



**BlowFly Cricket  
Annual Report  
2022-23**



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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:** Kate Guild (BlowFly Cricket Secretary / Director of Operations)

The front cover photo depicts the diversity and joy that BlowFly Cricket brings to the community. This photo was taken on 17 March 2023 at our Friday evening WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre at James Henty Reserve and coincided with St Patrick's Day. BlowFly Cricket is a community grassroots sport for all, played for the fun and sheer enjoyment of the game.



# Management Committee/Leadership Group



**Jordan Jones**  
Honorary President



**Bill Peterkin**  
Honorary Vice-President



**Mark Rushton**  
Honorary Treasurer/  
Public Officer



**Kate Guild**  
Honorary Secretary/  
Director of Operations



**Marnie Nissen**  
Fundraising Manager



**Ben Gussey**  
Project Officer



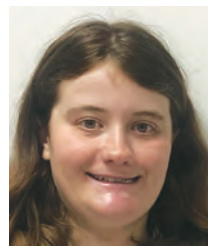
**Andrew Bayles**  
Historical Officer



**Brian Binfield**  
Publications Officer



**Craig Stubbs**  
Coaching Consultant



**Maddie Jones**  
Associate Member



**Ronnie MacKenzie**  
Associate Member



**Akanksha Swarup**  
Associate Member



**Steve Perry**  
Club Coach



**Nicola Jones**  
Equipment and  
Clothing Officer



**Maddie Shortte**  
Associate Member  
(Victoria)



**Kevin Lewis**  
CSO/MPIO



**Fiona Mohr-Hanks**  
Associate Member



**Shabana Hakim**  
Associate Member

## PRESIDENTS

2012-13 Mrs NJ Cooke  
2013-20 Mrs DM MacKenzie  
2020-22 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 OPERATION

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

## TREASURER

2012- Mr MW Rushton

## CHILD SAFETY & MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (CFO)

2021- Mr K Lewis

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

## COACHING CONSULTANT

2015- Mr CJ Stubbs

## ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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  
2019- Mr N Baker  
2019- Mr M Perry

## LEADERSHIP GROUP CONT

2020- Miss K Yeboah  
2020- Miss P Yeboah  
2022- Mr J Buczek

## LEADERSHIP GROUP (WPHCC DURAL CENTRE)

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

## AMBASSADORS

2015- Mrs D Anderson OBC  
2016- Mr E Hyde  
2018- Mr A James OAM  
2018- Mr B Wood OAM  
2019- Mr M Gillies  
2023- Mr B Kimberley OAM

## CENTRE COORDINATORS

Ms S Hakim (JPCG)  
Miss M Jones (JPCG)  
Mrs F Mohr-Hanks (WPHCC)  
Mrs K Guild (WPHCC)  
Miss A Swarup (NDCC)  
Mr N Callanan-Williams (Assistant Coordinator NDCC)

## CENTRE COORDINATORS CONT

The Jones Family [Nicola, Maddie, Jordan, Bronte, Dominic and May (Winter Indoor Cricket)]

## FIRST AID OFFICERS

Miss M Jones  
Miss J Jones  
Ms S Hakim

## CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

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

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr M Rushton (Chairperson Signatory)  
Mrs K Guild (Signatory)  
Miss J Jones (Signatory)  
Mr B Peterkin (Signatory)  
Mr R Shivashankaran

## FOOTNOTE:

Inactive members to be included in the 2023-2024 Roll of Honour.



# President's Report



As the weather cools down, our summer season wraps up! It seems after a hard few years of natural disasters and a global pandemic, we are finally reaching the other side. It has been a tough ride with many obstacles along the way, but we have made it and we have made it as a team! Similarly, despite what has been thrown our way, BlowFly Cricket has continued to grow and expand. We have now reached a point where our own all-abilities players run the BlowFly Cricket centres themselves, coaching and managing as well as playing. It is truly inspiring to see and is absolutely a highlight of my week!

Our centres ran smoothly this season, including: our Friday night WPHCCC Centre at James Henty Oval (Dural), our Saturday JPCG Centre at James Park (Hornsby), and our 5-12yr old NDCC Inclusive Centre at James Park (Hornsby) and Mark Taylor Oval (Waitara). Thank you to all of those involved in running the centres and the BBQs each week! We got through the season with only a few wet weather cancellations and a net session if the weather got a bit too hot! Our Sunday night winter cricket season has also begun and has now been moved to the NDCC Indoor Nets Centre at Mark Taylor Oval (Waitara).

I would like to say a big congratulations to our players this season! I saw some incredible improvements in all aspects of the game which could only be a result of the determination and perseverance of our BlowFly Cricketers! We had pace bowlers learning to spin, batters setting world-wide records and some of our best catches yet!

As always it was awesome to see families come together at BlowFly Cricket! We welcome siblings, parents, grandparents, carers, and more to join us at BlowFly and to watch the growth of our players in our sport and in our community (not to say we don't love a little sibling rivalry, I sure do love getting Maddie out sometimes, sorry Maddie!) We also welcome carers to come and join in the fun!

I would like to say another big thank you to our sponsors! All of our members here at BlowFly Cricket receive their own jersey sporting their chosen name and number on the back.



This is essential as it provides players, volunteers, and all other members with an extra sense of belonging to our club and the cricket community. The donations and sponsorships from the incredible companies that work with us allow for us to continue providing our members with such jerseys. Thank you to Bite Me Bakehouse, Caring Approach, HKHDCCA, Blitzit Plan Manager, ACE Body Corporate (Ryde), NDCC, WPHCCC, Cricket NSW, Cricket Australia, Kookaburra Sport, and Sydney Sixers.

And finally, a huge thank you goes to the people who make our programs possible! Our volunteers sacrifice hours of their time each week cooking the BBQs, coaching the players, and ensuring our members have a great time and we cannot thank you enough! Our volunteers also spend many Sundays cooking, cleaning and working at our Bunnings BBQs raising funds to go to making our club the best it can possibly be. And with that all-in consideration, I would like to call our 2022/23 season a success! I look forward to the continued growth of BlowFly Cricket and its family, and the many wickets and runs to come!



**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 live with special needs and/or intellectual disabilities.

**BLOWFLY'S CORE VALUES . . .**

- ✔ **Integrity**  
*Doing the right thing, even when no-one is watching.*
- ✔ **Commitment**  
*Is what keeps you going.*
- ✔ **People**  
*Community is strength.*
- ✔ **Goals**  
*Wish it. Plan it. Do it.*
- ✔ **Connection**  
*The quality of the connections is the key to the quality*
- ✔ **Innovation**  
*Highlights leadership.*
- ✔ **Creativity**  
*Is simply connecting new dots, in new ways.*
- ✔ **Passion**  
*True learning takes energy, passion and yearning.*
- ✔ **Growth**  
*Personal growth leads onto greater deeds.*
- ✔ **Inclusivity**  
*Where everyone is included, everyone is a winner.*

**CLUB VISION . . .**

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 the Leadership Group



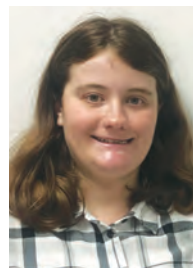
Here is my annual report a little wrap up of the 2022/23 season at BlowFly Cricket.

BlowFly Cricket's 2022/23 Summer Season has been one to remember. So many wonderful moments for me personally! Just seeing everyone's smiling faces was just wonderful and makes me so proud to be a part of club that really knows how to have a good time in life. I always look forward to every session I attend at either James Park Hornsby or James Henty Reserve Dural. I just ADORE coaching at the best club in the world. It's so much fun just being able to let loose and have some fun at a club that has been there for me time and time again where I couldn't be happier. My personal favourite highlight was going to Saint Gabriel's School in Castle Hill to start teaching a bunch of special needs children how to play cricket demonstrating different skills to help them maybe play for Australia one day.

I would like to thank the coaches, Volunteers and sponsors for making BlowFly Cricket the most fantastic club that it is today as without you BlowFly would not exist. I must give a huge big thanks to our strong mighty best founder Mark Rushton and his Beautiful Sidekick Marnie Nissen. Thank you so much for being the best supporters BlowFly has ever had.

I must also mention my beautiful family; my mum Nicola and her beautiful partner May, Bronte and Dom. Without you guys in my life I wouldn't be the person I am today. I love you guys so much and I must not forget Jordan Jones my loving sister and our powerful and best president BlowFly has ever seen. Without you BlowFly wouldn't be the club that it is today.

Thank you kindly.



**Maddie Jones**  
Female Club Captain  
CA Accredited Community Coach



Since the visit to the Sulo factory at the start of 2023 in January the next two years will only be onwards to get better. I just started my new job as a School crossing supervisor at Ermington West Public School and I've passed the probation period, which to me was easy to do and I'm now officially a School crossing supervisor and I'm enjoying it a lot.

I went to a garage showroom with Mark up in Hornsby and saw some good old classic historic vehicles like my Mini Cooper but older as you can see as mine was built in 1998 whereas these are like, way before mine (1930s onwards to when mine was built).

Lastly was the coronation of King Charles III just recently. I hope King Charles does well for his role as King and the possibility of BlowFly Cricket doing a visit to the UK and seeing him at Buckingham Palace in the future.

It's been a "Happy and glorious" year so far with BlowFly Cricket.



**Ronnie MacKenzie LM**  
Male Club Captain  
CA Accredited Community Coach



**Editor's Comment:**

The School Crossing Supervisor program is a state-wide program that contributes to the safety of infants and primary school students.

SOURCE: <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/schoolcrossingsupervisorprogram.html>

**Andrew Morgan, Operations Manager - Pact Group (SULO)** is to be thanked for firstly inviting Ronnie and I for a tour of the SULO factory at Somersby (Central Coast, NSW) and secondly, for focusing all his attention on Ronnie leaving no stone unturned throughout an incredibly interesting visit.

**Luke Manton, Governance & Compliance Director – Caring Approach** (our major sponsor) is also to be thanked for inviting Ronnie and I for a visit of his amazing car display in Hornsby (NSW).

It's been a wonderful 12 months for Ronnie who is maturing and going from strength-to-strength being a tremendous role model for all BlowFly cricketers.





I enjoyed coaching the little kids at the Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) Indoor Cricket Centre on Wednesday afternoons held at Mark Taylor Oval (MTO), Waitara. I bowled very well at James Park, Hornsby on Saturday afternoons with many balls on the stumps and on the pitch. I am getting better with straight arms practice. Maddie Jones showed me how to put two fingers on the seam of the cricket ball. I have been batting very well too. Also, on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve I have been bowling the cricket ball very well and batting well too.

I also helped out coaching the little kids at the West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC) Woolworths Junior Blasters on Saturday mornings. I helped the coaches teaching the little kids how to bowl a cricket ball and their batting skills as well. I love playing lots of cricket with my friends. I also played in the NDCC Womens Social Smash on Wednesday evenings at MTO in one team, bowling cricket balls, batting well with lots of turns and always a fun night.



**Akanksha Swarup**  
NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre  
– Centre Coordinator  
CA Accredited Community Coach



Hi guys,

My name is Kakra. Come along to special needs blowfly cricket, it's so much fun. We often have sausage sizzles, bat and bowl, good banter, community laughs and lots of fun.

I love being a coach and teaching people how to hold the bats and bowl. Mark is the best founder, Jordan is our great president and we have amazing volunteers as well. Come along and see for yourself how great it is.



**Kakra Yeboah**  
CA Accredited Community Coach



What another great year of Cricket for BlowFly!

The best part for me this season was to catch up and play cricket with my friends and to see the improvement made by all the players not only in their ability to play cricket but the encouragement that is given to one another throughout the game.

After every game I always leave feeling empowered and confident knowing that my team supports me and always has my back and that is what makes going to cricket such a special experience.

I congratulate our team for not only having fun but reaching new goals and achievements.

A huge thank you to Mark for making it all possible and for being such an enthusiastic and positive leader. Another huge thank you to the rest of the supporting team including Shabana for bringing us an abundance of fresh fruit and gourmet salads every week, my coach Steve, James Partridge, Aya Iwabuchi, Nicola Jones, Ma (Karen Buczek), Dougal Graham and many more.

Thank you for another fantastic season and I can't wait to play again at the end of the year!



**Nick Callanan-Williams**  
*NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre  
Assistant Centre Coordinator  
CA Accredited Community Coach*





# Vice President's Report



Upon completion of 14 seasons of BlowFly Cricket, I find myself reflecting on another successful year for the Blowies! The community that has been born from BlowFly is beyond words with many lifelong friendships developed.

Our senior playing group continues to grow and mature and continues to be a major 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 has continued to offer Aaron Lewis, Akanksha Swarup & Nathaniel Baker opportunities 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 our BlowFly community 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 Gavin Taylor and the team at Veri Shades – your ongoing sponsorship is fantastic.





I would also especially like to single out Roger Friend, who came on board in the second half of the season. Your help, support, friendship and guidance to all the players every single week is amazing. We are lucky to have you and can't thank you enough for your interest and 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*

**Editor's Comment:**

Looking to the future the BlowFly Cricket Management Committee have decided to add a new position, being the Junior Vice-President. Excitedly, we are thrilled to announce Damien Guild (17yo) has been elected to this key position. Damien will be mentored by Bill Peterkin, Jordan Jones, Kate Guild and Mark Rushton, all senior members of the Management Committee. Welcome aboard Damo!!!



# Secretary's Report

The 2022/2023 Cricket season was once again a successful and fun season. We were lucky to have minimal interruptions this year which was welcomed after the last few disrupted seasons.

It is with great pleasure that I provide you with the following Secretary's Report for the club.

## Events from the season:

- We had quite a few Bunnings BBQ fundraiser's this year and as always, we are extremely grateful to Thornleigh Bunnings for their ongoing support of our Club, as well as the many volunteers who give up their time to make sure they are a success.
- BlowFly Cricket on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural, run in partnership with West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC) finished its 5th season this year. It was a consistent group of 13 players week in and week out and the skills of these players are developing well. There is always a lot of banter and laughter at these sessions. We look forward to continuing this partnership with WPHCCC next year.
- Once again, BlowFly Cricket and the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) continued the working partnership where all donations made through the ASF for the 2022/23 season went towards developing our "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" Academy. The money raised through this project is extremely helpful in assisting with the costs of training and mentoring of our new upcoming Uncoachables Coaches. We had an additional seven players join this wonderful group in January 2023 after they completed their Cricket Australia Accredited Community Coaching course.

- During Term 1 of 2023 BlowFly Cricket ran an after school clinic at St Gabriel's School in Castle Hill. Students from all years were given the opportunity to experience BlowFly Cricket on a Tuesday afternoon. A huge thank you to Jordan Jones, Maddie Jones, Shabana Hakim, Azaan Husain, Jared Guild (and me) for ensuring the smooth and safe running of these clinics each week. (This program will continue in Term 4 of 2023 as well).

Lastly, a very big THANK YOU to everyone who assists week in and week out at all of the BlowFly Cricket Centres. 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. To those participating in the indoor Winter Cricket again this year, we hope you had a wonderful season.

I look forward to seeing you all again next Summer.



**Kate Guild**

Secretary  
CA Accredited Community Coach



# Child Safety Officer's Report



**SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING**  
RESPONDING TO INCIDENTS, DISCLOSURES AND SUSPICIONS OF CHILD ABUSE

Everyone within our sport plays a role in safeguarding Children and Young People. In the event of an incident, disclosure, complaint, allegation or suspicion of child abuse, follow these important steps – further information can be found in Australian Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People.

**STEP 1**  
CHILD REPORTS, YOU OBSERVE, SUSPECT OR ARE INFORMED OF AN INCIDENT OF CHILD ABUSE

**STEP 2**

- IF A CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, RISK OF HARM OR FOR EMERGENCIES CONTACT POLICE AND AMBULANCE ON TRIPLE-0
- REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE (DETAILS BELOW) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
- REPORT TO THE NOMINATED CHILD SAFETY OFFICER OR MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER WITHIN YOUR ASSOCIATION OR CLUB AND ENSURE YOUR STATE/TERRITORY ASSOCIATION IS ADVISED

**STEP 3**  
THE DEPARTMENT AND POLICE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER ADVICE ON NEXT STEPS

**CONTACTS**

DEPARTMENT	131 478
POLICE	131 444
ASSOCIATION/CLUB CHILD SAFETY OFFICER/ MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER	0492 885 731
STATE/TERRITORY ASSOCIATION CONTACT	(08) 8300 3800

**LOOKING AFTER OUR KIDS**

## Overview/Summary

Having taken on the role of Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) for the BlowFly Cricket Club, Mark advised me that the Club now had a responsibility of a further role, that of a Child Safe Officer (CSO). He asked if I could take on the added responsibility for that position which I agreed to. That role is an adjunct position to the MPIO, where all sporting bodies have a responsibility of caring for all children under their care. With that, Cricket Australia and Cricket NSW have a commitment to ensuring that everyone takes responsibility for keeping children safe, value their inclusiveness and giving them confidence to speak up if they feel upset or unsafe.

## Key Activities and Achievements in 2022/23

Thankfully, the BlowFly Cricket Club is one which requires little to no involvement, as all of our; Management Team, Leaders, volunteers, players and extended family, always promotes an exceptional environment in looking after our kids and young people, which we should all be proud of.

## Key Focus for 2023

Documents containing information about child safety issues are forwarded to our club and regularly included in our weekly newsletter.

Recently, there was an award ceremony at the Mark Taylor Oval. I attended with my son Aaron, along with a number of other members. Mark had a number of BlowFly Cricket caps to be presented and called upon some of the 'Blowies' to assist. One of those was Aaron, who without any prompting, made an extraordinary speech. Mark and I were actually blown away by the way Aaron conducted himself and how he has developed with his communication skills. We are all amazed at his development over the past few years.

If you need any information about Child Safety issues, please contact me on [kevirish@bigpond.com](mailto:kevirish@bigpond.com).



**Kevin Lewis**

*Child Safe Officer  
Member Protection Information Officer*

# Treasurer's Comments

## Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Current assets refer 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 a continuation of astute management BlowFly Cricket remains in a strong and viable financial position when one considers the small size of our inclusive club. Our funding is through a number of 'volunteer driven' fundraising initiatives, assorted grants, donations and sponsorship including the generous support of many local businesses who take such a keen and active interest in the ongoing development of BlowFly Cricket. My sincere thanks and gratitude is extended to the following for their ongoing support of the BlowFly Cricket community:

ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde)(Reena Chand),  
Bite Me Bakehouse (Anthony Courtney),  
Blitzit Plan Manager (Leane Carr),  
Bunnings Thornleigh,  
Caring Approach (Dinushi Herath & Luke Manton),  
Cricket Australia, Cricket NSW,  
Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield),  
Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation),  
Kookaburra Sport (Cameron Eve),  
Northern District Cricket Club,  
The Centre for Volunteering,  
Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle and  
WPHCCC (Bec & Bill Peterkin).

A special word of thanks is once again extended to:

- **Kate Guild** (*Director of Operations/Secretary*) for your ongoing high levels of enthusiasm, support, tireless hard work behind the scenes and attention to detail, which continues to be second to none.
- **Shabana Hakim** (*Associate Member, Management Committee*) who is one of the most generous people going around. Not only does Shabana with her delightful son, Azaan, volunteer on a regular basis but she also provides fruit, salad and a range of meat products whether she is at any of our Centres or volunteering at our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQ's.
- **Marnie Nissen** (*Fundraising Manager*) for your high levels of motivation and tireless efforts in promoting so many fundraising initiatives . . . thank you Marnie; and
- All of our wonderful hard-working volunteers who give up so much of their time to support our cause. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of BlowFly Cricket, and your individual and collective efforts are appreciated by all associated with our inclusive community.



**Mark Rushton PLV**  
*Treasurer*  
*CA Accredited Representative Coach*



# Fundraising Manager's Report

The time to write about the tremendous efforts of all those involved with fundraising for BlowFly Cricket has come around very quickly. Fundraising is one of the many key areas of BlowFly Cricket and this is done with the ongoing membership of the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF). BlowFly Cricket was granted membership of the ASF in 2018 and to date we have received \$22,428 in donations for our various projects. Most pleasingly, our current ASF project, the *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy* has received a total of \$9,766.30 in tax deductible donations.

Our ASF projects also benefit from the ongoing success of our Return 'n' Earn fundraising initiative. The key volunteers for this fundraising initiative headed by our amazing oldest volunteer have been:

- Dougal Graham
- Nana Audrey and Uncle Snake
- Jan and Jock Brock
- Valeria Buccheri, Massimo and Brendan Price
- The Buczek family – Jason, Karen, Courtney and "Sir Jacob"
- Shabana Hakim and Azaan Husain
- Morwenna Landers
- Amanda "Vivienne" Nissen (Anglomoil)
- Kirsty and Phil Smith
- Sandy Wall

And a special shout-out to Dougal Graham who has continued to gather between 700 – 1,200 items on a weekly basis. In fact, at the time of writing Dougal has collected an outstanding 52,886 bottles / cans since early October 2021. Thank you, Dougal, your efforts are staggering to say the least and are greatly appreciated by all associated with the BlowFly community and beyond.

BlowFly Cricket has the attention and ongoing support of the local Pie, Pastry and Coffee stop - Bite Me Bakehouse, Mount Colah. Anthony "Sir Ant" and his delightful staff have kept BlowFly on the counter in the form of a donation "kick the tin". The amount raised since January 2022 has totalled \$2,012.45 and we are always thrilled when we are asked to come and collect a full tin and to have a new tin ready to have coins dropped in.

Bite Me Bakehouse also donates five loaves of bread every Saturday during the summer season as well as two loaves of bread for the Wednesday afternoon NDCC Junior Centre and another two loaves for our Friday evening WPHCCC Centre. Our Sunday evening Winter Season is also supplied with two loaves of bread on a weekly basis. Thank you, "Sir Ant" and the wonderful staff and customers of Bite Me Bakehouse as we could not do what we do without your ongoing generosity and support.





Fundraising for BlowFly Cricket would not be complete without a sausage and onion "sanga" smothered with tomato sauce and mustard. Our Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs are held every fourth Sunday, ably supported by a small army of volunteers. In the 2022 - 2023 financial year BlowFly Cricket volunteers sautéed the day away at 13 fundraising sausage sizzles with \$9,998.31 raised.

To close, thank you to all those involved with fundraising for BlowFly Cricket. Let's keep the efforts going strong.



**Marnie Nissen**  
*Fundraising Manager*  
*CA Accredited Community Coach*

# Grants Register

FUNDING BODY	PROJECT/DESCRIPTION & AMOUNT
<p>Australian Government Department of Social Services</p> 	<p>This 2022-23 Volunteer Grant received grant funding from the Australian Government. <b>\$3,200.00</b></p>
 <p><b>AUSTRALIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION</b></p>	<p><b>Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)</b> ASF Your Sport Your Say survey competition (Grant). <b>\$500.00</b></p>
 <p><b>GRASSROOTS CRICKET FUND</b></p>	<p><b>Cricket Australia Grassroots Cricket Fund</b> 2022-23 Grassroots Cricket Fund Volunteer Development &amp; Operational Capacity Grant. <b>\$4,954.00</b></p>
 <p><b>AUSTRALIAN SPORTS CLIMATE</b></p>	<p><b>Cricket for Climate</b> together with <b>Australian Sports Climate</b> donated 500 energy efficient fridges thanks to a generous donation by <b>Unified Energy</b> This offer was available for a limited time to the first 500 Cricket Clubs across NSW which applied. Fortunately, BlowFly Cricket was a beneficiary of these two new fridges. <b>Retail Value: \$2,798.00</b></p>
<p><b>Total Value of Grants: \$11,452.00</b></p>	




**Cricket for Climate**  
It's game on for our planet.

**Let's take cricket to net zero**

Australia loves its summer of cricket, from the beach to the Boxing Day Test. But in 2020, we saw drought, bushfires, smoke and floods wreak havoc on the grassroots and elite season.

By 2040, the Australian Climate Council says heatwaves in Sydney and Melbourne could reach 50°C. That's game over for the sport we love. So it's time for us all to face up. We can all be doing more to protect the future of our game, and our planet, for generations to come.

There's a long innings ahead, but the only way forward is to take action now.






# Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle



The 2022/23 Season is over, and it was Toyota's biggest and best one yet. Together with Toyota, grassroots clubs raised \$973,015 by selling 194,603 tickets. Now, that is what you call an impressive score. And that's over \$6,000,000 raised since the raffle first started, 10 years ago.

The Toyota Good for Cricket (TGFC) raffle has helped clubs all around Australia reach their fundraising goals and get the equipment or upgrades they need. But they couldn't have done it without everyone who bought or sold tickets, so we thank you and your community thanks you.

This year's TGFC raffle was BlowFly Cricket's most successful to date. A total of \$3,715 was raised from 743 tickets sold. 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.

As an added incentive to keep our raffle ticket sellers motivated the Fundraising Committee approved prizes to be given to the top three sellers, being:

## TOYOTA GOOD FOR CRICKET RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

	NAME	TICKET NUMBER
1st Prize	Saurav Changmai	177265
2nd Prize	Omar Ilyas	114063
3rd Prize	Anthony Cullen	167990
4th Prize	Colin Smith	102723
5th Prize	James Smith	135581
6th Prize	Brendon O'Donnell	159729
7th Prize	Ben Chinnock	75449
8th Prize	Nicholas Yule	102736
9th Prize	Graeme Stevens	191680
10th Prize	Anthony Rebase	158321

LEADING TICKET SELLERS	TICKET SALES	BUNNINGS EGIFT CARDS
Boris Brownlee	\$525	\$100
Kate Guild	\$390	\$50
Amanda Vivienne Nissen	\$220	\$30

All raffle ticket sellers are to be sincerely thanked for their collective support and efforts. The funds raised will go directly to our wonderful *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables Academy*.

Even though no one from BlowFly Cricket won any of the 37 prizes it's still time to celebrate those who bought a ticket to support their respective club and now find themselves Good for Cricket Raffle winners! Check out the list featuring the top 10 lucky folks who scored some amazing prizes, including the three new Toyotas!

# Australian Sports Foundation Project

## FUNDRAISING FOR SPORT

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	END DATE	MONEY RAISED	GOAL
BlowFly Cricket 2019 Winter Season	05/05/2019	25/08/2019	\$2,928.38	\$2,500.00
<i>The Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables</i>	28/02/2020	31/05/2020	\$1,546.33	\$2,000.00
BlowFly Cricket Goes To Melbourne December 2019	04/10/2019	04/02/2019	\$2,384.03	\$2,000.00
NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre	27/07/2020	27/01/2021	\$3,183.91	\$3,000.00
BlowFly Cricket Christmas 2021 Fundraiser	08/01/2021	08/12/2021	\$3,200.85	\$3,200.00
<i>The Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables 2020-2024 Seasons</i>	18/08/2021	31/03/2024	\$8,506.93	\$10,000.00

### TOTAL DONATIONS

**\$21,750.43**

### TOTAL GRANT PAYMENT

**\$21,673.35**

### CURRENT BALANCE

**\$77.08**



### About the Project

BlowFly Cricket actively develops our *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Coaches*, firstly through the completion of the Cricket Australia Accredited Community Course (formerly Level 1). This is followed up with ongoing mentorship and experiential learning through coaching experiences at various venues including: Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camps, programs supported by Cricket NSW in a number of specialised and mainstream schools, WPHCCC Junior/Master Blaster Centre, Coaches' Association School Holiday Clinics and a number of Inclusive Expos facilitated by local councils and private organisations.

Pleasingly, we had seven (7) new CA Accredited Community Coaches join our ranks in January 2023. This is a fantastic achievement which augurs well for the progressive nature of this unique and highly acclaimed inclusive, all-abilities coaching program.



Did you know an online donation to the *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables* Academy 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 respective 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-uncoachablescoaching-the-uncoachables-2020-2024-seasons>



**Marnie Nissen**  
*Fundraising Manager*  
*CA Accredited Community Coach*



# Level 2 Coaching Course in Orange



Last week, between 2 and 4 June, I was given the opportunity by the guidance of Mark Rushton to partake in a L2 CNSW Coaching Course held in “sunny” Orange. Assistance and coaching was provided by: Jay Lenton, Dean Burkes, Grant Lambert, David Freedman and Gavin Twining. To add to this are those who travelled across Greater Sydney/NSW/QLD it was humbling watching and socialising with others in the group, thanks to Mark for prioritising this for me and thanks to all those at BlowFly Cricket.

The course was run professionally and focused on the perspective of coaching aka the motto taken from the course: “*to coach = they learn*”. Each of the instructors not only shared their passion in their education backgrounds (**Gavin Twining**) or slow left arm chinamans (**David Freedman**) or dropped catches (**Jay Lenton**), ensured the weekend was full of notes and practical observations. The firsthand experience was great and the mentality shared will be brought to the summer season!

Learning from their previous experience and the valuable insights of slideshows and group discussions, you kind of forgot time being invested in a well-organised curriculum. All aspects of cricket was covered and no one could ask for better equipped and prepared sessions - including the one off’s of bowling former CNSW players! This shared mentality allowed each one of us to grasp the principles as well as being engaged in the practical tests/activities for both individual and group assignments.

One of the highlights for me was how to appropriately understand the needs of players as a coach. The importance of tailored coaches was a running theme throughout, taking into consideration their age and their development. Such a personalised approach made it easier to share thoughts with the group as well as adding new elements to the definition of a coach. The main takeaway from all this, led to the conclusion of the importance of player centric coaching (peak interest) and ensuring an environment that suits all players.



The course also allowed us to pay respect to our best abilities, whether intuitive or vocal, in being the best leader and the best version of what a coach can be! Driven to achieve results from technical concepts (Biomechanics lessons run by Gavin Twining both online and in person) and motivation (Jay Lenton and Dean Burke throughout the weekend) ensured that as a coach, discussions and role-playing exercises can succeed via mentalities like *“show, don’t tell”* and *“less is more”*. From this, not only how to provide constructive feedback was shared for players starting out in the game of Cricket but also to be clear with the types of sessions planned out as for the intended objectives for all. Hitting the fine lines of nurturing player development and growth was indeed the focus by all instructors extending from understanding the player’s needs.

The practical session at the end was another highlight, in the sense of adapting to new players as a [hypothetical] coach. We all had the opportunity to evaluate and run our own mock group session on Saturday afternoon in preparation for the individual coach session the next day. Witnessing first hand various coaching techniques allowed me to play to my strongpoints of improvising the session in ensuring a clear yet focused session to be marked on by Dean Burkes, representing the *“show, don’t tell”* mentality. Not only from Dean, but from others including those I was watching/evaluating – ensured a practical insight into effective strategies and techniques was able to be applied to our own abilities as a coach whether helping a player or a team altogether in players peaking their performance.

Worth adding that despite the slow start at the middle of May, each instructor was consistent with their presentation taking archived footage and current videos off Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia websites. These not only enhanced our understandings of coaching, but also served to leading the path in taking in valuable references and lessons with us back home.

In conclusion, this coaching course was a memorable experience that significantly deepened my knowledge of being a Cricket coach. From the schedule to the activities organised, each instructor present at Orange made this an exceptional experience for all. I’m grateful for the lessons learnt and new skills acquired throughout the course and am very eager to put some of these positive impacts to the test at BlowFly Cricket!



**Tom Casey**

CA Accredited Representative (Level 2) Coach

#### **Editor’s Comment:**

Congratulations Tom on your magnificent achievement and you definitely deserve all the accolades that will no doubt be coming your way. You are the first of our BlowFly Cricket community to acquire the Level 2 accreditation. Some may even consider you to be a pioneer for the future development and progression of our *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables Academy*. With Tom’s leadership and active involvement, we will now be able to establish the framework for our very own BlowFly Cricket Accredited Level 2 All-Abilities Coaching Certificate.

Many thanks to the Australian Government Office of Sport and the support of our local Federal Member, Julian Leaser as we have received a grant of \$3,200.00 from the keenly contested 2022-23 Volunteer Grant program. \$800.00 of these funds have been put aside to pay for the cost of this course in recognition of Tom’s outstanding volunteering with BlowFly Cricket over the past 5-6 years. Well done Tom as you are truly a champion amongst champions.

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 continues to generously provide significant sponsorship funds to further assist the ongoing growth and development of our inclusive grassroots cricket club. When asked why she continues to support BlowFly Cricket her reply is ". . . because I want to help the children and other members of your club . . ."



### Editor's Note:

Reena's continued sponsorship will continue to be set aside for the ongoing development of our schools program. This generous sponsorship also benefits our highly acclaimed "**Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables**" Academy as our coaches will be actively coaching at the participating schools.



Thank you Reena and team



### **Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy**

*“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. And even 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*

As reported by Bruce Wood OAM (Ambassador) “BlowFly Cricket continues to provide benchmark programs for its members, including the highly acclaimed *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy*. This unique all-ability program enables suitable BlowFly cricketers to attend a Community (Level 1) coaching course to gain a formal accreditation, which they use to coach at the Blowies’ various programs, and where practical, at some mainstream programs. This experience and exposure to an expanding number of BlowFly Cricket coaches helps them to develop increased levels of self-esteem, self-confidence and communication skills, as well as some monetary payments for their efforts.

Josh Miller (Secretary, Coaches’ Association) facilitated a Community (Level 1) accredited coaching course for BlowFly Cricket at MTO, Waitara on 18 January 2023.”



### **UNCOACHABLE COACHES REGISTER**

<b>UNCOACHABLE COACHES REGISTER</b>		
<b>JPCG HORNSBY CENTRE</b> 2015 Ronnie MacKenzie LM 2016 Nick Callanan-Williams 2017 Emily Bardon Maddie Jones Akanksha Swarup 2018 Nathaniel Baker 2019 Jacob Buczek LM Aaron Lewis Kakra Yeboah Penni Yeboah 2020 Cameron Bali Vanessa Liang	2021 Aya Iwabuchi <i>(Volunteer)</i> Daniel Rodriguez 2023 Christian Azize Azaan Husain John Massoud Chris Nicholls Rishi Shivashankaran	<b>NDCC SPECIAL OLYMPICS CENTRE</b> 2019 Harry Langford 2019 Nathaniel Quan
		<b>WPHCCC BLOWFLY CRICKET CENTRE</b> 2018 Alethea Lazaros-Cameron 2019 Damian Chigwidden Michael Bazza Gillies <i>(Volunteer)</i> 2020 Robbie Hanks William Hanks <i>(Volunteer)</i> Adam Lezon Tom Roberts 2023 Jared Guild David Tanna

Support Partner

# 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 are available, with easy access from the Pacific Highway."*

## Reviews

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

*"Great food great staff great prices"*

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

**Service options:** Dine-in · Takeaway · No delivery.

**Address:** 561 Pacific Hwy, Mount Colah NSW 2079

**Hours:** Open 6am · Closes 2pm (7 Days).

**Phone:** ( 02) 9477 1732



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 inclusive club. Other ways we are supported is the unwavering supply of fresh bread loaves for our Saturday JPCG Centre (5 loaves), our Friday evening WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre (2 loaves) and our mid-week NDCC Inclusive Centre for 5-12yo children (2 loaves) in addition to generous sponsorship to offset the costs of the Annual Report.

Thank you to the Bite Me Bakehouse community.



# BITE ME BAKEHOUSE





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, 2022 and 2023 Winter Cricket competitions with the purchase of shirts, new equipment 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.

Quick and easy online sign up at [www.blitzit.com.au](http://www.blitzit.com.au). Invoices are paid in 2 days with our fast, efficient and accurate payment service.

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

On Sunday the 17 September, Blitzit Plan Manager's 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. Once again, we all had a fantastic time, and it was great to watch all of those big smiles on everyone's faces.

Once again, the appreciation plaques are very kind of BlowFly Cricket, and we have all displayed our plaques around the office.

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

Take care and I look forward to hearing from you.



**Leane Carr**  
Blitzit Plan Manager Director






**blitzit**  
PLAN MANAGER

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

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

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

*Plan Management specialists you can trust.*

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



📞 1300 966 119  
🌐 [www.blitzit.com.au](http://www.blitzit.com.au)  
✉ [hello@blitzit.com.au](mailto:hello@blitzit.com.au)

*Get in touch today!*

Support Partner  
**Caring Approach**



The Caring Approach team work one on one with you to design a holistic care plan that will meet your needs, and that will fit in with your lifestyle, so that you have the freedom to live the best life you can live. So whether you need help around the house or high level disability care we can provide the services you need for you to get on with your life.

**TELEPHONE: 1300 655 026, 0431 744 321**



**Your life.  
 Your Choice.**

Caring Approach was created with the goal of providing quality care for people in the community.

**Support Partner Caring Approach**

At Caring Approach, we understand that every client is an individual, with unique needs and lifestyle. Your happiness, health and well-being are our highest priority. We support you and your family with care specifically tailored to you.

Our team will work one on one with you to create a holistic care plan meeting your needs to best fit in with your lifestyle. This in turn will allow you to retain the freedom to live the best quality of life possible. Whether you need assistance around your home, support for you and your new baby or high-level disability care we can provide the services you need allowing you to get on with your life.

The recent trip to Coffs Harbour by the BlowFly Team was sponsored by Caring Approach.

**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST**







## OUR SERVICES

**Personal Care Assistance (Basic and Complex):**  
We can provide basic to complex support for your day-to-day needs. This includes all aspects of personal care.

**Plan Management:**  
We can assist you with managing your NDIS funding, as we take the burden out of managing it on your own and make it simpler.

**Support Coordination:**  
We can find and connect to services and thoroughly understand the details of your plan and what supports you can access.

**Overnight Care & Respite Care:**  
We can provide care throughout the night including in place of involving sleep-overs or night duties. We can help you with your respite needs to give you that extra support and care you deserve.

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

## What do we do

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

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

### Social Support & Shopping:

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

### Live-in care for you:

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

### Domestic Assistance & Transport:

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



**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.

**WHERE WE ARE**  
Address: Level 2, Suite 201 to 205,  
22 Edgeworth David Avenue,  
Hornsby NSW 2077  
Phone: 02 8212 5659 / 02 9071 8971  
0431 744 321 (After hours)  
Email: intakeNSW@caringapproach.com.au  
www.caringapproach.com.au  
**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST**

**CARING APPROACH**  
**HOME CARE, DISABILITY & NURSING SPECIALIST**

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**CARING APPROACH**  
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We can give you peace of mind.  
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**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST**

# About Kookaburra Sport



Kookaburra Sport initially traded as AG Thompson Pty Ltd, utilising "Kookaburra" as a product brand. AG had a 'pet' Kookaburra called Jacky who resided in the peppercorn tree outside AG's residence and workshop in Bay Street, Brighton (Vic) and was the inspiration for the brand name.

After 130 years Kookaburra Sport remains a 100% Australian family-owned business. Fourth and fifth generation members of the Thompson family continue to work at Head Office in Melbourne, with additional offices in India, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, and an agency in South Africa, employing over 200 people globally.

In 1990 AG Thompson Pty Ltd adopted the trading name Kookaburra Sport due to significant recognition of the brand. Today four Thompson family members are actively involved in the daily running of the business, producing over 650,000 cricket and hockey balls a year. We are the only remaining cricket and hockey ball manufacturer to oversee production in Australia.

Our skilled bat maker joined the Melbourne team in 2016 to support our elite cricket player's personal equipment needs. The Kooka Bat Cave is a hub of activity and excitement when our sponsored players visit Head Office. Kookaburra Sport continues to be associated with some of the best cricket and hockey players to grace national and international fields.

Community has always been of great importance to the Kookaburra family, and we continue to work extensively with local cricket and hockey communities and Sporting Boards to support grassroots initiatives. We proudly support, partner and sponsor various community groups, events and organisations including The McGrath Foundation, International Women's Day, Fairbreak, BlowFly Cricket, Maddie Riewoldt's Vision and Indigenous Cricket.







## Today

Despite the challenges Kookaburra faces, as all businesses do in the current world climate, the Thompson family remains committed to innovation and progress in order to continue the long line of business with huge family interest in something that started out with a young man looking for a warmer climate to live and work in. Nicola Thompson, Peter's daughter, returned to the business in 2011. Having completed a Bachelor of Business (Manufacturing and Human Resources) and subsequently completing a Post Graduate Diploma of Management. Nicola currently works at Headquarters in Moorabbin, heading up the Production, Research & Development Department, and is the first of the fifth generation of family members to enter the business.

It's only a few short years back when a posse of BlowFly Cricketers were chaperoned by Nicola Thompson for a tour of the Kookaburra Sport factory in Melbourne. It was an amazing experience with memories to last a lifetime. Kookaburra Sport continues to be a tremendous supporter of BlowFly Cricket.

Thank you, Kookaburra, written on behalf of Cameron Eve..



**Cameron Eve**  
*National Sales Manager – Kookaburra Sport*



# Bunnings Warehouse – Thornleigh



Another entertaining year of successful fundraising Bunnings BBQs which were held every fourth Sunday. However, some things remain the same seeing the early arrival of helpers to get the day started.



A special thank you to the following: The Marashian family, Amir and his children; Cameron, Kiahna, Ryan, Darian; are there every month all with roles to perform. Another early bird is Jan (aka "Louise"), my dear friend of 58 years. Then Keith the cook starter and this month a special thank you to Tom who often stays well beyond his time plan. And who can ever overlook the amazing Shabana and Azaan who bring so much energy and enthusiasm to each and every fundraising BBQ. Of course, we have to mention Mark our wonderful chief who adds so much atmosphere to the WHOLE day.



To all who come later without your involvement it would not run so successfully. It is wonderful to see not only parents and volunteers but our young and older Blowies taking an active role in this fundraising activity. This includes Chris, Ronnie, Kakra, Penni, Aaron, Stefan, Robbie, Riku and Ethan. It is fantastic to watch our volunteer Blowies taking on more and more diverse roles such as cooking the BBQ, customer service, stocktake and end-of-day reconciliation.

The ever-popular volunteers raffle continues to be a great way of congratulating and thanking our hardworking volunteers for all the wonderful things they are doing for the BlowFly Cricket community.

So happy being a part of the BlowFly family.

## Pat "Spud" Guild

BBQ Captain

CA Accredited Community Coach



### Editor's Comment:

Spud has been volunteering for BlowFly Cricket at the Bunnings BBQ fundraiser for well over a decade, starting at Hornsby shopping centre and then at Officeworks Hornsby and finally at Bunnings Thornleigh. Ever since Spud moved to the NSW Central Coast, she was unable to participate in the BlowFly Cricket sessions as often as she used to. The Bunnings BBQ fundraiser maintains her contact with the BlowFly family, she is so proud to be a part of.



# Bunnings – Christmas Night Market



**Volunteers:** Shabana Hakim, Azaan Husain, Amanda ‘Vivienne’ Nissen, Jack Oliveri, James ‘Pear’ Partridge (*Head Chef*) and Mark Rushton.

On a cool Thursday evening our small group of wonderful hard-working volunteers manned an extremely busy BBQ. Bunnings Thornleigh was giving away free sausage sandwiches and drinks to a crowd of very enthusiastic patrons.

The Hornsby RSL Pipe Band was in attendance playing beautiful bagpipes music. It was a joyful experience listening to the pipers warming up to the initial attack, being the process of getting the band from a non-playing state to a playing state. Interestingly the attack is often believed to set the scene for the performance that follows and therefore great emphasis is placed on it . . . something we all learned on the night. The acoustics from the underground carpark is something to behold creating surreal and somewhat ghostly sounds echoing throughout the concrete amphitheatre and beyond. A shiver continually ran up my spine whilst listening to this sublime yet melodious music. Wow!!!

Yes, we were well and truly smashed, and our brave posse of inexhaustible volunteers performed like magicians to ensure the masses were well and truly looked after throughout a frenetic two hours.

Thank you, Bunnings Thornleigh, for the invitation to host the 2022 Christmas Night Market BBQ and also the \$300.00 in Bunnings Gift Cards which were raffled in February 2023. \$650.00 was raised in ticket sales with all proceeds going to our 2022/23 McGrath Foundation Pink Stumps Day (PSD), a truly worthwhile cause.



1ST PRIZE	\$250.00 Bunnings Gift Cards Shabana Hakim
2ND PRIZE	\$50.00 Bunnings Gift Card Leigh Drummond
3RD PRIZE	\$30.00 Bunnings Gift Card Carol Coyle

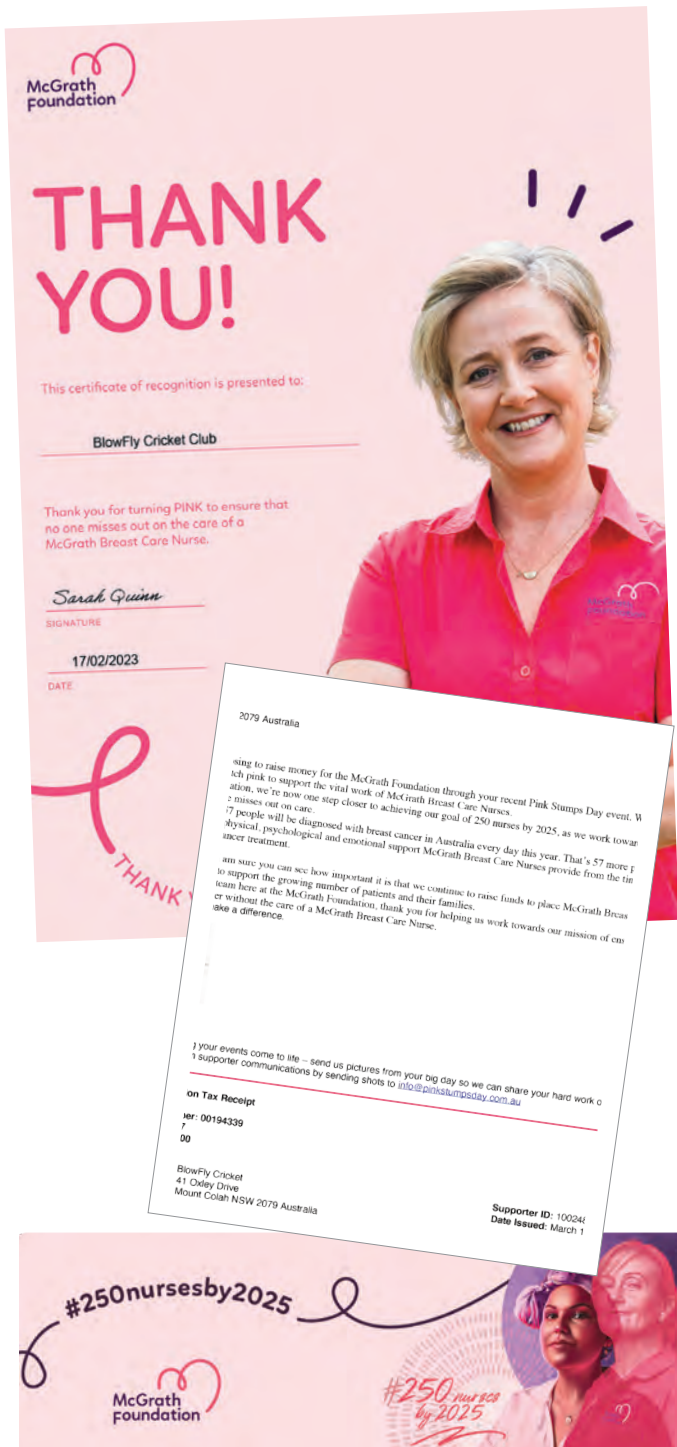


**Marnie Nissen**  
Fundraising Manager  
CA Accredited Community Coach

# Supporting Our Communities

*"To my mind, having a care and concern for others is the highest of human qualities."* Fred Hollows (1929 – 1993)

An ophthalmologist who was well-known for restoring eyesight to people who didn't have the means to afford eye-care in Australia as well as many other countries.



## McGrath Foundation – Pink Stumps Day (PSD)



The Fundraising Committee were thrilled to once again exceed the target to raise a total of \$1,425.27 for this outstanding cause. BlowFly Cricket has now raised an incredible \$7,901.86 over the past six or so seasons. The McGrath Foundation are extremely grateful for our ongoing support and hoping we will join them and go bigger and pinker than ever in the 2023/24 Season!

To quote Holly Masters, CEO – McGrath Foundation:

*"Thanks to your help, we're able to make life just that little bit easier for individuals and families experiencing breast cancer, by providing access to a McGrath Breast Care Nurse. Our nurses provide physical, psychological and emotional support to individuals across Australia, from the time of diagnosis and throughout treatment - for free."*

## Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)



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





## November

**Men's health is in crisis.** Men are dying on average 4.5 years earlier than women, and for largely preventable reasons.

A growing number of men – around 10.8M globally – are facing life with a prostate cancer diagnosis. Globally, testicular cancer is the most common cancer among young men. And across the world, one man dies by suicide every minute of every day, with males accounting for 69% of all suicides.

Movember is uniquely placed to address this crisis on a global scale. We fund groundbreaking projects all over the world, engaging men where they are to understand what works best and accelerate change.

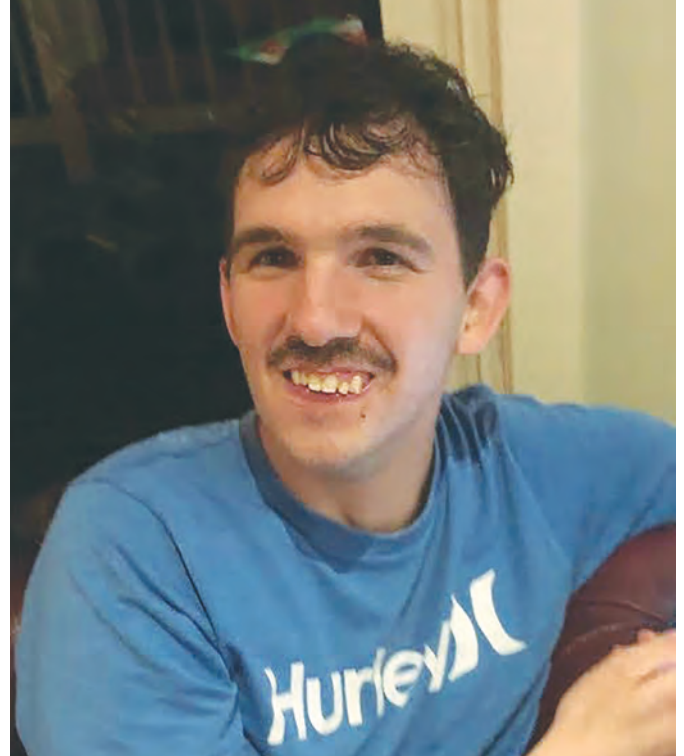
Over the past two seasons, club member Nick Callanan-Williams (Nicko) and Mark Rushton have teamed up to raise over \$1,500 for this worthwhile cause which brings much needed attention and focus on men's health issues.

Nicko also grows a mighty fine Mo. We are reaching out to our community for others to join the BlowFly Cricket MOVEMBER team.

### Editor's Comment:

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

**MEN'S HEALTH IS IN CRISIS**



# National Volunteer Week

NATIONAL 15-21 MAY 2023  
**VOLUNTEER**  
THE CHANGE MAKERS WEEK



#NVW2023 #TheChangeMakers

**WE ARE THE  
CHANGE MAKERS**



# 2023 Volunteering NSW State Conference



On June 8, Mark Rushton and I attended the NSW Centre for Volunteering State Conference. We had the opportunity to listen to multiple speakers present about their own experiences in the world of volunteering and how we can make our organisation a better place.



We heard from Leigh Sales AM about her personal experiences throughout her career. We also heard from Uncle Shane Phillips from Tribal Warrior, Daniel Murray from Empathic Consulting, Amy Smith from Reconciliation Australia, Clare Kerley from Hall & Wilcox, and Louise Geoghegan from Fold7.

We also heard a robust discussion from Regional Centres Panelboard facilitated by Clint Bertenshaw – The Centre for Volunteering with panelists Kylie Elliott – Sydney Children Hospitals Foundation and Tahera Nassrat – Afghan Peace Foundation about the trials and tribulations associated with volunteer management.



We also had the pleasure of listening to the Keynote Speaker, Christine Anu both sing and present about her life experiences. All speakers were very inspirational and informative, and we look forward to implementing many of the suggestions into our club.

A big congratulations to Gemma Rygate (CEO) and the Centre for Volunteering team for a well organised and extremely informative conference. Mark and I had a great time (and loved the food too!).

2023 Volunteering NSW State Conference Program Thursday 8 June	
8:30am	REGISTRATION AND ARRIVAL TEA & COFFEE Welcome to Country
9:00am	Opening and Welcome – Gemma Rygate, CEO, The Centre for Volunteering
9:05am	Keynote – Leigh Sales AM
9:15am	Uncle Shane Phillips, Tribal Warrior
10:10am	MORNING TEA IN THE FOYER EXHIBITION STALLS OPEN
10:50am	Leading Disruption: The critical place to be for leaders in disruption is the driver's seat – Daniel Murray, Empathic Consulting
11:10am	How we can all be a voice for reconciliation – Amy Smith, Reconciliation Australia
11:55am	LUNCH IN THE FOYER EXHIBITION STALLS OPEN
12:35pm	REGIONAL CENTRES Facilitated Panel Session Amar Singh – Turbans 4 Australia Kylie Elliott – Sydney Childrens Hospitals Foundation Tahera Nassrat – Afghan Peace Foundation Facilitator – Clint Bertenshaw, The Centre for Volunteering
1:25pm	Respect at Work Laws and Codes of Practice for Psycho-Social Hazards – Fay Calderone, Hall & Wilcox
2:10pm	AFTERNOON TEA IN THE FOYER EXHIBITION STALLS OPEN
2:55pm	Leading Through Disruption – Louise Geoghegan, Fold7
3:15pm	Keynote – Christine Anu
4:00pm	Close – Gemma Rygate
5:00pm	Close
Until 6:00pm	NETWORKING & DRINKS



**Jordan Jones**  
President

# 2023 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards



*"I am immensely proud of the dedication and commitment to community that we see each year from volunteers across the state . . . The NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards shine a light on these selfless efforts. Congratulations to today's award recipients."*

**The Hon. Jodie Harrison MP**  
NSW Minister with responsibility for Volunteering

## Welcome

*It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 NSW Volunteer of the Year Award Ceremony.*

*Today is the day where we celebrate the enormous difference volunteers and volunteering organisations make to our communities, and is one of 25 regional award ceremonies held across NSW. It is my privilege to meet volunteers, hear the extraordinary work they do, and celebrate it with their proud families, friends, MPs, Mayors, and local organisations.*

*Thank you to everyone who nominated a volunteer for these awards. These nominations are vital in helping us shine a spotlight on the different ways volunteers help us every day.*

*The Centre for Volunteering is fortunate to have generous supporters who champion volunteering and these awards. In particular, I would like to thank the NSW Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Minister responsible for Volunteering The Hon Jodie Harrison MP, the NSW Department of Communities and Justice our Principal Government Partner, our Principal Corporate Partner ClubsNSW, and supporters Sixt and Mint Awards, for their ongoing support which makes these awards possible.*

*Congratulations to all of the nominees for the 2023 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards and to the organisations with whom you work.*



**Gemma Rygate** CEO  
The Centre for Volunteering





## 2023 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards – Upper North Shore Ceremony

*I begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered today and I pay my respects to Aboriginal elders, past and present.*

*Thank you for the invitation to join you for this important event. I've met many of the volunteers in the room here today, and it is always an incredibly positive experience. In a world where so many things seem to depend on people's worst instincts, you rely on our best. You rely on our instinct to help those less fortunate than ourselves; to fight disease and disadvantage; and to lend a hand in times of trouble.*

*You speak to the better angels of our nature. Every time someone volunteers to support the community they are putting another stitch in the social fabric of New South Wales. They are helping to make our society a better, fairer and kinder place in which to live.*

*So at the outset, having seen the great work that is being done by so many volunteers across our community allow me to say, "thank you". Thank you for running our community groups, providing outreach services, supporting people living with a disability and thank you for running the caring services that support so many Australians.*

*Today is about celebrating you and the remarkable contribution you make to our community and our country, about getting inspiration from the way that each of you is supporting the social fabric of New South Wales. I certainly get inspiration from the great works that you do. And I look forward to continuing to support your work to make New South Wales a stronger, better and kinder place in which to live.*

*Thank you.*



**Mr Matt Kean MP**



# Celebrating 2023 National Volunteer Week



*"Volunteers are changemakers in every possible way,"* says CEO **Gemma Rygate**, as National Volunteer Week kicks off. *"They are lifelines for many people."*

We were pleased to kickstart National Volunteer Week (#NVW2023) with our annual NSW Forum, hosted in the beautiful Members Dining Room at the newly renovated Parliament House. This was an invaluable opportunity for champions of the sector to come together for an afternoon of ideas and exchange.

As our esteemed guests took their seats, it was impossible not to reflect on this year's theme for National Volunteer Week. These were, and are, *"The Change Makers"* in our sector. In a world of new ideas, new technologies, new consciousness, changemakers play a more important role than ever before.

Following a beautiful and moving Welcome to Country from **Uncle Michael West**, we heard from **Helen Freeland**, the Chair of the Board at The Centre, who shared her love for volunteering as *"such a special part of our community"*. CEO Gemma Rygate echoed this, emphasising that volunteers, whether they are on the frontlines or quieter in their work, are *"part of the fabric of Australia"* and *"work in all spheres of life"*.

It was an honour to hear from renowned and respected Australian journalist **Tracey Spicer AM**, a prolific changemaker in her own right. Tracey enthralled us with stories of changemakers, from the suffragettes to personal anecdotes of *"rattling the cage"* to inspiring tales from around the world.





*“When you want to create change,” she says, “you must take risks.”*

Tracey also acknowledged the challenges that our sector faces – as well as the opportunities, with the greatest driver for success being diversity and inclusion.

*“You get more than you give when you’re volunteering,” she says. Even still, it’s important to give volunteers the status and recognition they deserve. “People want to feel good about what they’re doing.”*

With the NSW Forum coinciding with the official launch of the 2023 Awards, our ambassador **Paula Duncan** AM also expressed her admiration for the volunteers who *“help make our community a better and a safer and a healthier one to live in.”* With over 5 million volunteers in Australia (believed to be an underestimated number), the NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards offer us a chance to fully recognise the breadth of community spirit that thrives across the state. If you haven’t already, help us celebrate your local legends, unsung heroes and community leaders by putting forward your nomination today.

We also wish to congratulate **Susan Whitby** who was awarded her certificate of completion for the Certificate IV in Coordination of Volunteer Programs as part of the afternoon’s celebrations. We would also like to extend that to **Fiona Lawson** and **Sarah Silcocks**, who were absent but no less accomplished in their achievement.

To find out more about our nationally recognised training program, offered through the through NSW School of Volunteer Management [RTO code 90031], visit our website.

SOURCE: <https://www.volunteering.com.au/celebrating-national-volunteer-week-nsw-forum/>



**Gemma Rygate** CEO  
The Centre For Volunteering

# Our Volunteers



The 2022/23 BlowFly Season has come to an end. For me, it was my first full year helping with BlowFly, and it's been incredible to see so much improvement on and off the field amongst the players.

The weekly BlowFly session is a highlight of my week throughout the year. Not only do I get to see our players improve week to week, on their batting, bowling, or sledging techniques; but I get to see them become more confident with each passing week. Without a doubt I'll be told another recount of a successful week ranging from a new job, a new friend, a new cricket bat, a new role as a coach in BlowFly, a good school report, etc. I know that I am just a volunteer coach in BlowFly, but these stories that find their way to me each week, are the cherry on top of getting to hit some balls with some incredible people because I see their faces light up like they have just scored a century or taken a fiver, when they have good news to tell me. I hold dear, the fact that I have become someone more than just a coach. I have become someone who needs to be informed of all their victories and at times failures. I have become a friend.

After a year being a part of BlowFly, I really see that, yes it's about cricket and learning a new skill, but it's mostly about creating a social circle that encourages all the players to make new friends through the common love of cricket. This is clearly evident when we have new players, and within minutes they are welcomed into the group despite never having held a cricket bat or ball. The new player is immediately handed a bat or ball. More often than not I'm beaten to the chance to help this new player by one of the team who are just eager to share this great sport and, without realising, help that new player become a part of something bigger. I believe it's this side to BlowFly that has allowed BlowFly to touch so many peoples lives. It's more than a club, it's more than just a team, it's a family.



**James Partridge**  
Volunteer  
CA Accredited Community Coach



# Observations and Reflection



My mind goes back seven or eight years when Mark Rushton and I were involved in Ku-ring-gai District Soccer Association's (KDSA) summer football activities. It was then that I learned about BlowFly Cricket, its aims and structure and was approached by Mark to become a volunteer, initially to help with the Saturday BBQ at James Park.

At 88 I feel extremely blessed to have been involved and able to continue to participate at the Saturday and Bunnings BBQ's and in the past three to four years fundraising involving the collection of bottles and cans on a weekly basis from several clubs in my area.

When asked about my continuing involvement in BlowFly at my somewhat senior age it is not difficult to give an answer. *BlowFly is an amazing club built on a structure consisting of wonderful, endearing children, young adults, and an incredibly dedicated ongoing support team of volunteers, coaches young and old, and organisations who are so fully committed towards making the club the success it is today, with the best interests of the young players always of foremost importance.*



It remains a pleasure to be participating in what to me is the ongoing level of goodwill amongst all concerned. I would like to pay tribute to the many players and volunteers both past and present and in one case highlight the amazing Buczek family, Jason, Karen, and daughter Courtney, and of course their son and young BlowFly player Jacob. I believe this family exemplifies everything good about BlowFly. Almost every week, over the past 10+ years members of the family have made the very long 2-hour Saturday return trip from Menangle so Jacob can continue to be a part of something he truly loves.



The Saturday BBQ at James Park is a continuing success due to the tireless efforts of our generous volunteers and parents. Hopefully my body will hold together for a while so I can help contribute to the BlowFly Cricket Club.



**Dougal Graham**  
Volunteer

# Volunteers Register

*'Volunteering is time willingly given for the common good and without financial gain.'*

In 2015 Volunteering Australia introduced the widely accepted, formal Definition of Volunteering. This included a set of explanatory notes, a detailed Issues Paper providing background and context, and a set of FAQs. 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	Keith Fone	Lisa Langford	Bec Peterkin
Darlene Apps	Roger Friend*	Riku Leonard	Bill Peterkin
Nanna Audrey	Alex Furner**	Aaron Lewis	Harry Peterkin
Nathaniel Baker	Michael 'Bazza' Gillies	Deb Lewis	Rory 'Super Rory' Piper
Keith Baker	Jeni Goddard	Irish Lewis	Russell Piper**
Andy Bayles	Dougal Graham	Kevin Lewis	Shaynal Prakash**
Anthony Beard	Maureen Graham	Tara Lewis	Brendan Price
Hannah Beard	Alan Guild	Adam Lezon	Massimo Price
Brian Binfield LM	Damien Guild	Lidia Lezon	Nathan Reid
Varunee 'Bun'	Jared Guild	Davina MacKenzie	Patrick Reynolds**
Boonmetavesub**	Kate Guild	Ronnie MacKenzie LM	Jann Rose
Kairo Brennen	Pat 'Spud' Guild	Luke Manton	Sean Rose
Jan Brock	Ben Gussey	Amir Marashian	Mark Rushton
Jock Brock	Bob Gussey	Cameron Marashian	Lydia Scott**
Maxwell Brown	Shabana Hakim	Darian Marashian	Rishi Shivashankaran
Valeria Buccheri	Robbie Hanks	Kiahna Marashian	Shankar Shivashankaran
Courtney Buczek	William Hanks	Ryan Marashian	Julie-ann Short
Jacob Buczek LM	Nan Hartland**	Tina 'Fakhri' Marashian	Maddie Shortte***
Jason Buczek	Dinushi Herath	Marie Markwick**	Magda Sigartee
Karen Buczek	Kiara Hill**	Somali McQuiggin	Cecelia Silk**
Brad Caldwell	Nic Hincapie-Perea	Haley Melilli**	Gabrielle Smith
Gabrielle Callanan	Connor Hindmarch	Andrew Miedler *	Kirsty Smith
Nick Callanan-Williams	Petah Hobson	Josh Miller	Phil Smith
Mark Campbell	Azaan Husain	Nasim Sadat Mohammadi	Uncle Snake
May Carpenter	Errol Hyde	Dierk Mohr	Tom Spratt**
Keith Carter	Saoai Julie Iata **	Traute Mohr	Evelyn Stevenson
Tom Casey	Aya Iwabuchi	Noel Moig	Craig Stubbs
Reena Chand	Rie Iwabuchi	Kate Muirhead**	Aditya Swarup
Dani Chivers	Alf James OAM	Simione Nawawabalavu**	Akanksha Swarup
Cathy Clark**	Bim Jayaweera	Thuy Nguyen	Riya Swarup
Suzanne Collyer Rousek	Ruben Johnson	Chris Nicholls	Catana Tolkein
Mick Connell	Bronte Jones	Nikki Nicholls	Akiko Tomita
Ivana Copo**	Dominic Jones	Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen	Peter Verduin
Mel Cosgrove**	Jordan Jones	Marnie Nissen	Sandy Wall
Anthony Courtney	Maddie Jones	Sullivan O'Brien	Bruce Wood OAM
Michael Croasdale	Nicola Jones	Elysa Oliveri	Kakra Yeboah
Belana Dasic**	Isolde Kameron	Ethan Oliveri	Penni Yeboah
Julie Davis	Mike Kinchington*	Jack Oliveri	
Marion Day**	Kristina King	James Partridge	
Rishon Devi**	Bruce Kimberley OAM	Daniel Pathak	
Rob Di Camillo	Morwenna Landers	Amanda Perry	
Kerry Enoka**	Harry Langford	Mark Perry	
Teanu Enoka**	Mike Langford	Steve Perry	

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



# Congratulations Elysa “Lyssie” Oliveri



The Cricket NSW Young Leader of the Year award is presented to a young person who has delivered exceptional service to her Club or Association during the past year. This year Cricket NSW presented this award to Northern District Cricket Club's (NDCC) very own . . . . **Elysa “Lyssie” Oliveri.**

To quote her rightfully proud father, Jack who forwarded Mark Rushton a text message he had received on Thursday 23rd February 'Hi Jack, very excited to let you know we are nominating Elysa as the Young Volunteer of the Year to represent all of NSW at the National Awards event.'

Here's an update, we have also just heard that she has won Cricket Australia's Young Leader of the Year to be presented in mid-late May 2023.

Lyssie is an inspirational young adult who is a passionate and inspirational supporter of inclusive cricket across all-abilities, including the vision, intellectual and physical impaired. Lyssie, over the past two years has given up many hours of her time every week to support worthy all-ability causes. That includes volunteering and coaching young children within BlowFly Cricket and the project managing of a school fundraiser event for the NSW Blind cricket team. Lyssie is behind the organisation of the match between The NSW Blind Cricket team and the NDCC, which is now becoming an annual event.

As you can imagine, there were some excellent nominations across the state and the country for these awards. Congratulations Lyssie. We are all very proud of you and your achievements.

Here is the Facebook link to the ABC story featuring Lyssie and Jordan Jones, President, BlowFly Cricket;  
<https://www.facebook.com/abc sport.au/videos/the-volunteer-work-of-sydney-teenager-elysa-oliveri-is-hard-to-match/481478827392607/>

Source NDCC Newsletter "2022/23 Blackmail 2nd May 2023 No 21"



**Mike Langford**  
Vice-President NDCC

# Major Award Winners/Nominations



## 2023 NSW Senior Volunteer of the Year Award - Upper North Shore region

*Senior Volunteer of the Year – Dougal Graham*

At 88 years of age, Dougal Graham is still a regular fundraiser and volunteer with BlowFly Cricket, an all-abilities inclusive cricket club that provides modified games and programs for children or adults with special needs or intellectual abilities.

Dougal runs the club's post-match BBQs, as well as collecting recyclable cans and bottles from half a dozen clubs across the region, to help earn up to \$100 a week for the club.

His volunteering supports the purchase of club equipment, events, and other activities to enable people of all abilities to participate, socialise and enjoy sports and physical activity.



2022/23 has been another exceptional year for award winners from the BlowFly Cricket community, I would like to congratulate the following legends:

## 2023 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards:

### Upper North Shore Region "Senior Volunteer of the Year"

Our highly popular and amazing 88yo volunteer **Dougal Graham** has been nominated for this award by BlowFly Cricket.

### North Shore Region: "Young Volunteer of the Year"

**Akanksha Swarup** (*Leadership Group Member*) has been nominated for this award by BlowFly Cricket.

### Upper North Shore Region : "Young Volunteer of the Year"

Female Club Captain, **Maddie Jones** (*Leadership Group Member*) has been nominated for this award by BlowFly Cricket.



## 2023 Cricket NSW Community Cricket Awards

### "Young Leader of the Year"

17yo volunteer, **Elysa Oliveri** has been announced as the winner of this highly considered award.

## 2023 Cricket Australia Community Cricket Awards

### "Young Leader of the Year"

**Elysa Oliveri** has pulled off the double and been announced as the winner of this highly acclaimed award.



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## 2023 NSW Community Sports Awards

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### “Young Coach of the Year”

The remarkable **Elysa Oliveri** has nabbed the trifecta and been announced as the winner of this meritorious award.

The Community Sports Awards and the Distinguished Long Service Awards acknowledge outstanding achievements and contributions to community sport, with winners receiving their Awards from the Hon Stephen Kamper, NSW Minister for Sport.

Cricket NSW CEO, Lee Germon, paid tribute to award recipients saying:

*“Elysa and Amanda exemplify all that is great amongst cricket’s many wonderful volunteers and the fact they continue to be recognised for their tireless effort is well deserved,”*



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## 2022 Paid Trainees Awards – Jigsaw Australia

### Akanksha Swarup

“Living by our Values” Badge

“Recognition Master” Badge

“Above and Beyond” Badge



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## National WHS General Construction Induction Training (White Card)

### Chris Nicholls

*“Chris has done it!!! He has successfully secured his construction white card today. Huge call out to Scott Dalton who attended with Chris today and believed and supported him through it.” Nikki Nicholls (Mother)*



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## TAFE NSW

### Certificate III in Information Technology – ICT30120

Congratulations William Hanks for completing your Certificate III in Information Technology . . . a wonderful achievement.

Furthermore, special mention needs to be made of the outstanding success of our partner and friend, the **West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC)** which has a long history of being inclusive, friendly and welcoming.

The **Cricket Australia Inclusion & Diversity of the Year Award** went to WPHCCC – 59% of their playing base has a parent born overseas and a record 14% of the club’s players are female. Season 2022/23 saw WPHCCC move away from the traditional all-white playing uniform for its female players and volunteers to adopt a club-specific Indigenous uniform.

### Mark Rushton PLV

Founder

# Parent's Perspective



As parents we have hopes and aspirations for our children, we want them to have happy, successful and prosperous lives, for those of us with children with cognitive, neurodiverse or physical disabilities just completing everyday tasks and life skills are a challenge. We need to teach them how to love, how to eat, drink and how to function in an unforgiving world.

We are thrown into the deep end, endless therapy sessions, doctors' consultations and experts giving us advice-juggling siblings, making sure everyone receives the attention they require, quality time with partners and extended family. This is the continuous commitment we will give our children for the rest their lives.

I can remember the day in 2008 at the age of 11, Ronnie coming home and telling me about this "thing" called BlowFly Cricket, he was playing soccer with St Ives in the "special needs" competition and was asked to come along, I said "sure" anything that would get him involved, get him to interact socially, run around and be active with others could only be good for him!

My husband took Ronnie for the first few weeks, but curiosity got the better of me, this chap called Mark in a wheelchair along with a few helpers had adapted the noble game of Cricket for kids with all abilities to participate in (having played cricket for 13 years myself, I was most intrigued).

From that time on I was converted, finding a group of committed individuals wanting to improve the lives of kids with all sorts of disabilities was a blessing.

Mark Rushton - miracle worker, mentor, friend, and all-round nice guy.

Over the years I have served as President of BlowFly Cricket, helped with BBQ's and found that the gatherings on Saturday afternoons served as respite for parents, here we could talk about our kids and not feel alone, offering support and friendship.



In the last 15 years I have watched Ronnie grow into a confident independent young man, he has made friends he is a “social butterfly”, learning to listen, turn taking and thinking about things that affect him. With the help of Mark and the wonderful volunteers he completed his coaching certificate and went to Melbourne to showcase BlowFly Cricket.

From those humble beginnings in 2008, BlowFly Cricket has changed the lives of many young people, it has given them purpose and a feeling of achievement, it has promoted abilities that many thought our kids did not have, just to see the smiles on their faces or the squeals when they hit a ball, is priceless. For me to watch Ronnie interact with his younger siblings and new friends is a memory that I hold close to my heart. Not to overlook the joy and pride when the kids appeared in the lunch break at the SCG Test... five times now. And then the most important person of them all is Santa, who dons his red suit each year at Christmas comes along for a very special party full of laughter, fun and good times.

“Long live” this wonder community activity for our special and precious children as well we owe a debt of gratitude to Mark Rushton and his wonderful volunteers for their unwavering commitment and belief in BLOWFLY CRICKET.



**Davina MacKenzie**  
*CA Accredited Community Coach*



# Our Young's Perspective



## My First Year as a Volunteer

BlowFly Cricket is an inclusive organisation that gives all-ability people the chance to play cricket and most importantly, have fun. As a volunteer, the sole purpose of BlowFly Cricket is to have fun. It isn't about getting the highest score or being the best but to enjoy yourself to your full extent.

## Why is it important?

With the purpose of BlowFly Cricket, it is incredibly important for our members to have the best experience possible. This is so that they generally both feel good and have happy memories that last forever. There is zero pressure on anything, play until you like, take some breaks and repeat. Our kind team always does its best to ensure that our members are happy and are having fun. Our team also tries to be the friendliest to our members of course and makes them feel welcome to be there anytime. In the end, the goal is to make unforgettable moments that will put a smile on them.

## What can you do?

In BlowFly Cricket, what you do is up to you. Play to your desirable needs, stop to chat with other friends. Maybe this is a good opportunity to practice and test yourself to your own limits. The possibilities are endless, just like the results and just like the memories. At BlowFly Cricket, we also have a sausage sizzle running during every session in case anyone needs to fix their hunger or if you'd like a tasty snack in your break. Whenever you go to a session, you can expect to have a good day filled with fun.

## End

In my perspective, BlowFly Cricket is a great place. It does everything right and does everything it needs to make your day a good day. Our members always have an exciting time there, while bowling, batting and having fun.



Riku Leonard



### My Sister, Maddie and the Blowies

It all started when my sister Maddie Jones started playing indoor cricket, when I went to every game she played and loved every part of it. I used to wish that I could be part of playing but never could, as I was too young. After indoor cricket, Maddie attended a club called BlowFly Cricket, a place where you couldn't be too young or too old. I started to come out and play with the cricketers, everyone was so welcoming and nice, especially Mark Rushton the Founder of BlowFly Cricket, now called Uncle Mark.

Uncle Mark was one of the most welcoming and enjoyable people to meet and have fun with. He has taught me so many things over the years. BlowFly Cricket got me into playing competitive cricket for about 2-3 years and again I loved every moment of playing, making friends and having a laugh from time-to-time. BlowFly has seriously changed me and my family's life for over the past 7 years and I can't wait for more.



**Dom Jones**  
*CA Accredited Community Coach*

# Cameron Bali – Blowies Journey



Cameron has been attending Blowies at James Park since the 2014/2015 Season and has loved it all these years. One of the things that Cameron finds difficult is following multiple rules at any one time so finding a Special Needs team that doesn't require him to adhere to a myriad of rules, is a huge blessing to him. He could just jump in and get involved from day one.

He was 11 years old when he started with Blowies and was still very dependent on others to guide him and instruction on where to go and what to do. He did love the opportunity that this program provided him, to run around with his peers and get the chance to learn how to bat, bowl and field, none of which come naturally to him.

Over the years he has acquired more and more cricket skills, however, he just enjoys being in amongst it all. And it would be remiss of me to not mention just how much he LOVES the Sausage Sizzle after the game each week. It's always been a highlight of his week.

One more recent and significant development in Cameron's journey with Blowies is that he is now able to get himself there independently and take himself home at the end of a good few hours of independence, social interaction, physical exertion and of course tummy pleasing post-game celebrating.

Thanks, so much Blowies for giving Cameron a chance to play sport like the other kids and for providing such a warm and caring environment to do it. He's always felt so valued at Blowies in every sense and for that, we are very grateful.

Regards,

**Sue & Andre Bali** (PARENTS)





# Introducing our new Ambassador Bruce Kimberley OAM



**MOUNT COLAH A GRADE TEAM DURING ITS DOMINANT RUN**  
Back Row: John Franken, Terry Austin, Graeme Kurtz, Graeme Palmer, John Jessup, Ken Carter  
Front Row: Greg McCann, Garry Barton, Graeme Bender, Wayne Hughes, Bruce Kimberley



Bruce (aka "Kimbo") has had an extremely distinguished career within the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association (HKHDCA) covering more than 40 years, covering all aspects of the game, from playing, coaching, and administration.

As a player, starting with Mt Colah CC in 1971, he played more than 400 games for Mt Colah CC and Berowra CC. All of these matches were in the A Grade competition. A remarkable all-round cricketer, he is one of very few players who has won the Association's A Grade Batting Award (1982/83) and the A Grade Bowling Award (1980/81).

Bruce was regarded as one of the finest slips fielders to have ever played in the district. In the 1975/76 Season Bruce was selected in the NSWJCU Representative team, which was pitted against bodies similar to it in other states and against opponents such as the NSWCA.

As an administrator Bruce was the Association's Honorary Junior Cricket Secretary from 1999 to 2018. He has coached many HKHDCA junior representative teams including the Harold Moore Shield (U14 boys). He has coupled this with being the Mt Colah CC Honorary Treasurer since 1991. Bruce is also a Life Member of the Mt Colah CC. He was made a Life Member of HKHDCA in 2005. In 2020 Bruce received an Order of Australia Medal for his contributions to the community. A well-deserved recognition.

Bruce has been an avid supporter of BlowFly Cricket, volunteering at several Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs until a chronic back injury prevented him from further participation. We are thrilled to welcome Bruce to the BlowFly Cricket community.



**Andy Bayles**  
Historical Officer  
CA Accredited Community Coach

**SUMMER SATURDAYS - A HISTORY OF THE H.K.H.D.C.A.**

1969/70	D. Kinnin (Berowra)	49.80	D. Anderson (Glenora Hills Club)	11.84
1970/71	C. Houston (St Ives)	49.96	C. Stone (Kathmore)	16.65
1980/81	R. Ripston (Berowra)	52.88	A. Ripston (St Ives)	9.56
1982/83	B. Barber (Dunmore Hills Club)	65.00	A. Marshall (St P. H. Cherrybrook)	8.56

**BRUCE KIMBERLEY**

One of the best all-rounders to have been produced by the Association, Bruce played Over-19s as a pace bowler with considerable success. He went into grade, but his talents were not fully recognised and he returned to District cricket with Mt Colah. His bowling was immediately successful and his batting improved rapidly, making him a formidable prospect. His son, Neil, is one of the Association's brightest prospects. His father, Jack Kimberley, had a strong involvement with the Association and his brother, Dennis, played with the Performance team before going on to open the batting for Northern District 1<sup>st</sup> Grade and the NSW Colts.

**B RESERVE GRADE AVERAGE WINNERS**

BATTING		BOWLING		
1975/76	A. Gibson (Berowra)	38.85	T. Hayne (Hornsby)	9.2
1976/77	M. Kelly (Asquith Sports)	100.37	G. Hayes (Asquith Sports)	11.80
1986/87	N. Hughes (Brookdale)	62.26	R. Everett (Asquith)	5.98
1972/73	T. Gibbs (Pyralis)	43.09	I. Hay (Thornleigh)	8.64
1973/74	R. Bourke (Valentia)	71.58	J. Mallory (Kathmore)	6.37
1974/75	W. Sinclair (St Ives)	76.06	D. Goodiner (East Wahroonga)	7.47
1975/76	G. Barton (Berowra)	68.86	R. Wood (Berowra)	11.70
1976/77	P. Sharpe (Pyralis)	42.70	G. Basing (Pyralis)	7.36
1977/78	G. Simpson (Kissing Point)			11.54
1978/79	A. Thomson (Kissing Point)			
1979/80	C. Roberts (Wahroonga)			
1980/81	D. Nicholson (Beecroft)			
1981/82	D. Nicholson (Hornsby)			
1982/83	J. Clarke (West Pennant Hills)			
1983/84	J. Clarke (West Pennant Hills)			
1984/85	T. Luff (Berowra)			
1985/86	D. Stewart (Wahroonga)			
1986/87	J. Wallace (Thornleigh)			

**Summer Saturdays**

**A History of the Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai and Hills District Cricket Association 1926/27 to 1999/2000**

**Alfred James**

# Congrats Damien Guild



Damien recently had a very successful week at the National Indoor Cricket tournament representing NSW in Ipswich. His efforts didn't go unnoticed and thanks to his outstanding performance at Nationals, Damien has been selected to represent Australia in the U18's Indoor Cricket team and will play in the World Cup which is taking place in Dubai from 26 Sept to 9 Oct 2023.

Rewind to 1998. . . What do you get when two passionate, fun, life-loving, sporting people meet and fall in love? Fast forward a decade. . . The answer is two kids who are equally as crazy, fun, and love their sport and competition! So begins the story of the Guild family and their sporting and community adventures.

Damien and Jared are chalk and cheese in many ways, but their commitment to their sport, schooling and family are equal. Damien has always loved Cricket and AFL and has played both sports for many years, and at representative level through club and school for both sports as well.

Jared initially wasn't convinced that sport was for him, but as parents who have been around sport for many years, we know the benefits that come from being involved in a team environment and the community. So, we encouraged him to find the things that he enjoyed doing so he too could experience what we had. Which has led Jared to become a member of the BlowFly Cricket Club, a participant, and a volunteer with his mum at RDA Tall Timbers, and a team member of the uFit group at Prodigy Martial Arts. All of these groups provide opportunities for kids and young adults with disabilities.

Now, being the big brother of a kid with a disability can have its tough times, but for Damien, he has learned that being involved in Jared's "world" brings a lot of joy. Damien volunteers alongside Jared and his parents at BlowFly Cricket and he has realised that being involved not only brings joy to the people he's helping and supporting, but it is also fulfilling to him.





CRICKET NSW



This story is to highlight not only our family, but in particular Damien's achievements over the years, specifically with cricket. Damien began playing cricket in the U10's for Baulkham Hills Cricket Club when he was 8 years old. He progressed through the levels, playing for the Hurricanes, then eventually being selected in reps for Parramatta District Cricket Club. Next was his selection in the Green Shield (U16) team for Western Suburbs District Cricket Club where he played 2 years of Green Shield and is now playing 3rd Grade for Wests, all by the ripe old age of 17.

As you know, there are many formats of most sports these days, and the same goes for cricket. Damien enjoys the hit and giggle of Last Man Stands competition, as well as the fast-paced indoor cricket competition that is held during Winter. He plays for Cougars on a Saturday evening and most recently was selected to play for NSW in the U18's side at the National Indoor Cricket Championship in Ipswich. We were so proud of him and this achievement! It's not every day your kid plays for the state in their selected sport. Damien had a GREAT week at the tournament, finishing 3rd in the Best & Fairest votes and the NSW U18 boys' side finished 4th overall, unfortunately losing the minor semi-final to Victoria.

Rocking up to the presentation evening at the end of the tournament, Damien knew that they announce the selections for the Australian team, and he hoped he had done enough to be in the mix for selection, as I'm sure all the boys were hopeful. I mean, hey, who wouldn't want that?

As it turns out, Damien hadn't gone unnoticed during the week of Nationals and was the sole NSW player to be selected into the U18 Australian team to play at the Junior Indoor Cricket World Cup in Dubai, which is taking place at the end of September this year!

To say we are proud is an understatement! Words cannot describe the feeling for not only Damien, but also Jared and us as his parents. We thought representing the state was pretty cool . . . but to represent your country at 17 – just WOW!!!

**Kate Guild**

*A Proud Parent  
CA Accredited Community Coach*

**Australia Under-18 Boys**  
**JUNIOR WORLD SERIES, DUBAI, SEP 2023**

JUDE KEARNEY	QUEENSLAND
TOM MURRAY	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
CRUZ HARBER-CONNELL	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
ANGUS BLOXHAM	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
TOBY BRENTON	ACT
COBY FITZGERALD	QUEENSLAND
DAMON BASS	QUEENSLAND
NED HANRAHAN	QUEENSLAND
HAYDEN O'CONNOR	QUEENSLAND
KEAGAN LYNCH	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
COOPER STICHT	VICTORIA
DAMIEN GUILD	NEW SOUTH WALES

COACH: GEOFF LATHAM  
MANAGER: ANDREW SWEET




# Ambassadorial Musings



## BlowFly Cricket Anthem

*(sung to the tune of "Six White Boomers")*

BlowFly Cricket, BlowFly Cricket,  
With a bat and ball in the Aussie sun,  
BlowFly Cricket, BlowFly Cricket,  
Come along and join us and  
You'll have some fun.

Put on the sunblock and a floppy hat,  
Grab a cricket ball or a cricket bat,  
Some may take a Catch or maybe a Wicket,  
But it's always lots of fun at BlowFly  
Cricket... ha ha

It doesn't matter if you're short,  
It doesn't matter if you're tall,  
It doesn't matter if you're better with the bat,  
Or better with the ball.

It's just great to get together with  
Your Blowie mates and friends,  
Because once you're a Blowie  
the journey never ends....

*Adapted by Errol & Chelsey Hyde*

Gooday everyone,

I'm a proud BlowFly Cricket Ambassador. Well, a now you see me now you don't one, for I generally only join the Blowies every second Saturday afternoon, during the season, at James Park, whilst helping out occasionally at the Bunnings Thornleigh fundraisers.

However, it's an absolute pleasure to witness, to be part of, this wonderful program, and to see the Blowies getting involved. Chatting, smiling, listening, looking, learning, and yes, trying, becoming more confident, having a go, then sitting around afterwards chatting some more, and snacking on the delicious sausage sandwiches and salads.

Everything we do takes practice, from fiddly buttons, zippers, shoelaces, to using a toothbrush and cutlery, and so on, so I see batting and bowling with their peers and others watching, is confidence, character and coordination building, whilst simply having fun.

And whilst there is so much more to running the BlowFly Cricket organisation, much more, I love BlowFly Cricket because I see our Blowies loving it too...!

Cheers all.



**Errol Hyde**  
Ambassador



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; Fragile X; verbal and hearing deficits, etc. They play a hybrid form of cricket on Saturday afternoons at James Park, Hornsby during Terms 4 and 1 (cricket season), followed by a BBQ.

The Blowies also play cricket on Friday evenings with WPHCCC at James Henty Reserve, Dural; and enjoy an off-season Winter Cricket program on Sunday evenings in the MTO Indoor Centre, Waitara. The Northern District CC / BlowFly Cricket Inclusion Program is another wonderful partnership with the long-running NDCC Special Olympics cricket program. Several BlowFly Cricket female members also participate in the Social Women's Smash cricket program at NDCC's home ground on Wednesday evenings during the cricket season.

When it comes to succession planning, Mark Rushton has deliberately targeted younger members of BlowFly Cricket, for example, Jordan Jones, the inspirational President, and others. Mark does this to inject fresh energy into the club and to help mentor their leadership skills to enable individuals to maximise their potential. Mark empowers the young adults and teenagers involved in BlowFly Cricket to challenge themselves by taking on responsibilities which develop their skills, confidence, self-worth, social interaction, organisational and communication skills, and employability.

Mark and Jordan aim to set their club members up for success through cricket coaching accreditation, opportunities to implement their new skills; and where possible, public speaking, representing the Blowies at Cricket NSW, interstate and at other forums; taking on committee positions; helping out at the regular fund-raising BBQs at Bunnings, Thornleigh; sign writing, interacting with the general public, etc. This strategic approach will future-proof the Blowies with a ready-made succession plan.

Mark has always recognised the importance of clearly documented strategic plans, checklists and role statements for BlowFly Cricket and the other clubs where he held executive committee positions. To this end, BlowFly Cricket secured a Grant and engaged CLUBMAP to run a few Zoom sessions about 'club management' and to develop Strategic, Operational and Revenue plans. I participated in the CLUBMAP Zoom session on 14 February 2023.

The BlowFly Cricket not-for-profit organisation has been successful in attracting corporate sponsors and Government Grants, which has given them the resources to expand their range of programs to meet a wider audience. The BlowFly cricketers have been issued with a range of club polo shirts with their name and individual number on the back. They love wearing these colourful cricket shirts with corporate logos, etc, as they feel special with their own identity. These shirts also make the Blowies easily recognisable at their various cricket programs and at the regular community fund-raising BBQs at Bunnings, Thornleigh.



**Bruce Wood** OAM  
*Ambassador*  
*CA Accredited Representative Coach*

# James Park Centre – Coach’s Report



It just seems to be an annual repeat rather than a report. I am still amazed at the ability of this bunch of young people with all manner of abilities (or not) to get together on Saturday afternoons and play and enjoy their brand of cricket. BlowFly Cricket is taking on a life of its own. Most of these young people crave to go to their cricket, BlowFly Cricket, because they are not judged, only encouraged. With encouragement comes confidence. Then who knows where next.

In fact some of the team are becoming so confident that all they want to do is have *“too much fun”*. This makes me feel like I’ve done my job. I keep telling them that they are having too much fun and they just laugh at me. It’s great to see them joking around while still trying their hearts out.



To see the joy when so many of them take an unexpected *“specy”* is something to behold. Seeing that sense of achievement that they CAN. Or when they first clobber a ball over the infield, they realise they CAN. BlowFly Cricket is all about what one CAN do.

I would have to say that I’m a pretty avid cricket follower, but some of these *“Blowies”* would leave me for dead in the *“keen”* stakes. I reckon at least half of them would be up for a game every day!

Once again I have to say that I’ve been honoured to be entrusted to my position (silly mid off) and look forward to the next season of spills and laughter!

Your coach.



**Steve Perry**  
Coach  
CA Accredited Community Coach







# WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre



2022/23 saw some changes to the regular line up, whilst we missed some of the old timers, we welcomed David (and his super-fast full toss bowling) and welcomed back Angela. In February we also welcomed Roger Friend from WPHCCC as coach and umpire. Unlike last season, this time round more sunshine meant more cricket, which meant more fun for everyone. As a group, we were thrilled with the cricket pitch upgrade. Despite the early teething problems of freshly laid turf and muddy surrounds due to the necessary watering the new, wider and longer pitch resulted in a safer playing area for our players and volunteers.



The biggest change this season was the introduction of (*my own personal*) scoring, defined boundaries, compulsory hit and run, set batting order and hitting off the cones to speed up the game. Each player had the same number of hits (usually eight but flexible depending on player numbers and weather conditions). Fours, sixes and (caught, bowled or run) outs were recorded and the top players each night in each category got a special mention. It took a few weeks for everyone to get the hang of it but soon there was fierce competition for the top spots.

The top performers in each category for the season were:

FOURS (BOUNDARIES)	SIXES (MAXIMUMS)	OUTS (WICKETS)
Maddie (17)	Tim (17)	David (30)
Tim (13)	Maddie and Nicko (7)	Tim (16)
William and	David (4)	William (12)
Ronnie (12)		Akansha (10)



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

- **Shabana Hakim** - thank you for manning the BBQ again and keeping Mark busy. Nothing tastes better than these sausage sandwiches for Friday dinner.
- **Kate and Alan Guild** – thank you for being our official photographer and player wranglers.
- **Bite Me Bakehouse** – for donating the bread each week for the sausage sangers.



**Fiona Mohr-Hanks**  
Centre Coordinator  
CA Accredited Community Coach





West Pennant Hills  
Cherrybrook  
Cricket Club

**Editor's Comment:**

To quote Scott Reid, HKHDCA Executive Officer *"The James Henty Oval upgrade has enabled another suitable venue for the girl's competition, and we hope the BlowFly cricketers have enjoyed the improved facility...."*

BlowFly Cricket was fully supportive of the increase in the size of the new pitch from the previous 1.75 metres x 24 metres to 2.6 metres x 25 metres.

Our players and volunteers have benefited considerably from the centre-wicket upgrade, improving safety by ensuring there is adequate space for bowlers, batters and wicket keepers, providing them the enjoyment of bowling on a standard width pitch. The wider pitch has facilitated a safer environment for our members, there were no incidents of batters colliding whilst running between the wickets, primarily due to the previous narrow pitch.

Thank you HKHDCA and Hornsby Shire Council.



# NDCC All Abilities Cricket Program

*"You may or may not already know that I appeared with Will Harding on "The Clubhouse" which is part of the Spirit of Cricket Facebook Group, on Friday June 2 at 6.30pm on Facebook Live. We discussed All Abilities Cricket and what as a club NDCC does with Special Olympics and Blowfly Cricket within the local community.*

*I tried to use this opportunity to really promote both programmes and hopefully generate more interest and maybe even sponsorship through the power of Facebook and social media. Spirit of Cricket has some 3,000 followers worldwide and through "Shares" on Facebook can reach a wider audience through the NDCC Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter. Anthony Telfer who runs the platform did the interview, loves nothing more than promoting Community Cricket - his promotion of Veterans Cricket worldwide is phenomenal. Hence the success of the interview was as a result of a few questions and answers as supplied . . ."*

## **How long has NDCC been associated with Special Olympics and BlowFly Cricket?**

NDCC established a program (in partnership with Special Olympics) in 2008, to provide young men and women with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to play cricket. Every Monday afternoon throughout summer at Mark Taylor Oval (MTO), Waitara, NDCC supplies coaches, clothing, equipment, refreshments and encouragement to a growing group of young adults with disabilities. It provides an outlet for the participants and their parents. Sport is an amazing elixir to people with disabilities. They feel very special about themselves promoting confidence and self-esteem. The relationship with Special Olympics allows these young adults to engage with that organisation. This opens the door for so many other activities for them.

NDCC joined forces with an established organisation called BlowFly Cricket. In the 2020/21 Season NDCC established a Woolworths Cricket Junior Blaster inclusion program (in partnership with BlowFly Cricket, Cricket NSW and the Sydney Sixes), to provide boys and girls (5-14yo) with special needs and/or intellectual disabilities the opportunity to play cricket. This new junior Centre features all-ability coaches from the unique and highly acclaimed "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" Academy.

## **How did the partnership with BlowFly Cricket come about?**

It seems like it was only yesterday when Jerry Hook, President NDCC, was asked by Mark Rushton, Founder of BlowFly Cricket, to be more actively involved with BlowFly Cricket. In the 2018/19 Season Jerry visited a Saturday afternoon session of BlowFly Cricket at the nearby James Park, the spiritual home ground of this unique all-abilities club. The rest is history as BlowFly Cricket was then invited to be part of the NDCC "Back to Waitara Day" in the 2019/20 Season, meeting Cricket legends, Mark Taylor AO and Nathan Lyon.

BlowFly Cricket is absolutely thrilled to be working in partnership with NDCC to be providing all-abilities people, both children and adults, opportunities to be either playing or being involved in the game of cricket in the local area.

BlowFly Cricket is grateful to NDCC for including our all-abilities club in the Annual Presentation Evening and use of the new MTO Indoor Nets Centre, a wonderful facility. Our members are excited and proud to feel part of our local inclusive and progressive grade club.



**Phil Melville** NDCC





Photos supplied by Cricket NSW



# Winter Season – NDCC Indoor Nets



The fourth edition of the BlowFly Winter Cricket Season has been one of the most successful to date with 12 players and 16 volunteers. This year we moved from PCYC to the new NDCC Indoor Nets Centre at Mark Taylor Oval.

For the first three (3) quarters of the season, we had net sessions in which coaches helped players improve their bowling and batting skills. This dynamic was different to how our Winter Season has looked before but each and every player still strived to do their best. For the final two weeks we will be able to move the nets back to have an end of year game and put our new skills to the test!

Congratulations to our players for a wonderful season filled with great skill sessions and lots of laughs. One of the highlights of the season was Rishi's commitment as our Centre's *Uncoachable Coach*. On one occasion after hearing his dad was unable to drive him, Rishi set out on a journey of two and a half hours, involving a few bus trips in lieu of trains, to make it to the session. Well done, Rishi on your wonderful commitment!

There were also a number of records set, especially by John Massoud with a total of over 2,000 runs throughout the season. As always, the BlowFly Cricket BBQ was a highlight! It kept us warm on the cold nights and well-fed before our sessions. Well done to Stefan who offered to volunteer with the cooking!

With the season coming to an end, we were thrilled to welcome our major sponsor, Blitzit Plan Manager who visited for the last session. The Team Blitzit staff were thrilled to see the improvement in our BlowFly Cricketers who have learnt skill after skill and were fired up to bowl them all out!

Thank you to NDCC for their in-kind sponsorship by greatly subsidising the booking fee for the Indoor Nets Centre.

As always, thank you to Anthony Courtney ("Sir Ant") and the friendly staff of Bite Me Bakehouse for supplying the bread without cost each week.





A big thank you to Mount Colah McDonalds who kindly donated \$10 Gift Vouchers to award to eligible players and registered volunteers.

And finally, a huge thank you to all of our volunteers for manning the BBQ, assisting with coaching and bringing smiles every week. Our wonderful volunteers are the driving force behind our club, and we appreciate all of the time and effort that you put into BlowFly Cricket. Thank you specifically to the Jones family – Nicola, Maddie, Bronte and Dom, and May Carpenter for bringing the BBQ, sausages, onions, condiments, utensils and kit bag every single week. Without your outstanding efforts our Winter Season would not be operating.

The popular end of season awards, trophies and plaques were warmly received by our players, volunteers and Team Blitzit staff members. Special plaques were presented to Team Blitzit and the Jones Family whilst Tony Porter gratefully received a plaque on behalf of our Premier Grade Cricket Club, NDCC.

In closing, congratulations to all concerned for a successful and enjoyable 2023 Winter Season.



**Jordan Jones**  
*(On behalf of the Jones family)*  
CA Accredited Community Coach

# Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camps



## 2022 St Andrew's Sony Children's Holiday Camp

The first day of summer saw Ronnie MacKenzie, Sue Collyer-Rousek and Mark Rushton volunteering at the 2022 St Andrew's Sony Children's Holiday Camp in putting on an action-plus clinic of BlowFly Cricket. The number of children participating was aplenty and the student volunteers joined in with tremendous enthusiasm and energy.

We were all thrilled when newly selected Australian player, Phoebe Litchfield arrived to join in the fun and games. Phoebe starred for the Sydney Thunder in the recently completed WBBL|08 Big Bash League scoring 280 runs including two fifties and recently gained selection in the five-match tour of India during December.

In summing up, it was a great afternoon of BlowFly Cricket played on the tennis court and basketball courts located within four hectares of picturesque grounds. Ronnie thoroughly enjoyed the experience of bowling to and batting against Phoebe, potentially a future great of the game. The shot of the day belongs to Ronnie who played a world-class reverse sweep to a quick yorker length ball . . . Phoebe and the adoring throng were in raptures!!!

The smiles of the campers and student volunteers upon receiving their BlowFly Cricket medals was more than worth the trip in Sydney's bustling peak-hour traffic.

## 2023 Shore / PLC Sony Children's Holiday Camp

Thank you Sony and BlowFly Cricket for sharing with the Shore and PLC companions a very rewarding fun cricket session for children with disabilities.

After eight (8) years this was my final volunteering with BlowFly Cricket - at 74 I have other commitments to family and friends. I will especially miss the Sony cricket sessions - if we can put a smile on at least half the children we have been rewarded. My favourite part is helping to put an engraved BlowFly Cricket medal around each beautiful child's neck.



Thank you especially to all the companions. They showed leadership, compassion, patience and ENTHUSIASM, allowing parents to trust them and enjoy a little well-deserved respite. I believe these companions have shared together an insight into the world of disabilities and the skills they have learnt will prepare them for a rewarding life.

Thank you.



**Julie Davis**  
 Volunteer  
 CA Accredited Community Coach

**Editor's Comment:**

Since 2015, BlowFly Cricket has been an active supporter of the Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camps by providing free Coaching Clinics at the following Camps:

ABBOX (Abbotsleigh / Knox Grammar School), PLC / Shore School, St Andrew's College and Scotch College (Melbourne).

In December 2019 we took away a group of six (6) Uncoachable Coaches and volunteers to Scotch College, Melbourne at no cost to the touring party. The coaches put on a tremendous inclusive Cricket session much to the delight of the lucky campers and camp organisers.

BlowFly Cricket has also donated equipment kits, catching nets to all of these Camps and Blowies medals for all campers. All of this has come at considerable cost to our inclusive all-ability club. We, as a club are proudly focussed on supporting communities and will continue to support the Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camps for many years to come.



# St Gabriel's School Program



This year BlowFly Cricket commenced an after-school cricket program during Term 1 at the St Gabriel's School in Castle Hill, for children aged 5-17 years, who expressed their interest in the program. We had approximately 20 students in total attend over the term who participated from 3:15-4:15pm on a Tuesday afternoon.

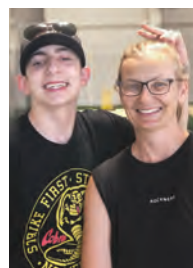
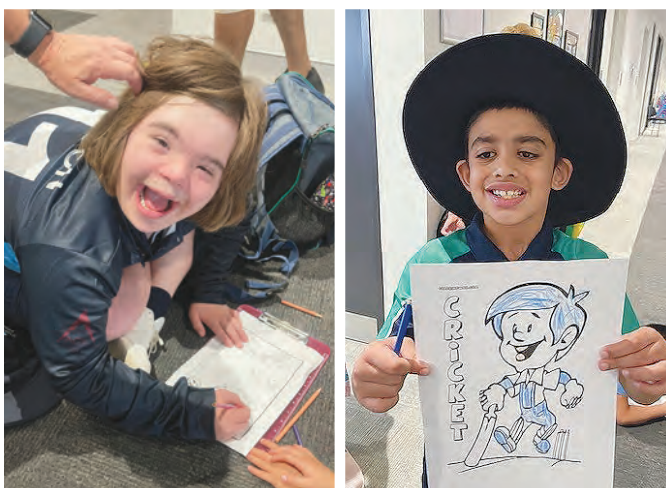
As with anything new, it wasn't without its teething problems! From location of play (due to building and construction at the school), heat-wave conditions, to bouts of rain, we had everything thrown at us, but we still managed to make it work. The watermelon for afternoon tea each week was a huge winner on those hot afternoons.

After things settled and some re-arranging of age groups, we were able to run a successful program for the wonderful kids at St Gabriel's.

Starting with the basics for those who had never played cricket before, to some more advanced skills for the kids who really knew what they were doing, the sessions included learning how to bat, bowl, catch and throw, as well as playing fun games such as rob the nest, to assist with these skills. For some of the kids it was learning about taking turns, socialising, using manners, and following instructions. All of which are invaluable skills for anyone to have.

This program will run again in Term 4 for St Gabriel's, and we look forward to seeing the kids further develop their cricketing and social skills.

Thank you to Jordan Jones for the session planning and overseeing of the weekly activities, and a huge thank you to our volunteers and coaches, Maddie Jones, Shabana Hakim, Azaan Husain, Jared Guild and myself for the assistance in the successful running of the sessions each week. Thanks also goes to the couple of parents, carers, and teachers who also attended and assisted to ensure the kids got the most out of each session.



**Jared and Kate Guild**  
CA Accredited Community Coaches





### Editor's Comment:

Congratulate Lons to Jordan, Kate, Shabana and our wonderful CA Accredited Community Coaches Azaan Husain, Jared Guild and Maddie Jones, who are all graduates from our *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables Academy*.

This school program consists of two modules, each of eight weekly sessions held in the school grounds in Term 1 and Term 4, 2023. Feedback from the school includes the following emails from Jacqueline Cashmore, Deputy Principal:

*"Thank you so much that is such a beautiful gift that we will proudly display in our new gymnasium. It would be lovely for Azaan and Shabana to present it next week at the Mother's Day event. We will happily send through photos. Thank you for all your support, the students loved the opportunity to learn new cricket skills . . ."*

*"We would love to see you back in Term 4 – that way all the building works will be finished and there will be indoor spaces. I will touch base closer to the time and will share your post on Dojo. Thank you so much for everything that you and the team did to get this started."*

Furthermore, Jade Boyce the Cricket NSW Blast Specialist is to be thanked for the support of this program by arranging for Jordan to be paid for the eight sessions in Term 1. Cricket NSW also donated an equipment kit which was proudly presented to the school by Azaan and Shabana.





# Asquith Public School Program



Over the years, parents of students in the support classes at Asquith Public School (APS) have raved about the inclusive all-ability cricket sessions on Tuesdays after school. When Mark Rushton reached out to us to organise cricket lessons for our students at APS, we eagerly jumped at the opportunity.

BlowFly Cricket Club, alongside Cricket NSW, deliver cricket lessons for our students during the term. Our students thoroughly enjoy the experience. All students are welcomed and encouraged to participate, and their achievements are always celebrated. Now, more of our students are participating in the after-school program organised by BlowFly Cricket as they have had such a great time during the cricket lessons at school.

The BlowFly Cricket Club fosters a sense of belonging within an inclusive community, encourages members to form new friendships and, most importantly, everyone has a blast! We extend our gratitude to Mark and his team for their exceptional efforts in running the club and for providing such a positive and inclusive experience for our students.

## **Georgia Brady**

*Assistant Principal – Support Class Unit (SCU)*

### **Editor's Comment:**

Furthermore, Jade Boyce the Cricket NSW Blast Specialist is to be thanked for the support of this program by arranging for Jordan and another CA Accredited Community Coach to be paid for the four weekly sessions in Term 1. BlowFly Cricket provided free playing shirts and hats in the school's colours to all participants and teachers, donated a framed shirt and a "Crazy Catch" net. Cricket NSW also donated an equipment kit which was proudly presented to the school. It was a tremendous opportunity for two graduates from our *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables Academy* to gain additional insights and experiences actively coaching.

It is important to sing the praises of 17yo volunteer, Elysa Oliveri who is the brainchild behind this school's program. Kudos to Elysa and congratulations on your trifecta of major awards which have come your way in the past six months or so, all richly deserved.



# Cricket New South Wales Report



## 2022/23 BlowFly Cricket Annual Report

In Season 2022/23, we returned to a full Summer of Cricket for the first time since 2018/19 and it was great to see so many people choosing to playing the game. We saw a record number of 5-12 year old participants and female participants across NSW, along with significant growth and progression in our Inclusive offerings.

BlowFly Cricket once again continued to go from strength to strength thanks to the amazing work of Mark Rushton, Jordan Jones and all other volunteers who contribute so much to this great club. The fact that there are too many volunteers to name, shows the strength of BlowFly Cricket and confirms the club will be in good hands for many years to come.

There were many great highlights this season, but the headline was the announcement of Elysa Oliveri as the Cricket Australia Young Leader of the Year. Elysa has volunteered with BlowFly Cricket for a number of years now and is a deserving winner of the award. Elysa becomes the third outstanding young volunteer from BlowFly to be named a finalist or winner of this prestigious and significant national award in the past 4 seasons, joining Dani Chivers (Winner – 2020) and Jordan Jones (Runner Up 2021). To have 3 young leaders recognised in this way is an outstanding achievement and something all members of BlowFly Cricket can be proud of.

BlowFly Cricket also saw significant growth this season, requiring a 'Flick Pitch' to be purchased using the Grassroots Cricket Fund for the James Park program which allowed significantly more players to get involved. We also saw BlowFly Cricket continue to expand into new parts of Sydney, providing more opportunities for people who are living with a disability to play and love our game.

Finally, it was great to see the continuation of the annual Winter PCYC program, NDCC/ BlowFly Inclusive Centre, 'Uncoachables' coaching the 'Uncoachables' program and the West Penant Hills Cherrybrook BlowFly Centre. Thank you to all of the volunteers and BlowFly accredited coaches for making these what they were. We also saw BlowFly once again enter teams into our Women's Social Smash in partnership with Northern District Cricket Club which was great to see.

All the best for the Winter and we can't wait to see everyone back in Season 23/24.



CRICKET NSW

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Area Manager – Sydney North

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# The Mark Rushton Room



In August 2022 Cricket NSW moved into a brand new, multimillion dollar centre called Cricket Central. In doing so, Cricket NSW named each room after an influential member of the cricket community, including our own Mark Rushton. The Jones family, along with Marnie, Vivienne and Mark were invited to the official launch to reveal the named rooms.

We ventured throughout the centre in search of the “*Mark Rushton Room*” with little to no luck. Just as we began to think we’d never find it, we stumbled (or wheeled) upon the physio room! It was wheelie awesome to explore the various facilities and test out the equipment (it was a very humbling experience to find out I am only 30 centimetres taller than Mark). We were also lucky enough to meet Moises Henriques, the NSW and Sydney Sixes Captain!

Congratulations to Mark for this incredible achievement and we hope all members of the cricket community continue to be inspired by everything you do for us!

## Jordan Jones

President  
CA Accredited Community Coach



## Editor's Comment:

In recognition of Cricket Central being a facility for the entire cricket community, a decision was made to name the meeting rooms in acknowledgment of the extraordinary contribution that volunteers have made throughout Cricket NSW's long and proud history.

Across the rooms Cricket NSW has sought to recognise the many different roles that volunteers perform and to acknowledge a small selection of volunteers to act as exemplary representatives of each of those volunteer roles. It was pleasing, humbling and somewhat embarrassing to find out that Cricket NSW wanted to name a meeting room in gratitude for my own contribution to cricket in NSW and also that of all the other volunteers that have performed a similar role in clubs and associations all across our State.

I was thrilled to see the delightful Dani Chivers also had a Meeting Room named after her. This will no doubt encourage other young people to volunteer and emulate the amazing efforts of Dani.





# HK&HDCA Report



After two seasons interrupted by COVID-19, it was great to play a normal full length season. Fine weather also allowed for both the semi-finals and grand finals for juniors and seniors to be played to conclusion for the first time in many years.



The 2022/23 season was another successful season for the association. Team numbers were strong across our senior (76 teams) and junior (135 teams) competitions. Clubs also fielded 13 teams in the North Shore's combined girl's competitions. With maintenance works at Kenthurst, Samuel King, George Christie, Normanhurst and Headen ovals, ground utilisation was at capacity. Senior competition games were also required to be scheduled on Sundays. It was a challenging year for our association and club volunteers with the introduction of the new registration and competition management system PlayHQ. We thank our volunteers for their patience as we navigated our way with the new system.



The association's representative section had great success in the NSW Youth Championships, winning three premierships: Under 13 Gee Shield, Under 13 Division 2 Creak Shield and Under 14 Harold Moore Shield. The Under 13 Gee Shield team went on to win the State Championship by defeating the country premiers, Central Coast. It was also pleasing to field a team in the girls Under 15 Margaret Peden Shield for the first time in a number of years.

Members benefited from a number of capital work projects across the association. The nets at James Park underwent a major renovation with the replacement of the cyclone fencing and pitch surface, installation of black matting, new stumps and roof safety netting to an extended 9 metres. Pitches were replaced at George Christie and James Henty with wider and longer pitches. The James Henty Oval upgrade has enabled another suitable venue for the girls competition and we hope the BlowFly cricketers have enjoyed the improved facility for the Friday night cricket.

Thank you to all the volunteers of BlowFly cricket for helping make your 2022/23 season a success.



**Scott Reid**  
Executive Officer HK&HDCA



# The Coaches' Association



The Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) is proud to have been associated with BlowFly Cricket for the past 12 years through the provision of free coaching sessions at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara and other venues; collaboration at a senior level regarding strategies to enhance All-Abilities cricket; plus, Bruce Wood regularly 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 OAM (*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 special needs children, junior cricket and the community.

The Coaches' Association held a free coaching session for BlowFly Cricket in the MTO Indoor Centre on 12 January 2023 (see group photo). The HKHDCCA coaches who helped the Blowies at this session were Bruce Wood, Connor Hindmarch and Daniel Wood.

A total of 25 HKHDCCA coaches have guided the Blowies at our free coaching sessions since 2011-12, including Bruce Wood, Jamie McEvoy, Connor Hindmarch, Aaron Crofts, Nick Miller, Daniel Wood, Josh Miller, Joe Hiley, Cooper Davenport, Daniel Anderson, Braden Cheng, Tom Felton, Dani Chivers, Dylan Bish, Nathan Middleton, Justin Epthorp, Will Fiedler, John Anderson, James Madden, Ryan Swain, Jack Nati, Andrew Harvey, Utkarsh Somaiya, Elysa Oliveri and Alec Silins. 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 has engaged some BlowFly cricketers as Assistant Coaches at the school holiday (*mainstream*) junior cricket clinics for the past two years, which was funded by a generous donation of \$500 from BlowFly Cricket to HKHDCCA.





William Hanks from BlowFly Cricket attended a couple of HKHDCCA/NDCC school holiday clinics in 2022-23 (see photo), following Aaron Lewis, Ronnie MacKenzie and Akanksha Swarup the previous season. Planning is underway to expand this collaboration further in 2023-24.

The Coaches' Association introduced a special commemorative crown coin in 2022-23 for presentations to key cricket people, plus as a gift on our overseas cricket tours. The HKHDCCA logo is 'Heads' and the crown side is 'Tails'. The coin has the year 2010 to mark the inception of the Coaches' Association. I was pleased to present a coin to Mark Rushton and Jordan Jones at the HKHDCCA AGM on 24 May 2023.

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



**Bruce Wood OAM**  
President  
Coaches' Association



# Cricket NSW All-Abilities Training Session



Late in April, our friends at Cricket NSW reached out to ask Bruce Wood OAM, Dani Chivers and I to run an all-abilities training session at Cricket Central on the 27 April! We were incredibly excited for this opportunity as it displayed the growth of the all-ability community within our sport.

After arriving at Cricket Central, we were guided to the lecture room where we set up our introduction video and a photo slide. We talked through the history of BlowFly Cricket and how it came to be, including the importance of our volunteers, and what abilities a coach may face during an all-ability program. Bruce stepped in to discuss HKHDCCA's involvement and the benefits of coaching all-abilities programs.



Dani added her own experiences and how fulfilling coaching these programs is. We finished up with a practical session in which Bruce, Dani and I demonstrated how to adapt certain activities to fit different needs.

The training session was an overall success, and I would like to thank Bruce and Dani for their contribution and our friends at Cricket NSW for providing us with this opportunity.



**Jordan Jones**  
*CA Accredited Community Coach*



On 27 April 2023, Jordan Jones, President, BlowFly Cricket, and Bruce Wood, President, Coaches' Association, conducted a training session at Cricket Central, Silverwater, for Cricket NSW staff on all-abilities cricket sessions. Jordan and Bruce drew on their collective experiences with BlowFly Cricket to provide some beneficial insights and tips about how to plan for and manage the sessions, which can be challenging and unpredictable.

The feedback from the CNSW Blast Specialists and their staff was positive, and they should now be equipped with some strategies and options for when they next run an all-abilities cricket session. Special thanks to Jordan who took the lead with this training session and was outstanding.



**Bruce Wood** OAM  
*President  
 Coaches' Association  
 CA Accredited Representative Coach*

**Editor's Comment:**

Congratulations to Jordan Jones on her ongoing development as a quality Community Coach who really enjoys coaching children of all ages who live with a disability. I had the pleasure of observing Jordan running a session at a Coffs Harbour coaching clinic. Her energy levels, flexibility and adaptability are second to none. I look forward to her further development as a coach and can only encourage her to acquire her Representative (formerly Level 2) Coaching qualification as soon as time permits, which will provide her with an even greater knowledge base and skills to call upon.



# Northern District Cricket Club Report



## **NORTHERN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB**

**P.O. Box 154, Hornsby, NSW 2077**

**(Founded 26<sup>th</sup> 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 2022/23**

I am delighted to contribute to the 2022/23 Annual Report of BlowFly Cricket.

This season was a little bit more normal in all ways. The difficult pandemic years, which stopped and limited training, were a memory. The weather front (after two summers full of wet weather) normalised fortunately. It was also the year we commissioned the new Mark Taylor Oval (MTO) Indoor Cricket Centre, the ultimate answer to weather and its impacts on training.

Having established the NDCC-BlowFly Inclusion Centre in 2020/21, the last two seasons were a return to the past but this season we were back to the home base on MTO. We look forward to training on the oval which will be a magnificent surface, and the Indoor Cricket Centre will be a huge additional asset for the Blowies training.

NDCC had a tremendous season on the field. Two premierships were the highlight – First Grade won the Limited Overs competition and Fifth Grade won their second premiership in three seasons. Above team and club performances, it was wonderful to see representative honours for a range of our players. To see Chris Green and Toby Gray represent NSW in the Sheffield Shield was a huge thrill for all who have witnessed their development at the Club since their early years as 14-year-olds in Green Shield. Nathan Lyon (a Cricket Australia All Abilities ambassador) continued his work as Australia's all-time leading finger spinner.

For us it is important to win, but we must win well. It's also important that, as a group who benefits from being part of the community, we give back to the community.

NDCC is delighted to be associated with BlowFly Cricket. 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.

It has been a productive relationship with BlowFly Cricket since its inception, and we look forward to strengthening this link in the years ahead.



**Jeremy Hook**  
President

#### **PRESIDENT**

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## GRAND OPENING

# Indoor Cricket Centre – Mark Taylor Oval



### What an Opening !

*The completion of Stage 2 of the Waitara Park Precinct! . . .*

The Indoor Cricket Centre. It came about by the combined relationships between NDCC, Hornsby Shire Council, Cricket Australia and Cricket NSW. Thanks go to many people but especially to State Treasurer, Matt Kean, for making this all possible.

Fantastic speeches by The Hon Matt Kean MP, The Hon Alister Henskens MP, Mayor Phillip Ruddock, Lee Germon Cricket NSW CEO, Mark Taylor AO and NDCC President Jeremy Hook. There is no better MC on the planet than Chris Elder.

This amazing cricket facility will be a training venue to NDCC grade cricket, both mens and womens teams. It will form part of the pathway from junior cricket to playing for Australia, including coaching clinics, Green Shield U16, Brewer Shield U17 (Girls) and Poidevin Gray U21 sides. It will provide a northern training venue for Women's cricket. It will be the home to our wonderful community programs, including Special Olympics Cricket, BlowFly Cricket and Blind Cricket.

### What's Next ?

*Enter Stage 3. A multi-purpose building with change-rooms and ablutions purpose-built for women (and men!).*

It includes clubrooms and store rooms for rugby and cricket. Also includes meeting rooms for both sports and community use. Latest equipment in regards to tuition. It will have access for those with disabilities to suit our All abilities programs. Seating! A medical room to cope with any football or cricket injuries, and of course the famous canteen.



**Mike Langford**  
Vice-President NDCC

### Editor's Comment:

Well done Nick Callanan-Williams for being a tremendous representative of BlowFly Cricket at this Official Opening. From all reports you took on an ambassadorial role on the day being included in many official photos. Well done Nicko as you are a champion amongst champions.

# An Incredible Season



It has been pleasing to see the continued growth of BlowFly Cricket which has gone from strength to strength throughout the most recent season. Unprecedented growth and development across all criteria have witnessed the ongoing progressive nature of this remarkable Inclusive all-abilities community club.

A significant development during the season saw seven new *Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables* join this unique and highly acclaimed Academy. To this end, Josh Miller from the Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) needs to be recognised for the manner in which he adapted his coaching style to accommodate the diverse needs of the all-abilities participants, held in January at the new Indoor Nets Centre, Mark Taylor Oval. At the time of writing five of these new coaches have completed the theoretical component of the Cricket Australia Accredited Community Coaching course. This is an enormous achievement and with the confidence and skills obtained will help them to assimilate more readily into the broader community.

On the fundraising front, 88-year-old Dougal Graham has been an exemplary example of the outstanding work the 150 volunteers do across the board. Dougal has collected in excess of 43,000 cans and bottles contributing a significant amount of money towards the BlowFly Cricket Return and Earn fundraising initiative.

It has been fantastic to see the growth in participation on Saturday afternoons at James Park which regularly sees over 50 happy members in attendance. It was wonderful to hear Club Captain, Maddie Jones speak unreservedly about BlowFly Cricket being her *“safe place”*, feeling accepted and not judged in a safe and friendly environment.

I need to make special mention of Mark Rushton for all he does for the organisation. A truly remarkable human being! Congratulations to one and all on what has been a remarkable and exceptional season. Onwards and upwards.



**Noel Moig**  
NDCC Life Member



# Friends of BlowFly Cricket Register



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*Sunrise at the historic Urangan Pier in Hervey Bay, Queensland.*

PHOTO CREDIT: Mark Rushton

***'Sometimes challenges seem enormous, but if you can connect with others working towards the same goal, it becomes more achievable.'*** Tracey Spicer

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ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde) (Reena Chand)  
ACE Electrical Services (Boris Brownlee)  
Mick & Shirley Adams  
All Seasons Trophies  
Daniel Anderson (CNSW Area Manager – Sydney North)  
Anglomoil  
Antenna Whisperer (Ross Allen)  
Asquith Public School  
Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)  
Bite Me Bakehouse (Anthony Courtney)  
Blitzit Plan Manager (Leane Carr)  
Jan & Jock Brock  
Jason & Karen Buczek (Buczek family)  
Bunnings Warehouse Thornleigh  
Cassandra & Michael Burgin (Burgin family)  
Caring Approach (Dinushi Herath & Luke Manton)  
Gary & Christa Cleary  
Lyn Cleary & Mick Saliwon  
CLUBMAP  
Club Turramurra  
Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)  
Doug Connely  
Country Wide Environmental & Hygiene Consultants  
Cricket Australia  
Cricket NSW  
Keith Fone  
Naomi & Adam Gale (Gale family)  
Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield)  
Good Sports  
Gordon Golf Club  
Grassroots Cricket Fund

Timena & Stan Grace  
Dougal & Maureen Graham  
Pat 'Spud' Guild  
Shabana Hakam & Azaan Husain  
Hornsby RSL Club  
Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation)  
HKHDCA  
Errol Hyde  
Nicola Jones (Jones Family)  
Kookaburra Sport (Cameron Eve)  
Legends Under Glass (Mark Fargass)  
McDonald's Mount Colah (Johnny Cosgrove)  
Nanna Audrey & Uncle Snake  
NDCC  
Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen  
Barry Nissen  
Marnie Nissen  
NSW Office of Sport  
James Partridge  
PCYC Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai  
Play by the Rules (PBTR)  
Cameron & Skye Rushton  
Mark Rushton  
Sommers Sports  
St Gabriel's School  
The Centre for Volunteering  
Thornleigh CC  
Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle  
Veri Shades  
Volunteering Australia  
WPHCCC

# Business Partnerships

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





# Closing Comments from the Founder



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*Maddie Jones and Jordan Jones (Club President) helping with the Blowies Christmas Shopping at Rebel, Westfield Hornsby.*

*'BlowFly Cricket is my safe place where I feel accepted, not judged, happy and able to be myself with my friends.'*

*Maddie Jones Female Club Captain*

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Bravo, bravo, bravo!!!

What an outstanding and progressive season we have witnessed. Yes, indeed the 2022/23 Season can be best summarised by the three words upwards and onwards as is often said by one of our long-term supporters.

BlowFly Cricket continues to provide benchmark programs for our members and volunteers, including the highly regarded *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy*. This unique all-ability program is continuing to offer coaching opportunities to our amazing Cricket Australia (CA) Accredited Community Coaches. Many thanks to Cricket NSW, Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA), Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) and West Pennant Hills Cricket Club (WPHCCC) for the diverse coaching opportunities and experiences you provide for many of our Uncoachables Coaches.

Excitedly, through the mentoring and tutelage offered by Josh Miller, we had seven new CA Accredited Community Coaches earn their stripes in January 2023. Furthermore, one of our long serving volunteers Tom Casey, was granted a scholarship (\$800) which was used to successfully undertake the CA Accredited Representative (formerly Level 2) Coaching course, including a three-day face to face workshop held in Bowral. Tom has now agreed to take on the voluntary position of Manager of the *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Academy*.

All associated with the BlowFly Cricket community join with me in sincerely thanking all of our partners and supporters, for your ongoing generosity and support. Without your level of support BlowFly Cricket would not be the benchmark inclusive all-ability multicultural community grassroots cricket club.

Thank you to our major partners for your ongoing financial support through sponsorship, including ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde), Bite Me Bakehouse, Blitzit Plan Manager and Caring Approach.

Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) is to be thanked for their ongoing generous support of BlowFly Cricket through the provision of the grounds 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 once again for the quick response time and attention to detail when dealing with any ground problems, which may arise 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, Rebecca, Andrew and Team.

To all of our wonderful volunteers your individual and collective efforts are second to none which I am in awe. I sincerely thank each and every one of you as you are our community. Our inclusive club is totally volunteer driven with no paid employees. You are all champions amongst champions who enrich the lives of our members in so many ways. THANK YOU!!!

In the year ahead, BlowFly Cricket will be continuing to implement change on an administrative level with our focus shifting to governance, succession planning, strategic planning and compliance with the exacting nature of the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement. We look forward to working with The Centre for Volunteering, Cricket NSW and CLUBMAP to facilitate these targets.

## Closing Comments from the Founder *continued*

In closing, it would be amiss of me not to mention the outstanding efforts of Brian Binfield (Life Member) who spends countless hours working with me and encouraging me with the production of our Annual Reports which are getting bigger every year.

I hope you all enjoy reading our 2022/23 Season Annual Report as much as I will.

**Mark Rushton PLV**  
Founder  
CA Accredited Representative Coach



### VALE **Robyn Annette Cuming** 30.11.1965 - 23.08.2023



*"May the angels lead her into paradise"*

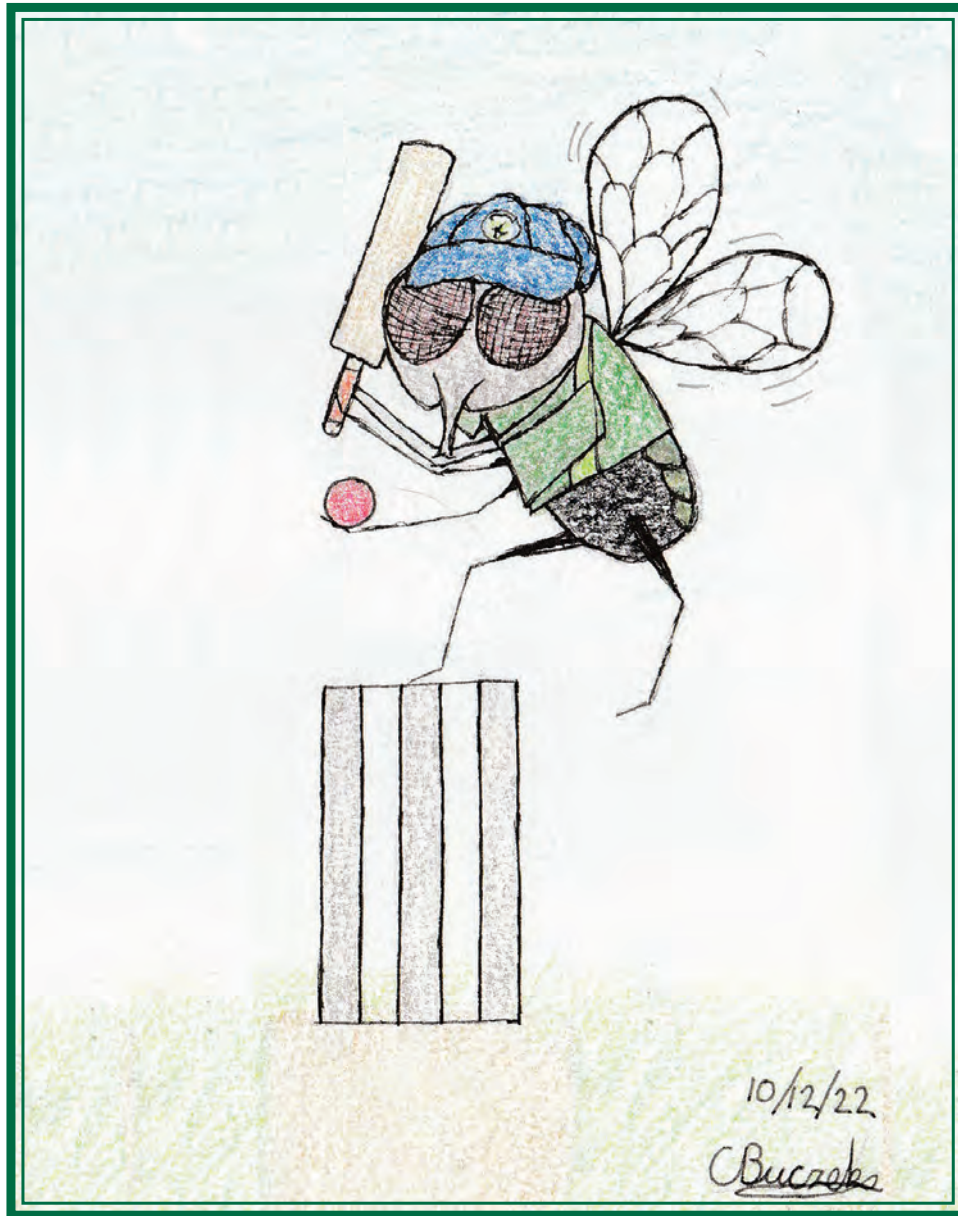
Beloved daughter of Deirdre and Alan (deceased).  
Precious twin sister of Louise. Aunt of Alana.  
Sister of Michelle.

We were saddened to be advised of the passing of Robyn Cuming, aged 57. Robyn was a wonderful supporter and had a keen interest in BlowFly Cricket since its inception. Robyn was a dear friend of Mark for over 25 years and also a close friend of Matthew Campbell for the past three to four years. Gabrielle Callanan and Deirdre, Robyn's mother, have been friends for many decades knowing Robyn since she was a young girl.

Our thoughts are with Robyn's family and friends at this time.



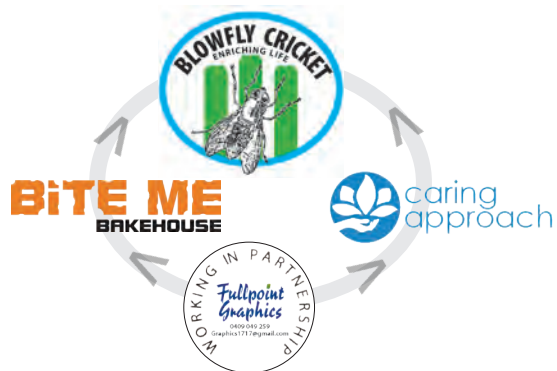




My BlowFly Cricket artwork was inspired by watching our talented Blowies playing their best on the field, especially with their fast bowling and amazing batting, and of course awesome teamwork. BlowFly Cricket expresses the amazing talents of all the individual players. BlowFly Cricket has made a great impact with my family especially to my little brother Jacob, aka Sir Jacob, as he has become more sociable amongst others, giving him more confidence within himself and learning vital life lessons.

**Courtney Buczek**





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