000.00 in ticket sales.

Thank you for those who participate in these fundraising activities/events.

To conclude this years Fundraising Report I'd like to thank Founder Mark Rushton and members of the BlowFly Cricket Management Committee for continuing to support me as the Fundraising Manager. The word manager, when defined suggests a heavy work-load which at times fundraising certainly is. Plastic bottles and aluminium cans have a tendency to blow away and blown away is how I feel being part of this amazing organisation. Thank you and yes I will start the 2022-23 Report much earlier than this one.



Marnie Nissen
Fundraising Manager
CA Accredited Community Coach



FUNDRAISING 2020/2021 SEASON

FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE	AMOUNT	COMMENTS	PROJECT
Return and Earn Scheme	\$4,000.00+	Well done Dougal Graham and everyone else for supporting this fundraising initiative	Miscellaneous
Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs	\$6,146.05	A number of Fundraising BBQs held throughout the year	Miscellaneous
Toyota Good For Cricket Raffle	\$1,277.00	Annual Raffle	Schools Program
Roller Boy Produce <i>Jam/Egg Sales</i>	\$1,450.00	Mark Rushton	Schools Program
ASF Projects	\$5,832.05	NDCC BlowFly Cricket <i>Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables</i>	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre
Bite Me Bakehouse <i>"Kick the Tin"</i>	\$1,565.00	Wonderful support from the local Mount Colah Community	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre
Total:	\$18,806.10		

Grants and Prizes Register



BlowFly Cricket in Hornsby will share in \$10,000 worth of grant funding made available as part of the Toyo Tires Sixers Community Grant program.

An initiative of the Sydney Sixers and Toyo Tires, the organisation will receive a \$1,000 grant to support the delivery of the **'Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables'** program, which is the first of its kind in grassroots cricket.

The club is one of ten across the Sixers' territory to benefit from the program, which sets out to help develop the next generation of Sydney Sixers stars in the shape of improved diversity and inclusion opportunities, equipment, uniforms, coaching and local promotion of the game.

Toyo Tires' Strategy and Marketing Manager, José Angeles, said Toyo Tires was thrilled to extend their support of Australian cricket to the grassroots level.

"Coming out of another tough stint of COVID-19 lockdowns in NSW, we are honoured to be offering community support in the lead up to summer sport, which marks a milestone in the long-anticipated return to normalcy," Angeles said.

"We've all been doing it tough, but kids have been particularly affected with disruptions to schooling and social development, so we hope that a helping hand from Toyo Tires and the Sydney Sixers keeps the sporting stars of tomorrow looking forward and makes it easier for their families to cheer on from the sidelines."

Alongside the 'Toyo Tires Sixers Community Grants' program, Toyo's support of the Sixers will also extend to a series of fun, 90-minute, cricket-themed activities that connect the club's WBBL and BBL stars with kids from 5 to 13 years of age, dubbed 'Toyo Tires Sixers Super Clinics'.

Sixers fans can catch all the WBBL|07 action LIVE on Fox Cricket and Kayo, with awesome behind the scenes content across the club's social media channels.

The Toyo Tires Sixers Community Grant initiative has been supported by the Cricket NSW Foundation who dollar matched Toyo Tires contribution, providing further assistance to the great work being undertaken by grassroots cricket communities across NSW.



Rebecca Trbojevich
Community Communications Manager

Toyo Tires Sixers Community Grant Recipients

CLUB	REGION	FUNDS WILL BE SPENT ON
BlowFly Cricket	North Shore	'Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables' program
Taree West Cricket Club	Mid North Coast	PromoFng junior girls academy within club
St Ives Junior Cricket Club	North Shore	Funding girls' team coaching and replacing equipment
Bonny Hills Lake Cathie Cricket Club	Mid North Coast	Provide all juniors with a shirt as part of their registration
Nelson Bay Junior Cricket Club	Newcastle	Purchase of new Woolworths Cricket Blast Equipment
St John Bosco Youth Centre Cricket Club	Sutherland	Player and coach development using local coaches
Poesville Cricket Club	Tweed	Purchase of junior cricket equipment as well as Woolworths Cricket Blast gear
Ramsgate RSL Cricket Club	Bayside	Equipment for new All Girls team and other junior teams, as well as a hat and shirt for all junior cricketers



TOYOTA GOOD FOR CRICKET RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

1st Prize	Kim Eldridge	VIC
2nd Prize	Luke Kelly	VIC
3rd Prize	Shelley Harvey	VIC
4th Prize	Noah Densley	VIC
5th Prize	Alison Gilbert	QLD
6th Prize	Antonio Mucciarone	WA
7th Prize	Benjamin Lammardo	VIC
8th Prize	Paul Leonard	WA
9th Prize	Avtar Singh	SA
10th Prize	Daryl Meaklim	VIC

The 2021/22 Season Toyota Good For Cricket raffle was another successful fundraising initiative for BlowFly Cricket. The major ticket sellers, Boris Brownlee, Kate Guild and Vivienne Nissen are to be sincerely thanked for their support and efforts. A total of \$1,277 was raised from ticket sales.

A special word of thanks must go to Toyota for their ongoing support of grassroots cricket in Australia, as 100% of ticket sales are returned to the participating clubs.

Did anyone from your club score a prize in the Good for Cricket Raffle? It's been another amazing year for fundraising with the Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle, and together we raised an amazing \$849,970 for 782 cricket clubs around the country.

And it's time to celebrate those who bought a ticket to support their club and now find themselves Good for Cricket Raffle winners! Check out the list above featuring all the lucky folks who scored some amazing prizes, including the three new Toyotas!

Marnie Nissen

*Fundraising Manager
CA Accredited Community Coach*

Australia's Leading Nonprofit Sports Fundraising Body



The number of people playing sport in Australia is in sharp decline. Athletes struggle to pay for sporting gear or for competition related travel. Grassroots clubs are resorting to using old and tired equipment.

While we all love our sport even the most basic of sporting endeavours requires funds. Unfortunately despite our love of sport it remains severely underfunded with many people struggling to afford the cost of play. The Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) has been helping athletes, sporting clubs and organisations fundraise for more than 30 years. BlowFly Cricket became a member in April, 2019.

To further address the funding shortfall the Sports Foundation has successfully gained charitable status to enable private and public ancillary funds to invest in a sporting future where everyone can play.

Fundraising

Over the past 30 years, the ASF has helped thousands of clubs and athletes raise hundreds of millions of dollars. Sports at all levels have been funded through the ASF.

The ASF are the only organisation in Australia to have Deductible Gift Recipient status for sport. This means any donation to our many Projects of \$2m or more is tax-deductible. This tax-deductible benefit, along with the ASF's tools, resources and personal support, is of great assistance to BlowFly Cricket in reaching our annual fundraising goals.

Advocacy

The ASF is for Australian sport as they know that sport has the power to transform communities worldwide. Research across the board has shown sport improves the mental, physical, educational and economic health of the nation. Sport has been shown to foster community spirit and brings people together. BlowFly Cricket is a wonderful example of this as the galvanisation of our diverse community has seen the coming together of a well-oiled machine which solely benefits our all-ability multicultural members and their respective families.

Even though BlowFly Cricket is going from strength to strength with unprecedented membership growth and development, the reality is sport participation is decreasing across our proud nation.

If this downward trend continues Australia could witness up to \$88 billion in additional health costs over the coming decade. The ASF is firmly committed to reversing this trend by changing the conversation around sport's contribution to our nation. The ASF's primary goals are to increase the awareness of how crucial sport is to Australia and for sport to receive the necessary funding it not only deserves, but needs to reverse this worrying downward spiral.

Charity

The ASF administer a Charitable Fund which is registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission. The fund supports causes, such as BlowFly Cricket which uses our hybrid sport as a medium to achieve social change. This allows philanthropists to donate to charitable sporting causes through their Trusts, Foundations and Ancillary Funds. Sport at all levels, including community grassroots sports continues to be important to our country.



PROJECT NAME	START DATE	END DATE	BUDGET NUMBER	TOTAL	CURRENT BALANCE	STATUS
Blowfly Cricket 2020-2023 Season	01/07/2020	30/06/2023	2020-23	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open
The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables	01/07/2020	30/06/2023	2020-23	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open
Blowfly Cricket Club - 2020-2023 Season	01/07/2020	30/06/2023	2020-23	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open
2023 Blowfly Cricket Season	01/07/2023	30/06/2024	2023-24	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open
Blowfly Cricket Club - 2023 Season	01/07/2023	30/06/2024	2023-24	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open
The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables - 2023 Season	01/07/2023	30/06/2024	2023-24	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Open



Philanthropic investment in sport builds stronger communities which in turn leads onto a more inclusive, healthier and thriving Australia. This in turn reinforces the notion that everyone has the right to enjoy sport.

Active Kids

The ASF primarily wants to get children off the couch and on to the playing field. Active kids are highly likely to be healthier, less likely to be obese and more likely to become active and healthy adults.

Diversity and Inclusion

Everyone has a right to participate in and enjoy sport regardless of their respective ability, or their cultural, social or economic background. BlowFly Cricket continues to raise the bar in promoting our hybrid sport as a game for all.

Women in Sport

Women and girls continue to face barriers to sport participation, yet so rightly deserve the same opportunities their male counterparts receive. This is both at membership level and volunteering, including Management Committee positions.

Pleasingly, BlowFly Cricket continues to actively promote women and girls participation levels in all areas of our community and the results speaking for themselves.

Sport for All

The ASF assists with the funding of community-based organisations, schools and clubs to increase participation in grassroots and community sports.

(Source: ASF)

SUPPORT BLOWFLY CRICKET

Now you can support the BlowFly Cricket “Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables” project

Did you know an online donation to the Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables project is tax deductible as the ASF is the only deductible gift recipient for sport in Australia. Shortly after making your online donation, you will receive an official receipt from the ASF that you are able to use in your income tax return. Additionally, in July each year BlowFly Cricket will send all donors a summary of donations made throughout the particular financial year.

To make a tax-deductible donation of \$2.00 or more, please go to the following link:

<https://asf.org.au/projects/blowfly-cricket/the-uncoachables-coaching-the-uncoachables-2020-2023-seasons>

Marnie Nissen
Fundraising Manager
CA Accredited Community Coach

Support Partner

ACE Body Corporate Management



Thank you Ace Body Corporate Management (Ryde) for your ongoing support of the BlowFly Cricket community.

All associated with our BlowFly Cricket community are thrilled and thankful for the ongoing support and sponsorship from Reena Chand and Ace Body Corporate Management (Ryde). Reena has generously provided significant sponsorship funds for a second time to further assist the ongoing growth and development of our grassroots inclusive club.

Editor's Comment:

This second round of sponsorship from Reena will be set aside for the ongoing development of our schools program. This generous sponsorship also benefits our unique *"Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables"* program as our coaches will be actively coaching at the participating schools.

Thank you Reena and team.

UNCOACHABLE COACHES REGISTER (Active Members)

- Nathaniel Baker
- Nick Callanan-Williams
- Aya Iwabuchi (Volunteer)
- William Hanks (Volunteer)
- Maddie Jones
- Harry Langford
- Aaron Lewis
- Ronnie MacKenzie LM
- Mark Perry
- Akanksha Swarup
- Kakra Yeboah
- Penni Yeboah

“Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables”

“Champions are not the ones who always win races – champions are the ones who get out there and try. And try harder the next time. ‘Champion’ is a state of mind. They are devoted. They compete to best themselves as much if not more than they compete to best others. Champions are not just athletes.”

Simon Sinek, Brainy Quote

https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/simon_sinek_568198?src=t_champion

Our highly acclaimed, unique ‘Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables’ program has seen a season of growth, development and consolidation. We did not hold a Cricket Australia Accredited Community Coaching Course though we are looking forward to holding this coaching course in the 2022/23 Season.

Highlights for the season include:

• WPHCCC Woolworths Junior Blaster and Master Blaster Centres:

Akanksha Swarup, Nathaniel Baker and Aaron Lewis took on coaching roles at the weekly sessions held at Edward Bennett Oval, Cherrybrook on Saturday mornings. These popular sessions continue to be well attended by 80+ young children. Well done Akanksha, Nathaniel and Aaron for your coaching skills, diligence and commitment.

• NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre:

Nathaniel Baker, Nick Callanan-Williams, Aya Iwabuchi, Maddie Jones, Harry Langford, Ronnie MacKenzie LM, Akanksha Swarup, Kakra Yeboah and Penni Yeboah joined Dani Chivers and Elysa Oliveri, from NDCC Women’s Grade teams taking on key coaching roles throughout what was a rain interrupted second season.

• St Andrew’s Sony Foundation Childrens Camp:

Club Captain, Ronnie MacKenzie LM and George Davis (photographer) were thrilled to join Julie Davis and Mark Rushton in a fun coaching clinic. Team BlowFly were thrilled to be able to return to this lovely Camp as COVID-19 had cancelled it last season.

• Northern Beaches All Abilities Cricket Program:

Coaches Mark Perry, Aaron Lewis, William Hanks and Aya Iwabuchi helped coach seven kids with a range of disabilities at the Disability Blast program run by the Manly-Warringah Cricket Club and Cricket NSW. The group met over four consecutive Saturday mornings at Lionel Watts Oval in Frenchs Forest. The kids had a range of disabilities including cerebral palsy, autism and ADHD. Head Coach Steve Perry oversaw operations. The aim of the program was to help disabled kids and youth pursue their cricketing passion. Ben Bryant from Cricket NSW hopes the program will make cricket accessible to as many people as possible.” (Source: Amanda Perry).

• Coaches’ Association

Mark and Jordan approached Bruce Wood and asked if the Coaches’ Association would be prepared to engage some BlowFly cricketers as Assistant Coaches at the HKHDCCA / NDCC school holiday (mainstream) junior cricket clinics. This was successfully implemented in 2021-22 when Aaron Lewis, Ronnie MacKenzie, William Hanks and Akanksha Swarup attended part or all of a particular junior clinic.

HKHDCCA pays the BlowFly reps for their time at the clinics, which was partially funded by a generous donation of \$500 from Blowfly Cricket to the Coaches’ Association in 2022.

• Source Kids Expo

Aya Iwabuchi joined James Partridge in volunteering with the “Uncoachables” coaches to put on a popular and well-received centre-stage presentation at Darling Harbour. Great work by Harry Langford, Aaron Lewis, Ronnie MacKenzie and Akanksha Swarup who all performed well at this popular and fun event.

As one can see from the season highlights the progressive nature of the “Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables” program continues to achieve benchmarks resulting in BlowFly Cricket being the premier inclusive totally volunteer-driven cricket club for people of all ages, cultures and genders with special needs, intellectual disabilities and/or physical disabilities.

Thanks to our sponsors:



Support Partner

Bite Me Bakehouse



Bite Me Bakehouse and our loyal customers have been proud supporters of BlowFly Cricket since we started trading over eight years ago. Bite Me Bakehouse continue to proudly sponsor the BlowFly Cricket 'Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables' program, designed for the development of adolescents and young adults for important leadership roles within the BlowFly Cricket community and beyond.

The Bite Me Bakehouse customers continue to support BlowFly Cricket year-round through "kick the tin" donations in lieu of their change. This level of community support is second to none allowing the ongoing development of our local grassroots all-ability inclusive club. Other ways we are supported is the unwavering supply of fresh bread loaves for our Saturday JPCG Centre (5 loaves) and our mid-week NDCC Inclusive Centre for 5-12yo children (2 loaves) in addition to generous sponsorship throughout the season. Thank you to the Bite Me Bakehouse community.

From Bite Me Bakehouse

"From before sunrise, the bakers at Bite Me Bakehouse are quietly preparing the day's delicious fresh baked goods.

Pies, Sausage Rolls, Quiches, Toasted Sandwiches, Cakes, Pastries and more . . . all the things you could wish for in a delicious meal straight from the baker's 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 us 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 is available, with easy access from the Pacific Highway." Remember call Bite Me Bakehouse (02) 9477 1732 for all of your local, trusted bakery delights.

Reviews:

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"Great food great staff great prices"

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Support Partner

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 and 2022 Winter Cricket competitions with the purchase of shirts and venue hire.

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.

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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.

On Sunday the 18 September, Blitzit Plan Managers staff and the BlowFly Cricket team members linked up for a wonderful evening of indoor cricket and a sausage sizzle. I would like to thank you very much for the invitation for Blitzit to be present at the BlowFly Cricket Presentation. We all had a fantastic time and it was great to watch all of those big smiles on everyone's faces.

The appreciation plaques are very kind of you and we have all displayed our plaques around the office. I have some great photos as well – see above.

Lets 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



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.

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Get in touch today!



BlowFly Cricket is a program for children, adolescents and adults (5 to 60 years of age) with special needs and /or intellectual disabilities. We continue to cater for children, adolescents and adults with Autism, Down Syndrome and other special needs /intellectual disabilities.

We were thrilled to receive sponsors shirts for all of our administration staff. Hopefully we will be able to muster enough enthusiasm to enter one or two teams under the BlowFly banner in the NDCC Womens Social Cricket program in early 2023.

Caring Approach is delighted to be BlowFly Cricket's major sponsor and we will continue our commitment to clients to LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST.



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- Live-in care for you:**
- Domestic Assistance & Transport:**

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LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST





OUR SERVICES

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We can provide basic to complex support for your day-to-day needs. This includes all aspects of personal care.

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

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

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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.

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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.



We provide our services in a flexible, honest, and empathetic manner.

We provide you with skilled caring staff to look after your needs.





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.

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Hornsby NSW 2077
Phone: 02 8212 5659 / 02 9071 8971
0431 744 321 (After hours)
Email: intakeNSW@caringapproach.com.au
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Support Partner

Bunnings Warehouse – Thornleigh



The highly successful Bunnings Warehouse – Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs continued throughout much of the year on a four weekly cycle.

From Saturday 23 July the price was increased to \$3.50 after being \$2.50 for the past 15 years. This increase was across the board impacting on more than 300 Bunnings stores Australia wide with the ripple effect flowing on to benefit thousands of NFP community groups across our proud nation. And yes indeed, this much appreciated price rise has greatly improved the profitability of our popular sausage sizzles.

With a total of over 35 hard working volunteers, including ten BlowFly Cricketers and twelve family members, rostered on throughout the year we cooked on average over 240 sausages and 12kg of brown onions. We went through 25 assorted loaves of bread, including white, whole meal and gluten free.

Many drinks were sold throughout each day at a steady pace being enough to keep our keen and willing volunteers busy. It's awesome to see wonderful friendships and tremendous camaraderie developing amongst our volunteers who have been working together for many years at our fundraising BBQs.

Late in the day (3.00pm) at every fundraising BBQ, the popular and complimentary "Volunteers Raffle" is drawn by our attending BlowFly Cricketers. The three prizes are Bunnings Gift Cards to the value of \$50.00, \$20.00 and \$10.00 respectively. This is a small token of showing our gratitude to the wonderful, hard-working volunteers.

We always let our volunteers know what the funds raised will be used for, including the following:

- The McGrath Foundation's Pink Stumps Day (February BBQ).
- "BlowFly Cricket Primary Schools Specialist Support Classes Program" with the brainchild of this new venture being Elysa Oliveri.
- Our unique and highly-acclaimed "Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables" program.
- Christmas gifts for our members and volunteers at our three Centres, and
- End of season awards at our three centres.



Marnie Nissen
Fundraising Manager
CA Accredited Community Coach

Bunnings – Christmas Night Market



On the evening of Thursday December 9 a troupe of eager volunteers made their way through wheelie wet and stormy road conditions to Bunnings Thornleigh for an enjoyable evening of entertainment, fun and games.

It was delightful hearing the Christmas music playing in the background throughout the Night Market. And wasn't it surreal to listen to the two bagpipe performances from the Northern Suburbs Pipe Band with the unique acoustics of the underground carpark.

Thank you Rowena Sidaway, Activities Organiser – Bunnings Thornleigh and other staff for organising this function. We were thrilled to host the chocolate wheel with many prizes donated from the Bunnings team, including netballs, footballs and Christmas caps. We welcomed two new volunteers to our BlowFly Cricket community, being Maxwell Brown and Daniel Pathak. Other wonderful volunteers who attended this cheerful event were; Aya Iwabuchi, Bim Jayaweera, Bronte Jones, Dominic Jones, Jordan Jones, Maddie Jones, Marnie Nissen, Bruce Wood and Mark Rushton.



Congratulations to Bim Jayaweera who won the Bunnings \$50 Gift Card in the free volunteers raffle, one of the many ways our club endeavours to recognise the incredible efforts of our volunteers. Maddie Jones, in her role of Co-Club Captain kindly drew the raffle.

Cricket for Everyone

We are a Good Sports club



INSPIRING A HEALTHIER SPORTING NATION



Cricket's for everyone at BlowFly Cricket Club

BlowFly Cricket Club is based in Hornsby, north of Sydney. They make it their mission for everyone to be able to participate in an Aussie favourite game.

Good Sports spoke to Mark Rushton, the founder and treasurer, to find out what makes this club different.

"To see them grow, develop their self-esteem and self-worth - it's wonderful. Hearing parents saying they never thought they could see their kid do something like that. It makes me proud."

BlowFly Cricket – what's in a name?

BlowFly Cricket is designed with players with intellectual disabilities in mind.

When Mark and the team started the BlowFly program, all the players got their own whistle so that they could make noise and have a good time. When it was each child's turn to bowl, they'd blow a whistle to get everyone's attention.

Then as they came through, they had to try to swat the blowfly stencil that was printed out on the stumps.

"So, you've got the visual, audio and tactile elements. Everything's for a reason. I firmly believe, you got to make it a lot of fun. It's the noisiest sports game you've ever heard. It's organised chaos!" laughs Mark.

Expanding their cricket empire

BCC has three active centres. They operate on Friday, Saturday and Tuesday afternoons. The sessions include complementary barbecues to allow members to socialise. BlowFly also works with the Sony Foundation to put on camps and do free clinics.

They have even gone interstate to do a camp in Melbourne. That was fantastic, Mark remembers. The kids set it all up, and the adults did nothing. For Mark, this sharing of responsibility is important.

"You've got to empower [club members with intellectual disabilities] and give them a sense of responsibility. Assist only on a needs-basis and make it their club. It's not my club, it's theirs. They defy the odds and feel good about themselves. That's the vision, they take on more and more responsibility."

Cricket for all abilities

Mark created the club around 15 years ago. A friend had told him that his autistic son was left out of birthday parties and sports. Mark had a vision.

"I'm a paraplegic myself. I could see this group of people with intellectual disabilities is a missing link, overlooked in society," said Mark.

"We're breaking down barriers. Giving our members important roles on the management committee, coaching at our club and on mainstream teams."

The club also has *The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables* program. It's very important at BlowFly that the coaches also have intellectual disabilities.

"We think this is fantastic because they get where our kids are coming from. The young ones look up to their coaches so much. It's powerful stuff."

Supporting members through lockdowns

During lockdown periods in 2020 and 2021, the club set up a leadership group. They invited 30 to 40 people to come along and met weekly on Zoom.



They had online cooking sessions for all members and other Zoom meetings which were noisy, chaotic and fun.

Once cricket was back on, masks were an issue as a lot of members have sensory issues. BlowFly Cricket received a grant and purchased masks with logos, which helped the kids embrace it as part of their uniform.

The club is dedicated to making it work despite the challenges.

The future of BlowFly Cricket

When it comes to planning for the future, Mark has deliberately targeted younger members. He does this to inject energy into the club and help mentor the leadership capabilities of young people.

Blowfly Cricket Club's 19-year-old President Jordan is the younger sister of Maddie Jones, winner of the 2020 Good Sports Club Champion of the Year for NSW.

Mark said it was outstanding for Maddie to receive the award. *"It brings great recognition to people with intellectual disabilities. It was enormous for the club. So many volunteers sent Maddie gift cards and letters of congratulations. It just lifted morale [during a difficult 2020] and it was fantastic."*

Maddie donated her prize money to the club, and they used it on renovations to their storage shed.

Mark loves being part of Good Sports. He thinks it's a wonderful program and important for the longevity of the club.

"You've got policies and information with the alcohol guidelines, such as how it affects young people. The resources are very educational. We promote Good Sports in our club, on our website, on social media, and we mail out to members."

"The educational information is all relevant. It's all there, so I don't have to come up with the ideas!"



Prani Harrison
Communications Officer
Good Sports

Good Sports Gold Medal



Gold, gold, gold for our BLOWFLY CRICKET CLUB.

Great news for all our members, volunteers and supporters in the community. Our hard work has paid off and we have just reached top level Gold Medal accreditation with Good Sports.

We want everyone to feel welcome and included at our club. Through Good Sports we are committed to managing alcohol and smoking responsibly, holding safe celebrations and making sure everyone arrives home safely. All this helps us to provide a strong, safe and family-friendly environment.



A big thank you to all our committee members who helped make this happen and everyone who got behind us. Together, we are helping inspire a healthier sporting generation.

Speak to our club committee about what being a Gold Medal Good Sports club is all about or visit www.goodsports.com.au



WE ARE A GOLD MEDAL ACCREDITED CLUB.



Supporting Our Communities

“We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.”

Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965) British wartime Prime Minister and Statesman



Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)

Our friends, the Coaches' Association, continue to work in a close and supportive relationship with BlowFly Cricket. The free coaching clinics remain a highlight on our calendar and are thoroughly enjoyed by all of our volunteers and members who go along.

We were thrilled to be able to make a donation of \$500.00 to assist in the offsetting of costs associated with our “Uncoachable Coaches” who assisted at the Coaches' Association School Holidays Coaching Clinics. These mainstream coaching opportunities not only provides wonderful experiences for our members but further cements our partnership with the Coaches' Association.

McGrath Foundation – Pink Stumps Day (PSD)

The BlowFly Cricket Fundraising Committee, headed by the dynamic Marnie Nissen, once again raised funds for this worthwhile cause. Through a combination of raffles held at JPCG (James Park, Hornsby) and a fundraising BBQ held at Bunnings Thornleigh. Marnie and her team were thrilled to exceed the target to raise a total of \$1,214.89 for this outstanding cause.

To quote **Bella Armstrong** Community Fundraising Officer – McGrath Foundation: *“Thank you very much! We will ensure this amount donated is accredited to your club in our records so that we keep track of the incredible amount you have raised year on year . . . Please see the certificate attached. Congratulations again on such a fantastic amount raised!”*



EDITOR'S COMMENT:

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

2022 National Volunteer Week Speech

NATIONAL 16-22 MAY 2022
VOLUNTEER
Better Together **WEEK**



We are pleased to welcome you all here today, for the launch of National Volunteer Week. 2022 marks 33 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 "Better Together". 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. *We are Better Together.* I think we can all agree that this theme is a fitting reminder to not only show our appreciation to volunteers but also reconnect with them after a challenging 2 years, and imagine new possibilities for ways in which we can support them.

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

Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.

National Volunteer Week (NVW)

is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers.

From Monday 16th to Sunday 22nd May 2022, BlowFly Cricket **celebrated, thanked and recognised** the significant contribution our wonderful volunteers have made throughout the past 13 years.

BlowFly Cricket also joined in with our proud nation to **celebrate, thank and recognise** the significant contribution the almost 3 million sport volunteers across Australia continue to make year in and year out.

The theme for NVW 2022 was Better Together. Research reveals volunteering brings people together; it builds communities and creates a better society for everyone.



The banner features a dark blue background with yellow and black diagonal stripes on the left. On the left, the text 'NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2022' is displayed in white boxes. In the center, a photo shows three people: two men in dark polo shirts and caps, and one woman in a red jacket, all smiling. At the bottom, logos for 'SPORTAUS', 'AIS', 'NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 16-22 MAY 2022 Better Together', and 'BLOWFLY CRICKET' are displayed.

It is amazing to think almost 50% of Australia's volunteers choose to volunteer in sport. Throughout NVW, we as a sporting nation proudly celebrated the 2.9 million sport volunteers, shared some wonderful stories and hopefully encourage more people to volunteer in sport across Australia. Volunteering is essential to the delivery of sport across Australia, and we celebrated this significant week to encourage more people to lend some time to their local clubs. NVW is primarily set aside to thank current volunteers and inspire the next generation of sport volunteers.

Thank you everyone.

Welcome James Partridge



Hey Everyone,

If I could have your time for a short moment, I'd like to reach out and connect with as many of you as possible.

Like most of you, I've come from a fairly privileged upbringing, and just like most of you, 2021 definitely wasn't a year that will be in my top 10.

I have taken it upon myself this year to be the change in my immediate world and to make 2022 a year of giving back. No, I'm not going to create world peace but I am going to strive to change the lives of the people around me.

I've come to the realisation that the cumulative effect of a number of small changes will lead to larger change. It's fairly obvious but hard to know where to start. Over the last few months, I took a few hours out of my weeks and a little out of my back pocket to feed the homeless through Pitt St and Town Hall. For these people, it means they don't have to worry about dinner tonight, a thought that is completely alien to all of us. I did this alone and not with an organisation.

I'm not parading this for likes or admiration, I'm merely stating it because if I can do it then so can you. As well as this I have volunteered my time with an incredible organisation, BlowFly Cricket, as one of the coaches. I had originally heard of BlowFly through my playing years and was always amazed and moved by the positive impact they were having on the participant's lives.

For those who aren't aware, BlowFly Cricket works with young disabled men and women to create a fun, loving and educational environment centred around the wonderful game of cricket. This organisation embodies the lesson seen in the saying *"plant seeds for trees whose shade you have no intention of sitting beneath"*. I had no idea the immensity of emotions that would flood over me after my first session as one of the younger participants, Claire, said a genuine *"thankyou"* for helping her, followed by an enthusiastic *"Will you be back next week?"* The brightness of her smile and the innocence of her question, humbled me and instilled within me joy and purpose.

I know each and every person who assists in the running of BlowFly will have their own similar experience to this, and I believe it's this pure, non-benefiting purpose that makes BlowFly such an integral part of the participant's lives and manifests a fun loving, and inspirational culture. I am proud and privileged to be a part of it. I implore all of you to plant your own seeds and watch the world flourish around you.

It doesn't have to be much, it just has to impact the world around you in a positive way that isn't for a self-serving purpose. Again, lots of small changes will lead to big change.

Thank you for taking the time to read this far and I hope I've reached more than a few of you – together we can all see the impacts our actions have on the world around us.



James Partridge
Volunteer
CA Accredited Community
Coach

Editor's Comment: The first half of James' well written Report was an Instagram post (3/1/22). I emailed this amended Report onto Gemma Rygate, CEO The Centre of Volunteering who replied: ". . . That is beautiful. Thank you for sharing it with me. I look forward to James' nomination . . ."

Volunteers Register

***"It is not enough to be compassionate – you must act."* The Dalai Lama**

BlowFly Cricket Management strongly supports and recognises the value of volunteering throughout our community maintaining strong relationships with The Centre for Volunteering and Volunteering Australia. We are grateful for the hard work and support from our wonderful volunteers. Thank you. **Denise Anderson** OBM

Darlene Apps	Michael 'Bazza' Gillies	Deb Lewis	Massimo Price
Nanna Audrey	Jeni Goddard	Irish Lewis	Debbie Robinson
Nathaniel Baker	Dougal Graham	Kevin Lewis	Mark Rushton
Keith Baker	Maureen Graham	Tara Lewis	Lydia Scott **
Andy Bayles	Alan Guild	Adam Lezon	Julie-ann Short
Anthony Beard	Damien Guild	Lidia Lezon	Maddie Shortte ***
Hannah Beard	Jared Guild	Davina MacKenzie	Magda Sigarteu
Brian Binfield LM	Kate Guild	Ronnie MacKenzie LM	Gabrielle Smith
Varunee 'Bun'	Pat 'Spud' Guild	Luke Manton	Kirsty Smith
Boonmetavesub**	Ben Gussey	Amir Marashian	Phil Smith
Jan Brock	Shabana Hakim	Cameron Marashian	Uncle Snake
Jock Brock	Fiona Hanks	Darian Marashian	Tom Spratt **
Maxwell Brown	Robbie Hanks	Kiahna Marashian	Evelyn Stevenson
Valeria Buccheri	William Hanks	Ryan Marashian	Craig Stubbs
Courtney Buczek	Dinushi Herath	Alicia Mavurawa	Aditya Swarup
Jacob Buczek LM	Nic Hincapie-Perea	Elizabeth Mavurawa	Akanksha Swarup
Jason Buczek	Azaan Husain	Nasim Sadat Mohammadi	Ammar Tanveer
Karen Buczek	Errol Hyde	Dierk Mohr	Akiko Tomita
Brad Caldwell	Saoai Julie Iata **	Traute Mohr	Peter Verduin
Gabrielle Callanan	Aya Iwabuchi	Noel Moig	Sandy Wall
Nick Callanan-Williams	Rie Iwabuchi	Thuy Nguyen	Bruce Wood OAM
Mark Campbell	Alf James OAM	Chris Nicholls	Kakra Yeboah
May Carpenter	Bim Jayaweera	Nikki Nicholls	Penni Yeboah
Keith Carter	Ruben Johnson	Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen	
Tom Casey	Bronte Jones	Marnie Nissen	
Reena Chand	Dominic Jones	Paul Nissen	
Dani Chivers	Jordan Jones	Elysa Oliveri	
Cathy Clark **	Maddie Jones	Jack Oliveri	
Suzanne Collyer Rousek	Nicola Jones	James Partridge	
Mick Connell	Isolde Kamerman	Daniel Pathak	
John Cosgrove	Mike Kinchington *	Amanda Perry	
Anthony Courtney	Kristina King	Mark Perry	
Belana Dasic **	Audjima Kongcharoen **	Steve Perry	
George Davis	Morwenna Landers	Bec Peterkin	
Julie Davis	Harry Langford	Bill Peterkin	
Rob Di Camillo	Mike Langford	Harry Peterkin	
Keith Fone	Lisa Langford	Rory 'Super Rory' Piper	
Alex Furner **	Aaron Lewis	Brendan Price	

KEY: * WPHCCC Volunteer ** Carer *** Victoria Development Officer

Major Award Winners



7 February 2022

Mr Bruce Wood OAM
E: brucegwood27@gmail.com

Dear Bruce

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA – 2022 HONOURS LIST

On behalf of Cricket Australia and the Australian cricket community, we write to congratulate you on receiving a Medal in the General Division of the Order of Australia as part of the Australia Day 2022 Honours List.

This award is a fitting recognition of your outstanding and admirable service to cricket and to the community. It is wonderful to see your contributions acknowledged in this way.

We were thrilled to see you formally recognised as a match official who has led by example and championed inclusive, safe, fair and enjoyable cricket for all. We also acknowledge your tireless work as an administrator off-field.

On behalf of the Australian Cricket family, we thank you for everything you have given to cricket and to the community more broadly. Your dedication and selflessness are a lesson to us all and we are both proud of your achievements and sincerely grateful for all that you have given to the game.

Thank you for your continued service to Australian Cricket and congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD FREUDENSTEIN
INTERIM CHAIR

NICK HOCKLEY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



2021/22 has been another outstanding year for individual award winners for the BlowFly Cricket community. Please join with me in congratulating the following people on their achievements this year.

<p>2021 "PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE" AWARD</p>	<p>Raniya Nath</p>
<p>2021 THE LIONS CLUB WEST PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK INC "STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE" AWARDS</p>	<p>Robbie Hanks (Year 8) William Hanks (Year 11) Robbie and William were presented this prestigious award at Galston HS Presentation Night on behalf of the West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Lions Club for their volunteer work with BlowFly Cricket. Both Robbie and William are key volunteers at many of our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs.</p>
<p>2021 BAULKHAM HILLS HS "GOLD AWARD"</p>	<p>Aaron Lewis The "Gold Award" award recognised Aaron's outstanding commitment to and involvement in his school. Furthermore, Aaron acquired his NSW Driver Licence during the season. We are all very proud of Aaron for attaining this incredible milestone.</p>
<p>AUSTRALIA DAY 2022 HONOURS MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (OAM)</p>	<p>Bruce Wood OAM Congratulations Bruce on this wonderful recognition of your outstanding voluntary efforts in the local sporting community and beyond over the past two to three decades. Many thanks for your ongoing wonderful support and volunteering with the BlowFly Cricket community. We truly appreciate all that you do.</p>
<p>2022 NSW VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: NORTH WESTERN SYDNEY NOMINEE</p>	<p>James "Pear" Partridge was honoured to be nominated for this keenly contested award. On the day of the awards ceremony he was accompanied by his very proud mum. All associated with BlowFly Cricket join me in sincerely thanking you for your outstanding commitment and dedication to our community.</p>

Bruce G Wood OAM

(Service to Cricket)



The Coaches' Association congratulates its President, **Bruce Wood**, who received an OAM in the Australia Day Honours List on 26 January 2022 for his service to cricket covering nearly 50 years.

Bruce was formally presented with his OAM by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, at Government House, Sydney on 13 May 2022.

After a playing career of over 20 years, Bruce has undertaken an extensive range of coaching (25 years), umpiring (600+ matches), volunteer administrator and executive committee roles within HK&HDCA; Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA); Umpires' Association (HKHDCUA); Normanhurst-Warrawee CC; Barker CC; and the Associated Schools of NSW (CAS).

Rod Hokin
Head Coach
Coaches' Association

Bruce previously received the Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia 'A Sport for All' Community Match Official of the Year awards in 2020.

He has organised and led five U/15 overseas cricket tours to India (twice), Sri Lanka, West Indies and New Zealand, as well as many junior cricket tours to regional NSW carnivals.

He has been the Convenor of the HK&HDCA U/15 Ross Turner Cup and U/13 Glenn Hourigan Cup events since 2010.

Poetry in Motion



BlowFly Cricket

You look at the pitch. Smiling faces, you see
 Hard to imagine, weren't always that way.
 Those, that now play Cricket, as part of a team.
 Wasn't near like it, back in the day!

Then a Giant, battling his own, inner demons,
 wearing a wheelchair, way 'fore his time,
 grew a plan in his mind, making sport
 more inclusive.

The autistic, 'twas their time, to shine!

Mark the Shark, or Champion, or Roller Boy,
 just wouldn't take "no" for an answer.
 Gathered round him a group, of doer's who could.
 Amongst 'em, not one single "prancer!"

Rolled up their sleeves. Needed money to work,
 as well as support, to succeed.

Did all that they could, and a hell of a lot more.
 With the help that they gained, they achieved!

Parents, were very supportive.
 So too, were the powers that be,
 but, breaking through, those fragile shells,
 most thought, they'd best wait and see.

But, Mark, that man's on a mission!
 Led from the front, but ably supported.
 Soon, from their shells, "BlowFlies," emerged.
 Growing self esteem, duly reported!

Played on hallowed grounds, part of a Cricket Test.
 Their futures, now, know no bounds.
 Where once withdrawn, proudly part of a team.
 Today, playing on numerous grounds.

The "Uncoachables" coaching "Uncoachables,"
 a pipe dream, way back when.
 But those very ones, to whom it was hard
 to get through, gaining Certifications, now,
 of their own!

The "Angels" far too many to name.
 Unfair, to leave, one out.
 But, a champ in a wheelchair, made a plan,
 that brought this, all about!

BlowFly Cricket Forever!

BY: **Mick Adams**



Editors Comment:
 Mick Adams is a reserved gentleman who insisted the focus of this poem was to be the 'Founder' depicted in the BlowFly Cricket poster artwork.

Cricketer's Heaven

by Mick Adams

What's happened, just now, to our legends?
 Shame important, they age, just like us!
 Now, headed right off, to their calling,
 Looking down, shaking their heads, as the fuss.

If, Cricket's the game played in Heaven, what a team, walks into the park,
 Jesus, what a job, as selector, but,
 some for eternity, making their mark.

Two leggies, now bowling, in tandem.
 Warwick's "Flipper," these bats can't defend.
 Tiger O'Reilly, then jogs up. He takes off his cap, and bowls from the Pearly Gates, end.

"Demon" Spofforth, he opens the bowling.
 Sir Don, he's there, at first drop.
 "Bacchar" playing his trade, to the best that there's been, with two
 "newbies," who'll God, give the chop?

Didn't know that "Heaven," played home and away.
 Dark competitive streak there, as well.
 Friendlies are played, 'mongst the Angels, but, 'tis the Ashes, that's
 played for, in Hell!



Parents Perspective



BlowFly Cricket Club – The Gift that Keeps on Giving

My daughter, Akanksha Swarup, has special needs. She attends the BlowFly Cricket Club which provides cricket sessions and other cricket related opportunities for people with special needs. Needless to say, Akanksha is an absolute cricket nutter. She has been attending the club for several years now and is one of the senior pros.

When Akanksha asked if she could play cricket, we were a bit apprehensive. Despite her enthusiasm, she was also a bit stressed walking into unfamiliar territory. BlowFly Cricket soon turned into her new family and over the years it became an anchor point for her social life. She even attained a Level 1 coach accreditation with Cricket Australia.

During the season, Akanksha attends the BlowFly Cricket sessions at James Park, Hornsby and James Henty Reserve, Dural.

In addition she coaches cricket at two sessions a week, plays Social Womens Cricket and trains with Special Olympics Sydney Upper North Shore. That is six sessions a week of cricket, which leaves a big void when the season is over. The winter cricket season with BlowFly Cricket is a big saviour in the off-season.

We have seen the BlowFly Cricket Club continue its development this year. It has a bigger team of volunteers that run the sessions and the administration. There is greater degree of governance and the fund-raising efforts with various organisations keeps on supporting improved facilities.

Cricket NSW cherishes the club as an example of how to provide cricket for people with special needs.

Mark Rushton, the founder, and the BlowFly team of volunteers cannot be thanked enough for providing Akanksha a space for her enthusiasm and connecting her to the cricket eco-system.

BlowFly Cricket Club is truly the gift that keeps on giving!



Aditya Sarup



Chris has been attending BlowFly Cricket for some years now. He attends both the Summer Program at James Park and the Winter Program at PCYC, Waitara. Chris lives for his cricket days with BlowFly and is always so keen to attend that he wakes up at 5.30am on these days and gets dressed ready for cricket – with his bag at the door waiting. Chris gets a kick out of not only giving it a go with the cricket but also the social aspect – meeting up with his friends, chatting, having a laugh, and especially catching or bowling them out on occasions.

He told me the other day that he got to cook the BBQ at PCYC – fact or fiction I am unsure of . . . but he revelled in the fact he was the cook for the evening. On occasions I will attend the summer program with Chris and enjoy being out there on the field myself, especially when I catch Christopher out ha ha ha. He tells me to go home!!

It's lovely watching the camaraderie that these wonderful young BlowFly Cricketers have with each other.

Off the cricket field Chris and I have had the privilege to assist in some fundraising BBQs at Bunnings which Chris loves attending – not to help (that's mum's job) but for the socialisation and chatting to the Bunnings customers.

Last Christmas I had the opportunity to dress up as Santa and participate in a lovely day with some of the younger BlowFly Cricketers. Their faces and excitement that Santa was batting and being bowled out too was magical.

BlowFly Cricket is such a wonderful program and whenever I have the opportunity, I always suggest to families I meet with children that have disabilities to try it out.



Nikki Nicholls

Editor's Comment:

BlowFly Cricket are thrilled to have so many of our members and their respective family members take on active volunteer roles within our Association. Chris and Nikki certainly encapsulate the spirit and goodwill our inclusive All-Ability community is striving to achieve and excel as they volunteer at our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQ's. Nikki also volunteered to play the demanding "Santa Clause" role at the NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre's Christmas party, much to the delight of all in attendance.

In respect to Nikki's comments *"He told me the other day that he got to cook the BBQ at PCYC – fact or fiction I am unsure of.... but he revelled in the fact he was the cook for the evening."*; yes indeed Chris did cook at the PCYC Sunday evening BBQ. Not only that, Chris also helped a Carer/Volunteer carry the sizzling BBQ undercover when a torrential downpour hit without warning. Chris, take a bow as you are a champion amongst champions.

Parents Perspective *continued*



Nathaniel Baker has been a BlowFly cricketer for many seasons now. He has always been very keen on cricket, growing up with a dad and brothers who love the game and play competitively.

Nat started in regular cricket as an 8 year old, but beyond under 10's the ball became too dangerous with his significant vision issues. We tried Blind Cricket but he didn't like it because he couldn't bowl the ball like his brothers, and he loves being a tall left arm fast bowler.

We found BlowFly Cricket almost by accident, in a chance conversation Nat's mum had with the lovely Kate Guild at a cricket practice for our other sons. Since he found it, he has loved it! Our weeks in summer are countdowns to Saturdays where he gets to play cricket with his new friends and be welcomed and celebrated for what he can bring to the game. Nat loves his coaches and his friends from cricket.

We are so incredibly thankful for the opportunities BlowFly Cricket has provided Nat with to begin coaching in the 'Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables' programme. He has learned many skills in teaching others, following instructions and passing instructions onto others that are important and transferable life skills.

We can't thank Mark Rushton and the generous folk at Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) enough for this opportunity which has been such a blessing for Nat's self esteem.

It's August as I write this, and so every day the question is, 'When does the cricket season start?'

How good is cricket? And how great is BlowFly Cricket to make this accessible to people like our Nathaniel?



Keith Baker

Editor's Comment:

Nathaniel ("Nat") is one of the real characters of BlowFly Cricket. He certainly meets the criteria of being one of our champions amongst champions in the truest sense of the word. He has a real 'mixed bag' of disabilities including: vision impairment, cerebral palsy, cognitive delay and hearing impairment all stemming from brain damage at birth. Despite these obstacles Nat has a zest for life and playing cricket, just like his brothers who love playing our national summer sport. As his proud father, Keith writes above, Nat is a member of our *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables* program. Nat loves coaching children and is developing new skills, confidence and improved self esteem which does not go unnoticed.

Well done Nat . . . all associated with our BlowFly Cricket community join with me in congratulating you on your outstanding contribution to all-ability cricket and beyond.

Club Coach Roundup – James Park



Another season came to a close with the hint of COVID still milling around. It was great the mob could all get together, socialise and play their brand of cricket.

The usual suspects were in attendance; Ronnie, Maddie, Nick, Akanksha, Jacob, Duck, Mark P. etc. They were always patient with their taking turns and keeping each other included in the on-field action. There were some real "speckies" taken this season. Great to see the old hand-eye coordination improving too.

A special mention to Maddie for her acceptance in taking on a greater decision-making role by selecting batters for their turn etc. Magnificent growth in her confidence.

Another special mention; to all the volunteers who cook to feed the hungry Blowflies! Dougal you are a true legend!!

With any luck my role will soon become obsolete. In the meantime, I am still honoured to have had this position bestowed upon me and will keep cracking the whip to make sure the time we have together flows (not like the torrent that flooded into the gear shed).

Hopefully next year Aunty La Nina will have left us (and stayed away) so we can have a more reasonable summer of Blowfly Cricket.



Steve Perry

*Coach
CA Accredited Community
Coach*

Editor's Comment:

Steve Perry has taken on the wondrous voluntary role of Club Coach at the JPCG for the past seven seasons. What an amazing job he has done not only with our members but also factored in mentoring many volunteers, carers and family members and always armed with a smile. Steve is a gentleman of the game who derives great pleasure from being able to play cricket with his son, Mark who literally is a giant of our game.

Excitingly, we are looking at sponsoring Steve to complete his Cricket Australia Accredited Representative (formerly Level 2) coach qualification to ensure there are no out of pocket expenditure from Steve and his delightful family. More discussion is required here and I am confident Steve will be able to acquire this higher coaching qualification which will give him more skills and confidence which can only benefit our all-ability inclusive club. Well done Steve as you are a true champion of the game.

WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre



Unfortunately Mother Nature was not kind to us this season, it seems the rains started as soon as lockdown finished so the James Henty Centre had more washouts than wickets. COVID and other illnesses also kept numbers down but nothing could stop our regulars attending whenever possible for some laughs, great cricket, good-hearted sledging and the best Friday night BBQ in Sydney. As always (and most importantly) new friendships were made and old ones rekindled.

The delayed season finally kicked off on November 5, once government restrictions were lifted. Everyone got straight back into the fun, keen to blow off the COVID cobwebs and stretch their lockdown legs. It was a season of sixes and classic catches, some new twists to speed up the game.

We started the season by trialling Nicola Jones's successful winter cricket format of batting pairs and rotating fielders. The players appreciated the faster game play but probably didn't appreciate the nagging from Kate Guild and I that accompanied it.

Next season, we will be looking to incorporate a three strikes and run/ hitting from cones rule (*similar to the Women's Social Comp*).

This will speed things up even more and challenge the players to trial new fielding positions.

The repeated rain bombs (yes that is the official meteorological term) that struck the western side of the Gorge in February and March wreaked havoc with the playing schedule, turning James Henty Oval into a mosquito-infested swamp. Innovative as ever, we introduced the inaugural Snorkel Session on February 11 with a pitch on the only high ground near the BBQs and fielders strategically positioned in the surrounding lake, umbrellas at the ready for the impending downpour.

A special mention must also be made of Tim Erickson's superb bowling and fielding at the February 18 session. Tim took three catches, one of them a classic one handed catch that knocked him off his feet! Some straight bowling saw him knock over the stumps and there was more than one direct hit on the stumps at the non-strikers end. What an awesome finish to the season. Last, but definitely not least, thank you:

• Mike Kinchington - thank you for your ongoing support. The players really appreciate your coaching and umpiring at every game;

- Nicola Jones, Shabana Hakim and Audjima Kong (Jima): thank you ladies for manning the BBQ in all weather conditions, at times literally cooking up a storm in a storm. Nothing tastes better than these sausage sandwiches for Friday dinner. The cheeky girl-talk is also hilarious.
- Kate Guild – thank you for being our official photographer, cheerleader and player wrangler.
- Many, many thanks to our supporters and sponsors including WPHCCC, Veri Shades and the BRAMAR Group for your generous ongoing support.



Fiona Mohr-Hanks
Centre Coordinator
CA Accredited Community Coach

NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre



NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre I enjoyed another year being part of the NDCC / BlowFly Cricket Inclusion Program. The season was unfortunately interrupted by rain but we enjoyed the sessions we had.

One of the greatest sessions included the film crew from the TV show, The Project. It was amazing to see ourselves on TV. We certainly looked a professional group in our BlowFly gear.

This program would not have been possible without the great effort from Daniel Anderson, Jordan Jones and the fantastic commitment from all the other coaches. Special thanks to Jordan who came along on crutches for the second half of the season.

Thanks to Mark Rushton (Roller Boy) for getting this program up and running.

Thank you to Drifter Langford for manning the BBQ on several occasions.

This program benefits the coaches and all the participants and I am proud to be part of it.

We look forward to the start of next year.



Harry Langford
CA Accredited Community
Coach
NDCC Special Olympics

Editor's Comment:

Harry Langford certainly meets the rigorous criteria of being a genuine champion amongst champions. His proud parents, Lisa and Mike 'Drifter' have been stalwarts of the game and outstanding volunteers for our local NSW Premier Grade Club – Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) for what seems an eternity. They remain proactive supporters of all-ability sports, namely cricket, which is of tremendous benefit to Harry and his peers.

Highlights for Harry include;

- Represented Australia in softball at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, 2011.
- Represented NSW in golf at the National Titles, winning a bronze medal.
- Playing cricket for 11 seasons with St Ives Wahroonga CC with his best bowling return where he took 6/20 playing D Grade Men for St Ives at Hassall Park, St Ives.
- Selected for NSW ID team holding his own with two wickets on a regular basis though the games were few and far between.

Women's Social Smash Program



The Summer Women's Cricket was a seven week program held at Storey Park, Asquith mainly focusing on women playing a fun and enjoyable game of cricket. Every week we would be split into our respective teams and we would play against each team throughout the season.

Unfortunately, the weather affected many of the sessions, causing many cancellations throughout the season. When the wet weather permitted the Women's Social Smash was a fun and very sociable experience. For all of the players, it was more than a bit unfortunate we did not get to go to many sessions because of the ongoing rainy weather.

This program shows that women can play cricket and it is not only a male sport. This is also a great example of female empowerment, a great experience for women of all ages and all nationalities.



Aya Iwabuchi
Program Coordinator
CA Accredited Community Coach

This was our second season of Women's cricket. We fielded a team of 10 very keen women who showed all the skill of any of the professional women we watch play for Australia. Bowling, batting and fielding prowess was on display for all to see. Our team was one with a mixture of all abilities and disabilities and we often matched our opposition run for run in many keenly contested games.

Our BlowFly Women's team did us proud. We are all looking forward to next season.



Nicola Jones
Team Manager
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor's Comment:

Congratulations Nicola Jones and our hardy group of women players, who like all of us, endured a difficult "on again off again" extremely wet season. With more postponements than actual games I can only imagine how difficult it would have been to maintain interest, motivation and attendance when the few games were played. Moving forward, one can only hope the coming 2022/23 Season is kinder to all weather wise with less cancellations.

Nicola is to be commended for the sterling job she performed as Team Manager, which is a volunteer role that often goes unnoticed and can be a relatively thankless role. Nicola is a wonderful "volunteer parent" for the BlowFly Cricket community taking on many roles which we, as a grassroots community organisation are extremely grateful to her.

Personally, I am in awe of Nicola in how she accomplishes all that she does do in juggling a busy family life, working long hours, studying and still managing to find the time, motivation and enthusiasm to volunteer . . . all with a smile.
THANK YOU NICOLA!

Northern Beaches All Abilities Cricket Program



Coaches from BlowFly Cricket, Mark Perry, Aaron Lewis, William Hanks and Aya Iwabuchi helped coach seven kids with a range of disabilities at the Disability Blast program run by the Manly-Warringah Cricket Club and Cricket NSW.

The group met over four consecutive Saturday mornings at Lionel Watts Oval in Frenchs Forest. The kids had a range of disabilities including cerebral palsy, autism and ADHD. Head Coach Steve Perry oversaw operations.

The aim of the program was to help disabled kids and youth pursue their cricketing passion.

Ben Bryant from Cricket NSW hopes the program will make cricket accessible to as many people as possible.

“We want to make cricket accessible to those who thought they couldn’t participate and create a safe space where people with disabilities can connect.”

Ben praised the coaches for their efforts. *“The coaches have been a shining light and the kids look up to them and recognise that they have had a similar journey to them in terms of their cricket.”*

One of the kids who attended was an 8-year-old boy with cerebral palsy who uses a walking frame. His mother watched as he bowled on his knees and dived and scrambled along the turf to retrieve balls. She said that the coaches were fun and engaging and the program gives the kids a sense of belonging.

A 13-year-old girl with CHARGE syndrome, a multi-sensory disorder also enrolled. Last year, she played with her local community cricket club but this year her peers advanced to a longer, faster game with harder balls.

Her mother believes this program is a better alternative because it allows her daughter to improve her skills and confidence in a safe environment.

All those involved in the program hope the program will continue into the future.

Steve Perry agrees with Ben Bryant that the program will help to *“create a strong foundation and pathway for people from the grassroots level to continue their cricketing journey”* and that *“cricket is a sport for all!”*



Amanda Perry
Amateur Journalist

Winter Season – PCYC



Our Winter Cricket sessions on a Sunday evening may start a little cold but once the sausage sizzle is in full swing, the tummies are full and the game begins we all warm up and the fun starts.

Unfortunately our season was cut short last year due to COVID but we were back with a bang this year. PCYC at Waitara opens up their basketball courts for our coaches to run an hour and a half sessions of batting, bowling and fielding.

We have an enthusiastic group of volunteers and players who chase, catch, runout and cheer on each other while learning and practising the skills of our great game. We have found the winter sessions allows our players, coaches and volunteers to maintain their skills and keep the friendships going over the offseason.

Well, that's a wrap for winter cricket 2022. We can safely say it was a big success once again with new faces joining our regulars for the sausage sizzle and a game of cricket. The best thing is that we were never rained out, so our season was a full one.

We welcomed our major winter season sponsor, Blitzit Plan Manager, for our end of season Presentation Evening. They joined in and had a great time playing with our Blowies. Due to their generosity, we were able to offer discounted fees to our regulars and new shirts to our new players. Thanks so much to the whole Team Blitzit.

I would like to thank all of our fabulous volunteers and the parents and carers of the Blowies for their help to run the sessions. We look forward to seeing you all at our summer sessions at James Henty Oval, Dural on Friday evenings and James Park, Hornsby on Saturdays.

We really hope to see you all next winter. Enjoy the summer cricket season, see you there.



Nicola Jones
Winter Season Coordinator
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor's Comment:

I was lucky to be able to attend a couple of sessions throughout the season. What impressed me the most was a number of things including the camaraderie and fun everyone was having. The loud noise levels is always a sure giveaway as to how much fun everyone is having at the time.

A couple of memorable moments were Chris Nicholls volunteering to help cook the BBQ, relocate the BBQ undercover to escape the teeming rain and assisting with the cleanup and packing away . . . a marvellous effort by Chris.

I will never forget my first meeting with John Massoud, a fiercely competitive and talented gentleman. On finishing his first bat he asked me how many runs he had scored to which I replied "an amazing 720 runs". You couldn't wipe the smile from his face. After John's second bat he again asked how many runs he scored? My answer this time was "48 runs giving you a total of 768 runs". John was thrilled and insisted his achievement be included in the news. Wonderful experiences, simply wonderful.

St Andrew's College Children's Holiday Camp



What a treat to be invited to assist Mark for another year at Sony Foundation St Andrew's College Children's Holiday Camp on Thursday 16 December.

With a Cricket NSW Coach's bag full of bats, balls, stumps and many more items it was a big success. As usual the children are a little pensive at first and then within 10 minutes batting and bowling are in full swing. A couple of real stars admitted they had never played before but watch the cricket on TV.

I could see by their bowling and batting that they had mirrored perfectly the stance, the big bowl, the bat hitting the ground a couple of times while waiting for the ball to be bowled. Although they were a bit reluctant to take turns, they did and were cheered for their sharing.

Again, I have to admit watching these children with disabilities try so hard is so rewarding. As usual Mark supplied every child with a BlowFly Medal (*comes with a neckband*) – the children were delighted that they could take these medals home.



Julie Davis
Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach



Source Kids Disability Expo Sydney 2022



This March, BlowFly Cricket alongside Cricket NSW were lucky enough to be invited to the Source Kids Expo to run a cricketing workshop, raise awareness of our organisation, and our goals to create a fun learning environment centred around our beloved game of cricket.

The morning began with three of the head coaches Ronnie MacKenzie, Harry Langford and Akanksha Swarup being chauffeured to their venue. The conversations on that ride were dominated with cricket talk; in addition to topics of Ronnie's displeasure and fear of our government continuing to back electric vehicles over non-electric cars, as he sees it as disrespect towards himself and his motor-head community; and of course Akanksha ran us through her busy but important week at work and swimming lessons and I assure you not a single detail was missed in that 20min monologue.

Upon arrival we grouped up with the last two coaches, Aaron Lewis and Aya Iwabuchi and proceeded into the waiting platform to meet the volunteers from Cricket NSW who were lovely and helpful.

Once we had left the waiting platform and entered the Expo hall the atmosphere changed immediately, the crowd stared sending tingles up and down the groups spines but the coaches were not affected as they knew what the stares really meant. The crowds stared in awe of the BlowFly elite, they knew we meant business. That was exactly what we did.

Our cricketing Masterclass attained the biggest crowd the Expo Staff had ever seen. We ran throwing drills with Akanksha and Aya, catching drills with Harry, and bowling drills with Ronnie and Aaron. Children from all over the Expo ran from their parents and carers to be the next in line to be involved with our highly experienced coaches and learn about the game played in heaven, not Rugby Union as some believe, but CRICKET!

The Expo hall was now filled with laughter, cheers of accomplishment, and the silence of concentration all at once. It was mesmerising. This was enough to trigger the universe to open the skies to Asgard, as Thor, the God of Thunder and most importantly the mascot of the Sydney Thunder dropped into our Masterclass bringing presents, prizes, information on our incredible organisation, spreading awareness about what we do, when we do it, and how they can get themselves involved.

Once our life changing Masterclass came to an end we humbly walked back to our change rooms with our heads held high, the stares from the aspiring crowd had not been diminished but instead were far more intense, again our veteran coaches were unaffected. It was the cherry on top for this meaningful and fun day.



I would like to say a huge thank-you from BlowFly to the staff and volunteers that ran the Expo, none of the day would have been possible without your contributions. Thank-you to Cricket NSW for your support and the very curious connections with the Asgardian, Thor. Thank-you again as your assistance with handing out our information, and attracting people of the Expo to get involved was invaluable. We wouldn't have had as far a reaching impact without you, so again, thank-you. Finally, thank-you to our team of superstar Coaches. Your composure, manners, cricketing prowess, for being yourselves, and representing the best of BlowFly Cricket to every single person who was lucky enough to have experienced your Masterclass.



James Partridge
 Volunteer
 CA Accredited Community
 Coach

Editor's Comments:



BlowFly Cricket was thrilled to receive an invitation from Cricket NSW to actively participate at the Source Kids Disability Expo 2022 in Sydney. Working in partnership with Cricket NSW, BlowFly Cricket was one of over 150 disability product and service providers.

Other highlights of the expo incld:

- Being able to find information and to be able to speak to providers supporting families of children with a range of disabilities.
- A line up of performers who entertained both young and old.
- A sensory zone where one could relax in a sensory friendly space.
- Fun, sport and chill zones which made it a full and fun day out.
- And loads more . . .

Many thanks to Aya Iwabuchi and James Partridge who volunteered on the day to take a posse of BlowFly Cricketers with them for an amazing experience and adventure.

BlowFly Cricket Visits Studio ARTES



On a cold wintry Wednesday afternoon Mark Rushton and I visited Studio ARTES and what a top spot it is indeed. We were welcomed by all the participants, staff, students and volunteers. They had prepared a lovely afternoon tea, complete with delicious “Mocktails”.

We met an amazing group of people with a range of special needs and/or intellectual disabilities, who can engage in activities of their choice and interests, such as; art, drama, cooking, dance and music. There is something for everybody and all in attendance seemed to be enjoying themselves.

We were taken on a tour by Wendy Bryan, co-founder of Studio ARTES. We were amazed to see wonderful artworks, weaving and delicious cooking. We also heard some great music being made.

We started our BlowFly Cricket Presentation by showing a few YouTube and Cricket Australia videos on BlowFly Cricket, being:

- **Blowfly Cricket Club Helping Aussie kids With Disabilities Play Sport** – *The Project*
<https://youtu.be/fvAzXk8Xiw4>
- **Baggy Caps presented to BlowFly Cricketers**
<https://youtu.be/xsKQd3-Bu2s>
- **A dream comes true at the SCG – Cricket Australia**
<https://www.cricket.com.au/video/blowfly-cricket-at-the-scg-mark-rushton-cricket-australia/2015-01-07>

These well received videos were followed by a brief chat about what goes on at a typical BlowFly Cricket session. The excited attendees then received free giveaways of BlowFly Cricket playing shirts and the very colourful BlowFly Cricket poster.

And what a great surprise it was to see Nicko Callanan-Williams there. Nicko is part of the BlowFly Cricket Leadership Group and a member of the highly considered “Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables” program. He is so proud of being a member of the BlowFly Cricket family.

Studio ARTES is an inclusive all-abilities organisation which is an excellent example of how the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) works well for the broader community as well as benefiting the consumer/s and their respective families.

Thank you again Wendy and all participants for the invitation as both Mark and I had a marvellous and insightful afternoon.



Suzanne Rousek
Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC)



NORTHERN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

P.O. Box 154, Hornsby, NSW 2077

(Founded 26th May, 1925)

ABN: 44 383 144 829

CLUB PATRONS: Mark Taylor AO, Neil Marks, Steve Taylor, Matt Kean, Alister Henskens

NDCC Report for Blowfly Cricket Annual Report 2021/22

It is indeed a pleasure to contribute to the 2021/22 Annual Report of BlowFly Cricket.

NDCC is delighted to be associated with BlowFly Cricket. This season saw a continuation in the growth and impact of the work of BlowFly, despite the challenges of the pandemic and the weather. The wonderful marketing platform represented by *The Project* episode summed up what BlowFly has become and its importance to its players, families, coaches, volunteers. It is also an important part of the local cricket community.

Having established the NDCC- BlowFly Cricket Inclusion Centre in 2020/21, the gears changed with the newly-established home base on Mark Taylor Oval (MTO) becoming a work site over the past summer. Going back to familiar territory at James Park was seamless, although we can't wait to welcome everybody to the new MTO when the field works are completed later in 2022. The oval will be magnificent then and the Indoor Cricket Centre will be a huge additional asset for the Blowies training.

NDCC had a tremendous season on the field. Winning the Men's Club Championship delivered the first back-to-back Championships in our 97-year history. We also won back-to-back Spirit of Cricket Awards. For us it is important to win, but we must win well; the Spirit of Cricket is of enormous value to our Club. Again, we won a 3rd Grade Premiership; as with last season this team played through the season undefeated, a remarkable feat. Of our ten teams across male and female competitions, eight played finals cricket, which is rather amazing.

To have achieved on and off field success, to have contributed to the community and to help others – there is nothing more we can ask for. So ends a challenging, but memorable and rewarding season.

Congratulations to the BlowFly Cricket community on another outstanding season. We congratulate Mark Rushton, Jordan Jones, and the BlowFly Committee on their vision for all abilities cricket and the hard work that have produced such results. Two other 'thank-yous' are necessary: to Cricket NSW and in particular Daniel Anderson, for the support of our governing body; and to the Langfords (Lisa and Mike) who continue to play such an important role in this area.

We think even better is in store next season, so we look forward to seeing you all then!

Jeremy Hook
President

The Coaches' Association



The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) is proud to have been associated with BlowFly Cricket for the past 11 years, mainly through the provision of free coaching sessions at MTO, Waitara and other venues, plus volunteering at the Blowies' fund-raising BBQs at Bunnings Warehouse, Thornleigh.

The close working relationship between the Coaches' Association and BlowFly Cricket originated and continues to prosper through the long-standing friendship between Mark Rushton (*Founder of BlowFly Cricket in 2009*) and Bruce Wood (*President, Coaches' Association since 2010*). Mark and Bruce had previously worked together on the Executive Committee of HK&HDCA, where they are both Life Members, and they seized the opportunity for their two organisations to work together for the mutual benefit of children, junior cricket and the community.

BlowFly Cricket was formed 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.

The children's special needs include autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, Asperger's, and verbal and hearing deficits. They play a hybrid form of cricket on Saturday afternoons at James Park, Hornsby during Terms 4 and 1 (cricket season), followed by a family BBQ.

They also play cricket on Friday evenings with WPHCCC at James Henty Reserve, Dural; and female social cricket at NDCC's home ground on Wednesday evenings. The modified coaching techniques that need to be adopted have proved to be a valuable learning tool for HKHDCCA's young, accredited coaches.

The Coaches' Association held a free coaching session for BlowFly Cricket at Montview Oval, Hornsby Heights, on 12 January 2022. The coaches who helped the Blowies at this session were Bruce Wood, Dani Chivers and Ryan Swain. HKHDCCA congratulates the President of BlowFly Cricket, Jordan Jones, on her inspirational leadership of the organisation, under the mentorship of Founder, Mark Rushton. We wish them well on their exciting journey, which is benefiting so many children and adults with special needs.

One of the highlights of BlowFly Cricket has been the success of their "*Coaching the Uncoachables*" program, whereby suitable BlowFly cricketers attend a modified Community (Level 1) coaching course to gain a formal accreditation, which they use to coach at the Blowies' various programs.



Mark and Jordan approached Bruce Wood and asked if the Coaches' Association would be prepared to engage some BlowFly cricketers as Assistant Coaches at the HKHDCCA / NDCC school holiday (mainstream) junior cricket clinics. This was successfully implemented in 2021-22 when Aaron Lewis, Ronnie MacKenzie, William Hanks and Akanksha Swarup attended part or all of a particular junior clinic. HKHDCCA pays the BlowFly reps for their time at the clinics, which is partially funded by a generous donation of \$500 from Blowfly Cricket to the Coaches' Association in 2022.



Bruce Wood OAM
President
Coaches' Association
CA Accredited
Representative Coach

Coaches' Association Instagram Posts

Liked by [_nmiller96](#) and 35 others

coaches.association Today's photos shine a spotlight on [@roller_boy62](#), who has been a wonderful leader in [@hkhdcda](#) and [@blowfly_cricket](#). Mark is best known as the Founder of [@blowfly_cricket](#) (children and adults with special needs) in 2009 and the driving force behind the organisation for 12 years, achieving strategic growth, youth development, coach accreditation, sponsorship and community support. If you attend any of their fund-raising BBQs [@bunnings](#) Thornleigh, you will see the enjoyment of the participants, and personal development through empowerment, allocation of responsibilities, guidance and individual mentoring.

Mark was inducted as a Life Member of [@blowfly_cricket](#) in 2019. His great work with the Blowflies led to him being presented with the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award on 4-Dec-15 out of over 7,000 nominations.

He was [@hkhdcda](#) President from 2007-08 to 2010-11, and Rep. Secretary from 2001-02 to 2005-06. He was inducted as the 48th Life Member of [@hkhdcda](#) in 2012. He is a [@cricketaustralia](#) Representative (Level 2) accredited coach who coached six [@hornsbydistrictcc](#) teams (U11 – U16) between 1996 – 2002, plus the [@hkhdcda](#) U14 Moore and U15 Weblin Shield rep. teams (2000-02).

He was also a highly regarded cricket umpire who officiated several [@hkhdcda](#) A Grade Finals, rep. matches, and RTC fixtures.

Mark has played a significant role with the [@coaches.association](#). He was the 'brainchild' behind the formation of HKHDCCA when he arranged a coffee meeting with [@bgwood27](#) and [@drifter8561](#) in June 2010 and pitched a proposal to set up a new not-for-profit coaching body to assist [@hkhdcda](#), [@ndcc1925](#) and surrounding districts. He was V-P of the [@coaches.association](#) (2010 - 2012), and has been a Patron since 2015-16. The [@coaches.association](#) was delighted to induct Mark as our fourth Life Member in April 2020.

[@roller_boy62](#) has faced considerable adversity, including some major health challenges, however he always maintains a positive approach to life and helping others. We salute his amazing efforts.

coaches.association Today's photos highlight Ronnie MacKenzie, the male Club Captain of [@blowfly_cricket](#), a wonderful organisation that plays a hybrid form of cricket for children and adults with special needs.

[@blowfly_cricket](#) was formed by [@roller_boy62](#) in 2009 and Ronnie was one of the first group of members, joining in 2010 at age 13. He stood out in those early years at the Blowflies' sessions at James Park, Hornsby, being a strong batsman and bowler, and leading by example. These leadership qualities were recognised and enhanced by the [@blowfly_cricket](#) management group, which led to Ronnie being appointed as one of the Club Captains in 2014.

Ronnie was a member of a [@blowfly_cricket](#) delegation that visited Melbourne in 2019 to help set up a similar centre at Jennings Street School (JSS) in Laverton.

He has enjoyed playing with his Blowfly friends at [@ourscg](#) at luncheon during several international cricket matches.

He is a [@cricketaustralia](#) Community (Level 1) accredited coach. He made representations to [@geoffleemp](#), Member for Parramatta, on a matter that he felt strongly about.

The [@coaches.association](#) has enjoyed Ronnie's participation in our twice yearly cricket coaching sessions at MTO since 2010.

[@bgwood27](#) had pleasure in awarding the [@coaches.association](#) President's Trophy to Ronnie at the [@blowfly_cricket](#) 10th Anniversary gala event at [@hornsbyrsl](#) on 7 June 2019. He was inducted as a Life Member of [@blowfly_cricket](#) at that same event.

coaches.association [@bgwood27](#) President [@coaches.association](#), invited [@jordie.jones](#) President [@blowfly_cricket](#), to our AGM on 7 June to provide an update on Blowfly Cricket. Jordan advised that a 2020-21 had been a wonderful and progressive season for BlowFly Cricket, and thanked the Coaches' Association for the ongoing successful partnership.

Jordan highlighted HKHDCCA's Spring and Summer holidays free coaching clinics for the Blowflies at MTO, Wailara, which have been taking place for the past decade.

Jordan thanked Bruce for regularly volunteering his time at the Fundraising BBQs at Bunnings, Thornleigh, Blowfly Cricket Centre in Dural, and to the Inclusive Centre at MTO for 5-12 year olds. Jordan added that the Blowflies love seeing [@dani_cricket8](#) when she coaches at the various programs.

[@roller_boy62](#), Founder, BlowFly Cricket, joined Jordan in pledging a \$500 donation to the Coaches' Association, which was much appreciated.

BGW congratulated Jordan on being runner-up in Cricket Australia's 2021 Community Cricket Awards in the category of Young Leader of the Year. He added that Jordan is also a finalist in the NSW Community Sports Awards for 2021 in the category of Young Coach, with the awards ceremony set for 17 June. Bruce presented Jordan with a plaque for her great work as an 18 year old volunteer club President.

Observations



I am privileged to once again be asked to pen a few words for inclusion in the BlowFly Cricket Annual Report.

From my perspective it is wonderful to see how this organisation continues to grow and support those persons with a disability to reach their own individual potential.

It is indeed an amazing sight to see all the participants at James Park thoroughly enjoying themselves and who are totally committed. From a Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) perspective it is important to see the partnership continue to grow and in partnership with the NDCC Special Olympics the programs go from strength to strength.

In conclusion may I take this opportunity to commend Mark Rushton on his outstanding continued dedication and contribution to this organisation. Without this man at the helm one wonders how things would progress.

It has been a challenging time through COVID yet each and every participant and all members of the Management Committee have once again stepped up to the plate, going above and beyond.

I wish everyone a successful and eventful 2022/23 season.



Noel Moig
NDCC Life Member

Editor's Comment:

BlowFly Cricket is thrilled with its developing relationship with NDCC, our local Premier Grade Cricket Club, they have left no stone unturned in including our all-ability club.

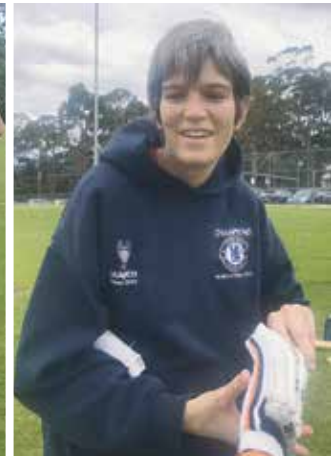
Noel Moig, affectionately referred to as "Moigy" or "Noely", has been a popular and well-loved figure around the local cricket community since year 2000.

Moigy was initially approached by former Australian wicket keeper Brad Haddin, to take on the onerous and often thankless role of the NDCC First Grade Team Manager, to which he remains in the role to this day.

On the 21 July 2016 Moigy was awarded the 48th Life Membership of NDCC, a wonderful recognition bestowed upon this modest gentleman.

Moigy has been a supporter of the local HK&HDCA over the past 25 years and has had a keen interest in BlowFly Cricket since our inception in 2008.

Cricket New South Wales Report



Just when we thought we could finally move on from COVID-19 it decided to rear it's head and delay the start of the cricket season once again in 2021/22. This provided many challenges for our incredible volunteers at BlowFly Cricket who still got the season up and running without fuss, so I would like to thank all volunteers for the work that you did this season.

I am personally very grateful that I have the opportunity to work with BlowFly Cricket and would like to thank all involved at the club for making every interaction a rewarding one.

The NDCC/ BlowFly Cricket Inclusion Centre

In it's second season the NDCC/BlowFly Inclusion Centre continued despite many challenges. I would like to thank Aya, Jordan, Dani, Elysa, Rory, Maddie, Akanksha, Nathaniel, Harry, Mark and all of our other volunteers and coaches for putting their hand up to help create amazing experiences for the kids and parents who attended.

Next season I am sure this program will continue to go from strength to strength as we build on the success of the first two seasons and are once again allowed to run programs in our local schools to promote registrations. Social Women's Cricket

This season we once again saw very strong participation from BlowFly Cricket at our Women's Social Smash program in Asquith. A new location and Omicron saw numbers drop slightly year on year, but all participants had a great time and were once again provided the opportunity to both play and love cricket.

Cricket NSW is committed to ensuring that cricket is a sport for all and this program shows that people who are living with a disability can participate, compete and enjoy cricket in all forms, against any opposition.

Source Kids Expo – Sydney

In 2021/22 Cricket NSW was offered an opportunity to run an activation at the Source Kids Expo at the International Convention Centre in Sydney and we did not hesitate to ask BlowFly Cricket to be our partners on the day. Molly Barlow from Cricket NSW organised a great program which was truly brought to life by our BlowFly volunteers.

The feedback on the day was amazing and we are looking to partner with Source Kids again in future to continue to inspire kids who are living with a disability to play and love cricket.

Volunteers

As mentioned, this season pushed volunteers harder than they had been pushed before and I would like to emphasise once again that Cricket NSW is truly grateful for the work that each and every one of you do. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our game and BlowFly Cricket is bursting at the seams with great people who just want to make a positive difference in the lives of others which is something to be incredibly proud of. To all volunteers associated with BlowFly Cricket – Thank you!



Daniel Anderson
Cricket NSW Area Manager
– Sydney North

HK&HDCA Report



The 2021/22 season was one of uncertainty, with the start delayed due to COVID restrictions. Despite this uncertainty and a six week delay to the start of the season, a record number of senior (77) and junior (143) teams competed this season.

The senior competition format was exclusively one day games in the preliminary rounds to assist clubs in managing the impact of COVID isolation for those who tested positive and close contacts. The T20 competition was not held due to the late start to the season.

Finals returned to the normal two day format, with seven clubs winning premierships over the ten grades. Once again Berowra CC won the A grade premiership, and Beecroft CC won the club championship for the first time in 20 years.

Very strong numbers in the junior competition placed our grounds at full capacity. WPHCC winning U17 and U13, Oakhill College U15 and U14, and Kissing Point CC taking out the U12 premiership. Girls only teams competed in a combined competition with North Shore Junior Cricket Association.

Representative teams competed in the NSW Youth Championships and IDCA competitions. The Under 12 Cawsey Shield team narrowly lost their final to Blacktown.

Three players who came through our junior and representative ranks played in Australia's Under 19 World Cup side that came 3rd in the tournament: Lachlan Shaw, Corey Miller, and Jack Nisbet.

Gavin Wingfield was bestowed Life Membership of the association for his exemplary service on the Senior Competition Committee and Disputes & Disciplinary Committee. Jose da Silva was awarded the Jim Fuggle Medal for his services to the Asquith Rugby League CC.

Bruce Wood was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to cricket in the Australia Day honours.

The association was successful in some grant applications that will assist with ground improvements in the area. These improvements include an upgrade of facilities at BlowFly Cricket Centres: nets upgrade at James Park and the replacement of the pitch at James Henty Oval for a wider, longer pitch.

On behalf of the association I'd like to thank all the volunteers who contribute to the running of the BlowFly Cricket program and best wishes for another successful season ahead.



Scott Reid
Executive Officer HK&HDCA



The team at Anglomoil are proud to have been associated with BlowFly Cricket over the past four years. We welcome the regular visits we receive from Mark Rushton and his friendly carers. And any visit would not be complete without his dogs in tow.

Mark has even helped with landscaping our gardens, though Vivienne has been the legs of this endeavour. Therefore, we at Anglomoil are very pleased to support the BlowFly Cricket community in what ever means we can. Whether it be collecting cans and bottles for the Blowies Return and Earn fundraising initiative or purchasing raffle tickets in the annual Toyota Good for Cricket raffle, where 100% of sales are returned to the club.

Anglomoil are thrilled to continue to support this amazing, inclusive, all-abilities club. Anglomoil further supports BlowFly Cricket via printing and laminating on a needs basis.

We at Anglomoil plan to continue to support the BlowFly Cricket club well into the future and welcome any new means by which we can do this.

A little known fact is the Jams and Relishes which Mark and his various sous-chefs produce, are highly addictive and have been known to be purchased in large quantities by two individuals who we shall not name at Anglomoil.

We are thrilled to know 100% of the proceeds of the Jams and Relishes sales are donated to BlowFly Cricket.



Vivienne Nissen
Volunteer
CA Accredited Community Coach

Editor's Comments:

Club Captain, Ronnie MacKenzie will find the following technical information of interest as he has a keen interest in fuels and motor vehicles.

Commitment to quality for over four decades Anglomoil, an Australian owned and operated manufacturer have developed quality products which outperform the majors.

Anglomoil lubricants are high quality. The same blend used in standard road cars is also the first choice for champion motor racing teams. More than a manufacturer, the AnglomOil Lubricants Group is a Technology Partner delivering a Complete Lubricant Solution™ (CLS).

The Complete Lubricant Solution™ Anglomoil offer world-class formulations. To date, they have developed and produced over 400 premium lubricants across a portfolio of 800 products, these are supplied to over 4000 customers and distributors in the Agricultural, Construction, Manufacturing, Mining, Transport, Automotive and Marine industries.

2021/22 Season Highlights



BlowFly Cricket working in partnership with Cricket NSW delivers a well attended centre-stage session at the 2022 Source Kids Expo, in Darling Harbour, Sydney.



BlowFly Cricket delivers our most popular inclusive all-ability Centre on Saturday afternoons at James Park, Hornsby.



BlowFly Cricket working in partnership with NDCC deliver an inclusive all-ability Centre on Tuesday afternoons at James Park, Hornsby.



BlowFly Cricket working in partnership with WPHCCC deliver a popular inclusive all-ability Centre on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural.



The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) hosted a free Coaching Clinic for BlowFly Cricket members at Montview Oval, Hornsby Heights.



The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) supported the unique BlowFly Cricket "Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables" program by employing a number of our coaches as Assistant Coaches at several school holiday coaching clinics for children.



The BlowFly Cricket "Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables" program teamed with Manly-Warringah CC and Cricket NSW to provide coaches at the inaugural Northern Beaches All Abilities Cricket Program held on Saturday mornings at Cromer, Sydney.



The BlowFly Cricket "Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables" program teamed with WPHCCC to provide coaches at the Junior Blasters & Master Blasters programs held on Saturday mornings at Cherrybrook, Sydney.

Friends of BlowFly Cricket Register



PHOTO CREDIT: Nong Vang

“We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.” Mother Teresa

ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde)
Mick and Shirley Adams
All Seasons Trophies
Daniel Anderson (NSW Cricket Manager – North Shore)
Anglomoil
Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)
Bendigo Bank (Lindfield and Turramurra)
Brian Binfield LM
Bite Me Bakehouse
Blitzit Plan Manager
Brokenwood Wines
Boris Brownlee
Bunnings Warehouse
Thornleigh
Cassandra and Michael Burgin
Caring Approach
Castlecove Golf Club
CBA Hornsby
ClubGRANTS
Club Turramurra
Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)
Lyn Cleary and Mick Saliwon
Doug Connely
Country Wide
Cricket Australia
Cricket NSW
Robyn Cuming
Aaron Dragwidge (CA Diversity & Inclusion Specialist)
Fullpoint Graphics
George's Fine Meats
Good Sports
Gordon Golf Club
Grassroots Cricket Fund
Timena and Stan Grace
Pat 'Spud' Guild
Hornsby RSL Club
Hornsby Shire Council
HKHDCA
Legends Under Glass
Magpies Waitara
Krissy McNamara
Andrew Miedler
Mt Kuring-gai Village Butchery
Nanna Audrey
NDCC
Ken Newman
Barry Nissen
Marnie Nissen
NSW Office of Sport
Peter Penprase
Play By The Rules (PBTR)
Rotary Club of Wahroonga
James Rushton
Mark Rushton
Uncle Snake
Sydney Sixers
The Centre for Volunteering
Toyota Good For Cricket
Veri Shades
Volunteering Australia
West Pennant Hills Sports Club
West Pymble Bicentennial Club
Aaron Wharton (Sydney Sixers Fan Engagement Specialist)
WPHCCC

Business Partnerships

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



Message from the Founder



The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2017 stated resilience is:

“the ability of community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, adapt, transform and recover from the effects of hazard in a timely and efficient manner”

With this quote in mind I firmly believe the BlowFly Cricket community has shown wonderful resilience in managing throughout the unique COVID-19 pandemic. All of our wonderful volunteers are to be thanked for their ongoing commitment, support and hard work in ensuring all our BlowFly Cricket Centres and fundraising activities continued throughout what has been a challenging period of time worldwide.

There have been so many highlights throughout the 2021/22 Season in what, to my mind has been the most successful and progressive season in our 13 year history. All of these have been elaborated on throughout the 2021/22 Season Annual Report.

BlowFly Cricket continues to provide benchmark progressive programs for our members, including the highly regarded *“Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables”* program. This unique all-ability program is offering increasing opportunities to our fantastic Cricket Australia Accredited Community Coaches.

Many thanks to Cricket NSW, West Pennant Hills Cricket Club (WPHCCC), the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) and Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) for the amazing coaching opportunities and experiences you provide to many of our *“Uncoachable Coaches”*.

To all of our sponsors and supporters, all associated with our BlowFly Cricket community join with me in sincerely thanking you for your ongoing generosity and support. Without your level of support BlowFly Cricket would not be anywhere near where it is today as a leading inclusive all-ability multi-cultural community grassroots sporting association. Thank you to our major partners for your ongoing financial support through in-kind sponsorship, grants and/or sponsorship: ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde), All Seasons Trophies, Australia Sports Foundation (ASF), Bite Me Bakehouse, Blitzit Plan Manager, Bunnings Warehouse (Thornleigh), Caring Approach, Cricket Australia, Cricket NSW, Fullpoint Graphics, The Centre for Volunteering and Toyota (Good for Cricket raffle).

Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) is to be thanked for their ongoing generous support of BlowFly Cricket through the provision of the grounds where we host our Centres, James Park (JPCG) and James Henty Reserve. Furthermore, Rebecca Allen (Parks Facilities Officer) and Andrew Wright (Sportsground Liaison Officer) from the HSC Parks, Trees & Recreation team are to be applauded for the rapid response time and attention to detail when dealing with any ground problems, we as a club raise from time to time. The professionalism, respect, care and support we receive from the HSC Parks, Tree & Recreation team has been and continues to be second to none. Thank you Team.

I hope you enjoyed reading our 2021/22 Season Annual Report as much as I have.



Mark Rushton PLV
Founder
CA Accredited
Representative Coach

WANTED



Dead or Alive Thelma & Louise

The above photo depicts the wonderful camaraderie and friendships of many of our wonderful volunteers who ensure the ongoing success of our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs. Jan Brock and Pat "Spud" Guild went to Woolworths Thornleigh to pickup \$230+ of provisions, including sausages, bread, onions, drinks and sauces. Somehow, these two charming ladies innocently convinced the staff there was no need to pay, hence the "Thelma & Louise Wanted" poster. By the way, once we realised what had occurred, being "stock not paid for" we quickly returned to the store to pay in full.

PHOTO CREDIT: Mark Rushton

DESIGN: Brian Binfield



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