

# BlowFly Cricket Annual Report 2020-21



# Our Vision/Table of Contents

## BlowFly's Core Values . . .

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

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

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

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT COUNTRY

"BlowFly Cricket recognises the Traditional Owners of the lands of Hornsby Shire, the Darug and Guringai peoples, and pays respect to their Ancestors and Elders past and present and to their Heritage.

We acknowledge and uphold their intrinsic connections and continuing relationships to Country."



### COVER:

Photo Credit: Errol Hyde (BlowFly Cricket Ambassador)

Commentary: The front cover photo depicts a special moment for a special lady when receiving her new Kookaburra "pink ball" which she had requested for a Christmas present. Looking more closely, the photo further depicts the simplicity of BlowFly Cricket as it highlights the pure joy our members receive from cricket at its purest levels. BlowFly Cricket is a community grassroots sport for all, played for the fun and sheer enjoyment of the game.

# Management Committee and Roll of Honour



**Jordan Jones**  
Honorary President



**Bill Peterkin**  
Honorary Vice-President



**Mark Rushton**  
Honorary Treasurer/  
Public Officer



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



**Marnie Nissen**  
Fundraising Manager



**Ben Gussey**  
Project Officer



**Andrew Bayles**  
Historical Officer



**Brian Binfield**  
Publications Officer



**Craig Stubbs**  
Coaching Consultant



**Maddie Jones**  
Associate Member



**Ronnie MacKenzie**  
Associate Member



**Akanksha Swarup**  
Associate Member



**Nicola Jones**  
Equipment and  
Clothing Officer



**Kevin Lewis**  
Member Protection  
Information Officer

## PRESIDENTS

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

## VICE-PRESIDENTS

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

## SECRETARIES/DIRECTORS\* OF OPERATIONS

2012-15 Ms LA Drummond  
2015-16 Miss LA Cuming  
2017- Mrs KE Guild  
\*(from 2018-19)

## TREASURERS

2012- Mr MW Rushton

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

## COACHING CONSULTANT

2015- Mr CJ Stubbs

## ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2018-19 Mrs MA Allman  
2019- Miss M Jones  
2019- Mr RF MacKenzie  
2019- Miss A Swarup  
2021- Mrs N Jones  
2021- Mr KJ Lewis

## LIFE MEMBERS

2018 Mr J K Buczek (# 26)  
2018 Mr R F MacKenzie (# 007)  
2019 Mr MW Rushton (# 003)  
2021 Mr BD Binfield (# 004)

## LEADERSHIP GROUP (JPCG HORNSBY CENTRE)

2012- Mr RF MacKenzie (Cpt)  
2015- Miss M Jones  
(Co Club Capt)  
2015- Mr N Callanan-  
Williams  
2018- Miss A Swarup  
2019- Mr N Baker  
2019- Mr M Perry  
2020- K Yeboah  
2020- P Yeboah

## LEADERSHIP GROUP (WPHCC DURAL CENTRE)

2018- Mr T Erickson (Cpt)  
2018- Mr A Lezon  
2018- Miss A Walshe

## AMBASSADORS

2012 Mr C McDermott OAM  
2015 Mrs D Anderson OBC  
2016 Mr M Connell  
2016 Mr E Hyde  
2018 Mr A James OAM  
2018 Mr B Wood  
2019 Mr M Gillies

## CENTRE COORDINATORS

Miss M Jones (Hornsby Centre)  
Miss A Swarup (Hornsby Centre)  
Mrs R Peterkin (Dural Centre)  
Mr M Kinchington (Dural Centre)  
The Jones Family [Nicola,  
Maddie, Jordan, Bronte and  
Dominic (Winter Indoor Cricket)

## FIRST AID OFFICERS

Miss M Nissen  
Miss M Jones

## CLOTHING COMMITTEE

Miss M Jones  
Mr M Rushton  
Miss A Swarup

# President's Report



With a year full of restrictions and the need for a full remodelling of our hygiene system, came one of the biggest challenges BlowFly Cricket has faced in its 12 years of life. COVID19 has reshaped the way we operate as a sports club, as a community and as individuals. I would like to congratulate every single player, volunteer, sibling, parent and carer for your contribution and dedication to keeping BlowFly up and running throughout such a difficult year. Every single action counts, from putting on hand sanitiser at the start of a session to acting as a COVID marshal for one of our Centres or Bunnings BBQs.

I was lucky enough to have had the opportunity to come into the role of President last year in October. I would say that I was surprised, being only 18, but as soon as I saw Mark Rushton's plotting smile I knew instantly there was no way I was getting out of it. Coming into the role was daunting at first as I knew there would be people who would doubt mine and BlowFly Cricket's potential with an 18 year old President.

But I think that my weekly bear hugs from Akanksha prove that the immense love and support from everyone at BlowFly would completely trump any sort of negative feedback. My journey as President with BlowFly Cricket has been a short one so far, but nonetheless both eventful and enjoyable.

The start of two new Centres: the NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre for 5-12 year olds and the St Edmund's x BlowFly Cricket x St Leo's Centre, were both great successes. Our Inclusive Centre only faced one small issue (one of our little Blowies mistook a bottle of hand sanitiser for a bottle of water), but that was quickly resolved and everyone was ok!

Congratulations to our coaches at the program for your hard work: Aaron Lewis, Akanksha Swarup, Harry Langford, Maddie Jones, Nathaniel Baker, and Nick Callanan-Williams. Thank you Daniel Anderson for helping the coaches and I run the sessions. I could tell you were popular amongst the kids when every session I could hear Rory yelling your name before I could even see him. The big hugs from him to you were the icing on the cake.

Our new St Edmund's x BlowFly Cricket x St Leo's Centre was another great success. The students at Eddies thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and their awesome new cricket gear! Thank you to our coaches and volunteers who attended for a great program.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have successfully ran our Friday night WPHCCC/BlowFly Centre at James Henty Reserve, Dural and our Saturday afternoon BlowFly Cricket Centre at James Park, Hornsby. Both Centres saw changes in the BBQ system and the need for regular hand sanitisation which was managed well. Our Winter season has changed locations this year from Mount Kuring-gai to PCYC in Waitara.

Thank you to Nicola Jones for facilitating the Centre and running both the BBQ and cricket session! And the rest of the Jones' for being her trusty sidekicks! We now have the incredible amount of 23 Uncoachable Coaches who coach at our WPHCCC/BlowFly Cricket Centre, our BlowFly Cricket Centre on Saturdays, our Winter Cricket Centre, and our new Inclusive Centre and School program.

Akanksha Swarup and Maddie Jones also coached at the weekly Saturday morning WPHCCC Junior/Master Blaster Centre. This is a great achievement for BlowFly and I am sure this number will grow exceedingly in the next few years.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have run a big number of fundraising BBQs this year at Bunnings Thornleigh. Isolde Kameron is one of our regular volunteers at these BBQs and just recently took over cooking the BBQ. This was awesome to see considering Isolde had never cooked a BBQ previous to the day. Ronnie Mackenzie, Club Captain, also stepped up to the plate and cooked the BBQ. BlowFly runs over 12 Bunnings BBQs a year which are completely managed by our awesome volunteers. Well done!

Thank you to all of our sponsors who have been pivotal in our development and progression. We have been able to comfortably start a number of new Centres this season (fully equipped with BlowFly shirts and cricket gear) which would not have been possible without our incredible and supportive sponsors.

Before wrapping up, there is someone I would like to sincerely thank. Without BlowFly Cricket, we would not have become the community that we are today. BlowFly has brought families together, given confidence to both children and adults and enriched the lives of many individuals, including mine. And without the determination, perseverance and passion from our Founder, this would not have been possible. A big thank you to Mark Rushton for not only being a big driving force behind BlowFly Cricket, but also empowering others into roles of leadership and responsibility.



**Jordan Jones**  
*President*

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

# From the Leadership Group

The 2020/21 cricket season was a bit odd due to COVID-19 but like always the Blowies weathered the storm. We just keep getting bigger and better.

There were lots of new faces this year and great to see everyone having fun and really getting into their cricket.

I would like to thank our generous supporters for the time money and effort they put into making BlowFly Cricket happen. To the wonderful BBQ crew, you do an amazing job and to Mark and Marnie, thank you for organising everything and being there for us.



**Ronnie MacKenzie LM**  
*Male Club Captain*

*"Last minute in my own words with zero help from Jordan or mum."*

Here is my Annual Report just a quick run down of the season so far. BlowFly Cricket's 2020/21 season has been amazing and I must say we have managed to pull through all the ups and downs.

My favourite highlights of the season are I got to travel to Canberra with Jordan for the annual **Good Sports Awards**. I was a little anxious at first but with help from Mark I got to go and I got back in time to coach the younger players at Mark Taylor Oval. Another favourite highlight was playing the game of cricket I love.

Thank you to all the players and volunteers for making BlowFly Cricket what it is today and to our Founder, Mark Rushton, and his sidekick Marnie for always being a wonderful support to BlowFly.

And to our wonderful President, Jordan Jones, without you BlowFly Cricket would not exist without your dedication and hard work. Thanks so much everyone.



**Maddie Jones**  
*Female Club Captain and Community Coach*

After the abrupt end to the 2019/20 season, I was excited to get back to cricket for the 2020/21 season. The 2020/21 season was a very busy one for the club. I was attending cricket sessions six times a week including the two BlowFly sessions on Friday and Saturday, Women's Social Cricket, two sessions a week of coaching and one session with Special Olympics.

I saw a big improvement in skills across the club. We have now developed a number of talented players with good skills, competitive attitude and a passion for cricket.

The club continues to prosper with several new sponsors, new opportunities with school programs and new venues/centres. This year we also made great strides in developing more processes, procedures and governance of the club to support its continuity into the future. I was excited to attend the Northern Districts presentation dinner and celebrate the strong links we have with our local grade cricket club. Our presentation at Cricket NSW was another feather in the baggy blue cap. Way to go BlowFly Cricket!



**Akanksha Swarup**  
*Leadership Group Member*

# Vice President's Report



Most pleasingly we have had another amazing year with many special moments. This has been a year of progression and development right across our community. Player numbers continue to increase and we opened our first "Juniors only" Centre in partnership with our local grade cricket club, NDCC. As I said last year it is wonderful to witness the friendships that develop from this program as they are truly exceptional and what we are all about.

Players have become close friends, as well as players and the volunteers and this then organically grows into volunteers forming great relationships as well!!!

As with the past couple of years we watched the players taking more and more ownership of BlowFly Cricket. This is clearly visible with the popularity of the Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables program which offers many varied coaching opportunities offered to our Community (formerly Level 1) Coaches.

Excitingly we had another group of players and volunteers complete their Community Coaching qualifications this year with two courses held in the summer months. Once again we extend our gratitude to Craig Stubbs for his unwavering support and outstanding work as our long term coaching consultant who works amazingly with the players to help them obtain their certificate.

Let's hope that this coming year we have our "pioneer" candidates starting their Level 2 coaching certificate!!

Our highly professional newsletter has continued to expand this year and we must offer huge thanks to our Director of Operations, Editor Kate Guild, for her diligence and efforts in producing this informative and popular publication. This year Kate introduced a "Volunteers in Profile" section – which has been a great addition to the newsletter. Many thanks to our showcased volunteers and others who give so much of their free time to ensure the smooth running of our Association. It continues to amaze me to see the number of volunteers of all ages help out in various roles to make our BlowFly Cricket community what it is today.

Once again, I cannot thank ALL our sponsors enough for their contribution – it is all your generous support that allows this association to continue to grow and just get bigger and better every year!

As the years "roll" by I continue to reflect on what Mark Rushton continues to do for the association, turning his dream into reality and now developing it further to where we are today. It is hard to express my admiration for you. You really do live by the rule that when life gives you lemons – you continue to make lemonade (or Jam, or Chilli Salt or Marmalade!!)

From All of BlowFly Cricket Mark – THANK YOU Mate. I hope to see everyone out there again next year playing cricket and having fun with their friends.



**Bill Peterkin**  
Vice President

# Secretary/Director Operations Report

## Overview:

The 2020/2021 Cricket season was tested yet again by mother nature with some very soggy sessions!

We also rode, and continue to ride, the COVID way of life. I would like to thank the committee members, players, families, and carers, for their flexibility in having to adjust to the changes that COVID has brought to the way we know life and cricket.

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

## Events from the season:

- We had a changing of the guard at our AGM, where we welcomed Jordan Jones as our new President and farewelled outgoing President Davina Mackenzie. Thank you, Davina, for all you have done over the years.
- The BlowFly Bulletin had a make-over this season and we have had some fantastic content to include each week, to keep our members informed.
- The Bunnings fundraiser BBQ's were interrupted, thanks COVID, however we were very privileged to receive in lieu of these events, \$500 gift cards to raffle off throughout the year to continue raising the much-needed funds for our Club.
- Our *"Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables"* program had another successful year, with more players joining this group of young men and women. We look forward to introducing more of our members in the coming years.

- The third season of BlowFly Cricket on Friday evenings at James Henty Reserve, Dural, run by West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club (WPHCCC) was fun and eventful yet again. The numbers remain steady, and we look forward to continuing this partnership with WPHCCC.
- BlowFly Cricket and the Australian Sports Foundation have a working partnership where all donations made through our present ASF Project go towards our Christmas fundraiser for the 2021/22 end of season parties. The money raised goes towards the end of year party expenses.

Mark Taylor Oval at Waitara was a buzz of action this season as well, with the commencement of the NDCC BlowFly Cricket All-Abilities Inclusive Centre for 5-12-year old's and the Women's Social Cricket program. There was a come and try session for children with vision impairment, opening up opportunities for even more kids to get involved in this great game.

Thank you to Daniel Anderson, from Cricket NSW for his organisation and assistance with the set-up of this program.

We had an exceptional year of award winners for both the club and individuals within BlowFly Cricket. I would like to congratulate the following people (see below) on their achievements this year.

Finally, as always, a big "Thank You"! We couldn't run this club without the efforts of the volunteers who make up the committee, along with the family members, parents, carers and of course our players, who week in and week out make BlowFly Cricket the great Club that it is.

Wishing you all the best until next season.



**Kate Guild**

- **Pat Guild** – 2020 NSW Senior Volunteer of the Year State Finalist (Central Coast Region Winner)
- **Maddie Jones** – Winner 2020 NSW Good Sports Club Champion of the Year NSW
- **Maddie Jones** – Runner Up 2020 Australian Good Sports Club Champion
- **BlowFly Cricket** – Runner Up 2020 NSW Good Sports Club of the Year
- **Jordan Jones** – 2021 Sport NSW Community Sports Young Coach of the Year Award
- **Jordan Jones** – 2020/21 HK&HDCCA Community Achievement Special Recognition Award
- **Jordan Jones** – 2021 Runner up CNSW Cricket Australia "A Sport for All" Community Cricket Award
- **BlowFly Cricket** – 2021 Rotary Club of Wahroonga Community Caring Award
- **Mark Rushton** – 2021 Crown Sydney and the Daily Telegraph's Community Champions Award
- **Mark Perry** – 2021 NSW Young Volunteer of the Year (Northern Beaches' Region)



# 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 (ie gross receipts) for a financial year is \$250,000 or less, and
- current assets are \$500,000 or less. Current assets refers to assets (other than real property or assets that are capable of depreciation) held by the association as at the end of the association's last financial year. It includes amounts held in financial institutions, stocks and debentures.

With astute fundraising initiatives, grants and greatly appreciated sponsorship BlowFly Cricket continues to remain in a strong and healthy financial position when one considers the size of our progressive association.

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

A special word of thanks is extended to:

- Ben Gussey (Projects Manager) for his diligence and commitment to the task at hand. Grants are the lifeblood of our organisation... thank you Ben.
- Fiona Hanks (Assistant Projects Officer) for her initiative, motivation and energy in securing the Bendigo Bank (Turramurra/Lindfield) **'Double the Impact'** grant/fundraising initiative where we raised over \$3,000 specifically for our new NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre.
- Kate Guild (Director of Operations/ Secretary) for her ongoing high levels of enthusiasm, support, tireless behind the scenes hard work and attention to detail, which is second to none.
- Jordan Jones (President) for her energy, innovation and enthusiasm in embracing the Club and all within our community.
- Marnie Nissen (Fundraising Manager) for her outstanding energy levels, motivation and tireless efforts in promoting so many fundraising initiatives... thank you Marnie; and
- All of our hard-working volunteers who give up so much of their time to support our cause.

## Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks and gratitude is extended to the following for their ongoing support of the BlowFly Cricket community: ACE Body Corporate Management (Ryde)(Reena Chand), All Seasons Trophies (Brad & Donna Caldwell), Bite Me Bakehouse (Anthony Courtney), Blitzit Plan Manager (Leane Carr), Bunnings Thornleigh, Caring Approach (Dinushi Herath and Luke Manton), Coaches' Association – HKHDCCA (Bruce Wood), Cricket Australia, Cricket NSW, Fullpoint Graphics (Brian Binfield), Hornsby Shire Council (Parks & Recreation), Kookaburra Sport (Cameron Eve), Mt Kuring-gai Village Butchery (Graham and Diane Frankel), NDCC, Sydney Sixers (Aaron Wharton), Craig Stubbs, Toyota Good for Cricket Raffle and WPHCCC (Bec & Bill Peterkin).



**Mark Rushton**  
Treasurer

# Fundraising Manager's Report



## FUNDRAISING 2020/2021 SEASON

FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE	AMOUNT	COMMENTS	PROJECT
Return and Earn Scheme	\$3,781.30	Well done Dougal Graham and everyone else for supporting this fundraising initiative	
Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs	\$3,921.45	A number of Fundraising BBQs held throughout the year	\$1,150.00 Bendigo Bank <b>"Double the Impact"</b> Fundraising (NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre) \$2,771.45 – Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables
Fundraising Raffles	\$1,730.00	Assorted Raffles	\$1,015.00 – Pink Stumps Day \$715.00 – Schools Program
Toyota Good For Cricket Raffle	\$1,114.29	Annual Raffle	Schools Program
Jam/EggSales	\$1,518.95	A combined effort	Schools Program
ASF Projects	\$5,832.06	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre Christmas Appeal	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre – \$3,177.10 2021 Christmas Appeal – \$2,654.96
Silent Auctions	\$1,656.22	Memorabilia kindly donated by Kookaburra Sports and Peter Penprase (NDCC)	Schools Program
Bite Me Bakehouse	\$1,485.65	Wonderful support from the local Mount Colah Community	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre
MNC Vets Cricket	\$100.00	Alf James OAM Ambassador Victor Trumper Talk	Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$21,139.92</b>		



What a year we have had, not just as an organisation but as a nation. 2020 saw the world stop as a global pandemic grew with great force. Amidst all of this BlowFly Cricket grew stronger. Play was put to a halt but that did not stop us from making our weekly check ins with the Advisory Panel over Zoom, which also included one or two furry four legged companions. The Advisory Panel not only gave us back our connection to our club it gave us the opportunity to openly discuss future succession planning of our BlowFly Cricket Club, because, if we could remain strong through a global pandemic we could remain strong against anything.

We had a change in presidency, with the induction of Jordan Jones – the third BlowFly Cricket President. Congratulations Jordan. Already Jordan's hard work and drive has seen a new BlowFly Cricket school program in St Edmund's College – Wahroonga, in partnership with St Leo's Catholic College.

This program would not have been possible without the consistent fundraising efforts through: a number of grants which will be listed in detail later in the Annual Report; over \$22,000 in donations from our Sponsors; Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQs/Raffles (\$3,900+) and our forever growing Return n' Earn fundraising initiative (\$3,700+).

As previously mentioned the accumulation of these fundraising efforts not only saw the commencement of the BlowFly Cricket St Edmund's and St Leo's program but also the Wednesday afternoon Junior (5-12 year olds) NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre and in partnership with Sydney Sixers – Wednesdays Women's Social Cricket, which saw us enrol three teams. All registered players receiving complimentary shirts in their team colours.

Excitingly, we saw the return of Winter BlowFly Cricket on Sunday evenings at the PCYC – Waitara. All these new and exiting adventures were grown heartily from the generosity of all who have donated time, cans, glass and sponsorship and to see it grow with our Club is truly heartwarming.

There is always the question at game or event, "can my bag of plastic bottles fit in the car for BlowFly?" and it seems everyone is joining in. And yes, some days of counting are harder than others but the rewards and growth of BlowFly Cricket make these jobs seem like they are effortless. The sky is the limit!!!! Congratulations BlowFly Cricket and thank you for keeping me on as your Fundraising Manager.



**Marnie Nissen**  
Fundraising Manager

# Grants and Prizes Register

FUNDING BODY	PROJECT/DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre BlowFly Cricket Christmas 2021 Fundraiser	\$3,183.91 \$3,093.67
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff Grants</li> <li>• Double The Impact</li> </ul> FOOTNOTE: A total of \$3,532.00 was raised throughout this fundraising campaign	\$500.00 \$1,500.00
	BlowFly Cricket Programs supported by the following clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hornsby RSL</li> <li>• Magpies Waitara</li> <li>• West Pennant Hills Sports Club</li> </ul>	\$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00
	<b>CommBank Community Donation</b> Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables	\$500.00
	<b>Cricket Australia Grassroots Cricket Fund 2020/21</b> Cost associated with COVID-19 "return to the playing field" 100 BlowFly Cricket masks were purchased for our members and volunteers to encourage the widespread use of masks during these unique times	\$1,000.00
	<b>2020 Good Sports Awards NSW</b> Club Champion – Maddie Jones	\$250.00
	<b>Local Sport Grant Program</b> Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables	\$2,500.00
	<b>Rotary Club of Wairoonga</b> Community Caring Award Winter Season indoor court costs	\$500.00
	<b>2020 Supplementary Volunteer Grants</b> Adapting practices to support volunteers' safety and health in relation to COVID-19, fuel costs incurred by volunteers, small equipment items, training for volunteers	\$3,101.00



**Grants for non-profit organisations**

The NFP sector in Australia includes a wide range of social institutions, most of which are private. These include sports clubs, day care centres, environmental groups, job-training centres, counselling agencies, hospitals, clinics, community centres, camp grounds and many others.

At present, there are over 175,000 NFP organisations in Australia. NFP organisations are historically known to improve the quality of life through groups, activities, celebrations and events while bringing people from all abilities, cultures, ethnicities and walks of life together with a common goal. Most NFP organisations are reliant on funding through various fundraising activities including grants, raffles, BBQ's, donations and sponsorship from the government, general public and/or their respective community to remain viable and active.

BlowFly Cricket is reliant on these listed fundraising activities to remain a progressive and viable association.

To all our wonderful volunteers, members, families, supporters and sponsors we, as a totally volunteer driven organisation, are in awe of your ongoing support and enthusiasm to ensure our inclusive community sporting organisation remains in a healthy position allowing the necessary platforms to be set which will facilitate our continued survival for the next decade. THANK YOU!!!



**Ben Gussey**  
*Project Manager*



**Fiona Hanks**  
*Assistant Projects Officer*

# Supporting Our Communities



*"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving."* MOTHER TERESA

## Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)

BlowFly Cricket continues to raise funds each year to contribute to worthwhile causes in our communities. One being the Coaches' Association. We are extremely grateful for all the Coaches' Association does for us at BlowFly. The free coaching clinics are a highlight of our partnership and are enjoyed by all of our volunteers and members. The loud laughs, cheeky giggles and bright smiles confirm this.

One member in particular has benefitted in both his skill level and confidence as a result of these clinics. Nathaniel Baker, a usually quiet individual with lower confidence levels, had an incredible time participating in the various activities within the clinic. By the end of the session, he was chatting away about all things cricket!

It was our pleasure to make a donation of \$500 to assist in the offset of the costs for the Coaches' Association. We look forward to the development of our partnership and the planned involvement of our own BlowFly Cricket coaches in upcoming school holidays coaching clinics.

## McGrath Foundation – Pink Stumps Day

BlowFly Cricket continues to raise funds each year for the highly worthy cause, McGrath Foundation (Pink Stumps Day) where this season we raised funds through a Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQ and a number of virtual raffles/silent auctions.

Once again we were thrilled to exceed our goal, raising a total of \$1,015 for this outstanding cause.

The 2021/22 Season will see a change in direction, where our hard working volunteer Fundraising Manager, Marnie Nissen, will be taking over this fundraising campaign. This will be a fantastic opportunity for a team of 25-30 women and girls including: BlowFly Cricketers, family members, Carers, supporters, sponsors and our wonderful volunteers to group together to drive this important fundraising campaign.

Well done Marnie.



# Community Cricket Coaching Course



The 2020-21 season will be remembered as one where life and our freedoms will be valued forever. All BlowFly cricketers, coaches, family and friends participated whenever restrictions allowed over the course of the past year with a view of further developing young cricketers.

We were fortunate enough to run two community coaching courses during the past year. The first course was held on November 15 at James Park where we had over twenty participants for the course and many accredited coaches (including those from the Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables Program) who volunteered to help deliver the course on the day. It was incredibly satisfying to see all the happy faces and determination at this course in very difficult hot conditions.

A second course was run on 27 January 2021 for approximately twelve participants at the PCYC indoor center in Waitara due to the weather.

This was an ideal venue to hold the coaching course and it was great to have a number of district and grade cricketers participate in the program. Again, I would like to thank those volunteers who helped deliver the course during the day.

I would also like to thank everybody who participated in both these courses and a big congratulations to everyone who completed the requirements and are now qualified coaches.

Even with the difficult times it continues to amaze me how the BlowFly Cricket program continues to grow with extra venues and more and more participants. Again, it was great to see our BlowFly Cricketers (*Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables*) travel interstate to Melbourne and coach and pass on their experience and knowledge to others. These sorts of opportunities certainly enhance everybody's skills in life.

Well, this is the sixth year in which Mark Rushton has organised the running of a community coaching accreditation course with the support of Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia.

It is pleasing to see that the number of people who have become accredited coaches are certainly contributing to the growth of BlowFly Cricket and cricket in general.

In closing, like I said last year we need to continue to deal with the current health situation together and fingers crossed that everybody can commence the 2021-22 season without any restrictions.

Stay healthy and happy coaching but most of all continue to have FUN.



**Craig Stubbs**  
Cricket Australia  
High Performance  
(Level 3) Coach

SPONSORED BY:



# Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables



***“Champions are treasures that are full of wisdom, encouragement, provision, love, guidance, and empathy.”***

Love Otuechere, The Journal of a Champion

Our unique ***‘Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables’*** program has continued to gain momentum and further develop with seven new graduates, making a total of 23 coaches to date.

**Highlights for the Season include:**

- Maddie Jones and Akanksha Swarup took on coaching roles at the WPHCCC Woolworths Junior Blaster and Master Blaster sessions held at Edward Bennett Oval, Cherrybrook on Saturday mornings. These sessions were attended by 80+ young children. Well done Akanksha and Maddie for this wonderful achievement and recognition.
- Nathaniel Baker, Nick Callanan-Williams, Maddie Jones, Harry Langford, Aaron Lewis and Akanksha Swarup all took on key coaching roles at the new NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre held at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara on Wednesday afternoons.

BlowFly Cricket continues to achieve benchmarks as the premier inclusive cricket club wholly driven by volunteers for people with disabilities.

Four of our Management Committee members and three of our Ambassadors have disabilities, all taking on key voluntary roles within our inclusive community. Collectively and individually these wonderful volunteers are positive and inspirational role models to all members of our inclusive all-abilities community.

We look forward to the future with great anticipation as more and more of our *Uncoachables* will step up to the plate to take on key leadership and management roles.

UNCOACHABLE COACHES REGISTER	
<p><b>JPCG Hornsby Centre</b></p> <p>2015 Ronnie MacKenzie LM</p> <p>2016 Nick Callanan-Williams</p> <p>2017 Emily Bardon Maddie Jones Akanksha Swarup</p> <p>2018 Nathaniel Baker</p> <p>2019 Jacob Buczek LM Aaron Lewis Kakra Yeboah Penni Yeboah</p> <p>2020 Cameron Bali Vanessa Liang</p> <p>2021 Aya Iwabuchi (<i>Volunteer</i>) Daniel Rodrigues</p>	<p><b>NDCC Special Olympics Centre</b></p> <p>2019 Harry Langford</p> <p>2019 Nathaniel Quan</p> <hr/> <p><b>WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre</b></p> <p>2018 Alethea Lazaros-Cameron</p> <p>2019 Damian Chigwidden Michael Bazza Gillies (<i>Volunteer/Ambassador</i>)</p> <p>2020 Robbie Hanks William Hanks (<i>Volunteer</i>) Adam Lezon Tom Roberts</p>



# 2021 National Volunteer Week Speech



I am pleased to welcome you all here today to celebrate National Volunteer Week (NVW).

2021 marks 32 years of NVW, a week to say thank you to volunteers and shine the light on the extraordinary contributions they make to our society.

The theme of this year's National Volunteer Week is "**Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine**". After what has been a really challenging 18 months, I think we can all agree that this theme is a fitting reminder to not only show our appreciation to volunteers but also reconnect and imagine new possibilities for ways in which we can support them.

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

In what only feels like a short time since we were last in the deep end, our State has once again been tested through the devastating floods earlier this year. The Centre for Volunteering would like to acknowledge and thank our SES and Marine Rescue Volunteers for their efforts in protecting and rebuilding communities during the floods crisis. We would also like to extend our thanks to the individuals and communities wanting to lend a hand and assist during this period. These acts of kindness do not go unnoticed and are ultimately a testament to the generosity of spirit and resilience of the people in our state.

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

The Centre recognises the impacts of our changing landscape and is committed to advocating for the continued growth and support of volunteering within NSW. We are extremely proud to announce that we will launch the first State of Volunteering Report which measures the social, cultural and economic impacts of volunteering in NSW. This project is assisted by the Department of Communities and Justice and the Institute of Project Management and will help us better understand the role volunteering has within NSW.

Volunteering is so uniquely Australian. Our willingness to donate our time and lend a hand is second nature, woven into the very fabric of our culture. We are absolutely delighted to facilitate and strengthen this tradition and are privileged to support volunteering in NSW.



**Gemma Rygate** CEO  
The Centre for Volunteering

# Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.

Celebrating the wonderful volunteers of BlowFly Cricket.  
17 - 23 May 2021 marked National Volunteer Week (NVW)  
where we celebrated the significant contribution of  
Australia's almost six million volunteers who dedicate  
over 600 million hours to helping  
others every year.



Volunteers are the lifeblood of BlowFly Cricket and all community sport and it is essential to reward, recognise and retain them.

For all of our wonderful volunteers who donate their time and energy to our inclusive All-Ability club, volunteering gives a sense of purpose and achievement and improves self-esteem and confidence. It is also a great way to make new friends, develop skills and potentially can create career pathways.

To get involved with volunteering to discover opportunities for individuals and groups at BlowFly Cricket, please contact:

**Mark Rushton 0401 743 747 or [blowflycricket@y7mail.com](mailto:blowflycricket@y7mail.com)**

# Volunteering with BlowFly Cricket



My partner, Rob, and I have been volunteering with BlowFly Cricket in various roles for the past two years.

Amongst these roles includes participating in the Return and Earn fundraising initiative by collecting so many cans/ bottles from family members and us.

I have also had the pleasure of accompanying Mark Rushton to a number of BlowFly Cricket Clinics at: St Andrew's Sony Camp and the Coaches' Association free BlowFly Cricket Coaching Clinic at Mark Taylor Oval.

I was invited to complete my Community Coaching course held indoors at the PCYC, Waitara. This was an enormous achievement as I have never played cricket before.

I surprised myself as I can now hold a cricket bat and bowl a ball. I am now confident I can pass on these and other basic skills onto our less experienced BlowFly Cricketers. The things that really stood out to me on the day was the level of assistance and support so willingly given to me from other volunteers and BlowFly Cricketers themselves.

The level of inclusion, enthusiasm, happiness and sheer joy from the players was something I haven't experienced before, which certainly rubbed off on me. All up it was a "feel good" time, actually I had a great time. Later that evening, I was chatting with Rob telling him of the amazing experiences and how they made me happy and enthused.

Thank you BlowFly Cricket as it is wonderful being involved with your inclusive community.



**Suzanne Rousek**  
Volunteer

## What I gain from volunteering with BlowFly Cricket

I have gained so much from volunteering with BlowFly Cricket. Helping out at the Bunnings Thornleigh Fundraising BBQ's has increased my confidence as I have gained experience in food handling and customer service skills.

There is also the social aspect as I have made great friends from volunteering and have recently started playing in the NDCC Social Women's cricket.

I have also had great fun playing cricket and have gained some ball skills from attending the coaching clinics. I also enjoy interacting with the children and watching how BlowFly Cricket is helping them.



**Isolde Kamerman**  
Volunteer

# Musings of a BlowFly Cricket Volunteer



## Grandmother Julie's Musings

Saturday, 26 March 2021 I became a little overwhelmed at the generosity of the cheques received from ACE Body Corporate Management Ryde and Caring Approach.

I looked at Mark Perry's dad, Steve Perry (Club Coach) – what a star. Mr Perry is a shining example of what can be achieved with a son or daughter with a disability.

Mr Perry has been attending BlowFly Cricket since I joined many years ago. He found a path ("connection") to his son's friendship through his son's love of cricket and in the early days, aviation. I don't think I have ever attended a Saturday afternoon when Mr Perry has not been out in the sun encouraging all.

If you don't look for a "connection" you will never find one and you will miss out on a wonderful friendship with your son or daughter.

I then looked at the other parents and could see they had looked and found the "connection" to their child.

Parents..... I am so proud of you all and I know from experience not all parents "look" – just too hard and no time available.

Parents and volunteers you show Mark you are all behind him to see a future for BlowFly Cricket.



**Julie Davis**  
Volunteer

# Observations from the Dinosaur



In a 12 month period which will always be remembered as the coronavirus year everyone will be able to look back with pride, satisfaction and gratitude that, despite the massive problems arising from the virus, nothing was going to stop another hugely successful season for BlowFly Cricket.

This was a real team effort of amazing spirit and determination involving players, parents, coaches, volunteers and of course management who all worked so hard to make things happen, both on and off the field. We should also never forget the contribution of our corporate supporters and sponsors who dug deep to help us work through these difficult times.

One remarkable Saturday afternoon at James Park, Hornsby, summed up all of the above for me. I stood in the barbecue area (we still wore masks and were roped off) and became conscious of what appeared to be a huge attendance.

This prompted me to do a head count, which numbered an extraordinary 70 people on and off the field, a number I had never experienced before.

So much continues to be achieved by our players, things that in hindsight one might only dream about yet, in practice continue to happen. It is a real joy to observe how new players and parents are welcomed into the BlowFly family, and the hugely positive impact this has on many lives. Long may it continue and grow!

From the barbecue area we can rightly feel a sense of achievement, largely due to the efforts of Keith and Nicola, and of course other willing helpers. Gourmet sausage sandwiches with all sorts of extra side offerings are now the order of the day, which combined with lovely fruit platters and cakes certainly makes for a perfect end to a Saturday afternoon.

I was also so pleased personally to finally find my way to James Henty Reserve, Dural for the first time and to see how popular Friday evenings are. I chose a very good evening to visit there, as I learned of the wonderful awards bestowed upon Maddie Jones in Canberra that week.

Well done Maddie, really outstanding and what an honour for you and BlowFly Cricket! It certainly personified to me what could be achieved by so many of our players through their dedication and effort!

Finally, many thanks to Mark, Marnie, Jordan, Kate, Shabana, Steve, Karen, Jason and so many others who work so hard to keep BlowFly Cricket such a wonderful organisation. I trust that I will once again be able to make a contribution to BlowFly next season.



**Dougal Graham**  
Volunteer

# To the Blowies Bunch



Hi everyone,

Well, it was certainly another wonderful Blowies cricket season, where I again saw some really outstanding batting and bowling, excellent running between wickets, 'and' some absolutely amazing catches at James Park. I even took a ripper, when the ball hit my chest and fell on my lap, ha ha, cool, eh!!

With new members joining in and everyone having a turn, having a go, chatting, laughing and listening, it's an absolutely wonderful afternoon for us all.

Then, after all the action on the pitch, we're treated to the most delicious sausage sandwiches, salads and fruits to top it off. With even more interaction and chatting amongst our members, captains, coaches, helpers and volunteers.

I managed to join the helpers and Blowies to put in a few hours at some of the Thornleigh Bunnings sausage sizzle fundraisers, always so popular with shoppers.

So, a very big thank-you to everyone who helped out when they could, where they could, it's a wonderful team effort.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes progress continues constantly under the enthusiasm, patience and loving guidance of our great mate, great friend Mark, who is constantly looking to inspire physical and financial support, even managing to do so whilst unwell, and in a hospital bed. Hats off to you mate, and thank-you for being you. All the best, get well soon.

Covid has/is really difficult to be able to get everyone together, to work, to see families and friends, but hopefully in time, with commonsense and appropriate health preventions we'll see each other soon.

Cheers to all,



**Errol Hyde**  
Ambassador

## 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.

Plenty of verses could be added, such as:

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

*Adapted by Errol & Chelsey Hyde*

## New Verse

BlowFly Cricket, BlowFly Cricket,  
C'mon grab your bat and ball,  
BlowFly Cricket, BlowFly Cricket,  
It's great fun to be had by all.  
So Blowies SLIP SLOP SLAP and  
Don't forget the hat.

Let's have BlowFly Cricket fun  
While the spectators cheer and clap.  
BlowFly Cricket, BlowFly Cricket,  
Remember the barbecue we  
Cannot forget that.  
C'mon down and join in the fun,  
BlowFly Cricket where many new  
Friendships have begun  
So let's give it a go, having fun,  
In the sun it's BlowFly Cricket  
For everyone

*Adapted by Richard Rushton*

# Volunteers Register

***"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."*** AESOP

The BlowFly Cricket Management Committee strongly supports and recognises the value of volunteering throughout our community maintaining strong relationships with The Centre for Volunteering and Volunteering Australia.

Darlene Apps	Laura Fitzgerald **	Mike Kinchington *	Mark Perry
Nanna Audrey	Keith Fone	Kristina King	Steve Perry
Aribah Baig	Corey Gibbs	Audjima Kongcharoen **	Bec Peterkin
Nathaniel Baker	Renee Gibbs	Morwenna Landers	Bill Peterkin
Keith Baker	Michael 'Bazza' Gillies	Harry Langford	Harry Peterkin
Andy Bayles	Jeni Goddard	Mike Langford	Sparsh Polepalle
Anthony Beard	Dougal Graham	Lisa Langford	Stacey Powell
Hannah Beard	Maureen Graham	Monique Leon	Brendan Price
Brian Binfield LM	Alan Guild	Aaron Lewis	Massimo Price
Jane Bish	Damien Guild	Deb Lewis	Paul Pulis
Leza Boardman	Jared Guild	Irish Lewis	Karthik Ramesh
Varunee 'Bun'	Kate Guild	Kevin Lewis	Shane Rodrigues
Boonmetavesub**	Pat 'Spud' Guild	Tara Lewis	Mark Rushton LM
Jan Brock	Ben Gussey	Adam Lezon	Rishi Shivashankaran
Jock Brock	Shabana Hakim	Lidia Lezon	Shankar Shivashankaran
Valeria Buccheri	Fiona Hanks	Davina MacKenzie	Julie-ann Short
Courtney Buczek	Robbie Hanks	Ronnie MacKenzie LM	Maddie Shortte ***
Jacob Buczek LM	William Hanks	Jane Malek	Gabrielle Smith
Jason Buczek	Naomi Heath **	Gurkeerat Mann	Kirsty Smith
Karen Buczek	Dinushi Herath	Luke Manton	Phil Smith
Brad Caldwell	Nic Hincapie-Perea	Amir Marashian	Uncle Snake
Gabrielle Callanan	Azaan Husain	Cameron Marashian	Tom Spratt **
Nick Callanan-Williams	Errol Hyde	Kiahna Marashian	Danny Starkey
Mark Campbell	Aya Iwabuchi	Alicia Mavurawa	Evelyn Stevenson
Keith Carter	Rie Iwabuchi	Elizabeth Mavurawa	Craig Stubbs
Tom Casey	Alf James OAM	Brie McKechnie	Aditya Swarup
Reena Chand	Bim Jayaweera	Hazel McKechnie	Akanksha Swarup
Dani Chivers	Ruben Johnson	Rob McKechnie	Riya Swarup
Cathy Clark **	Catherine Johnson-Dyson **	Henry Migallo	Ammar Tanveer
Suzanne Collyer Rousek	Bronte Jones	Dierk Mohr	Akiko Tomita
Mick Connell	Dominic Jones	Traute Mohr	Vinay Tumuluri
John Cosgrove	Doug Jones	Noel Moig	Peter Verduin
Anthony Courtney	Jordan Jones	Jeremy Nanwani	Sandy Wall
Sameer Dalal	Maddie Jones	Chris Nicholls	Bruce Wood
Julie Davis	Nicola Jones	Lachlan Nicholls	Kakra Yeboah
Rob Di Camillo	Rick Jones	Nikki Nicholls	Penni Yeboah
Teanu Enoka **	Isolde Kamerman	Amanda 'Vivienne' Nissen	
Darrin Eyles	Raj Kannori	Marnie Nissen	
Jess Eyles	Bhavya Khemlani	Paul Nissen	

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

# Major Award Winners



2020/21 has been an exceptional year for award winners for both the club as a whole and individuals within BlowFly Cricket. I would like to congratulate the following people on their achievements this year.



**2020 NSW Central Coast  
"Senior Volunteer of the Year"**  
Pat 'Spud' Guild from Umina Beach has been volunteering with BlowFly Cricket for the past 11 years. Spud has been actively involved in many areas of the BlowFly Cricket community including: helping on the field, with fundraising, in schools and as a qualified coach and is an inspiration to all of our wonderful volunteers.



**2020 Good Sports NSW  
"Club Champion of the Year"**  
Maddie Jones

**2020 Good Sports NSW Runner Up  
"Club of the Year"**  
BlowFly Cricket

**2020 Good Sports National  
Runner Up  
"Club Champion of the Year"**  
Maddie Jones



**2021 Cricket NSW  
"A Sport for All"**  
Community Cricket Award  
Jordan Jones



**2021 Runner Up Cricket Australia  
"A Sport for All"**  
Community Cricket Award  
Jordan Jones



**2020/21 HK&HDCCA  
"Community Achievement Special  
Recognition" Award**  
Jordan Jones



**2020-2021 Rotary Club  
of Wahroonga  
"Community Caring" Award**  
BlowFly Cricket

**2021 Crown Sydney  
and the Daily Telegraph's  
"Community Champions" Award**  
Mark Rushton

**2021 NSW Volunteer of the  
Year Awards Northern Beaches  
"Young Volunteer of the Year"**  
Mark Perry

'Mark is a qualified volunteer coach with the all-ability Blowfly Cricket Club. He gives back as a coach via the "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" program, which helps to develop increased levels of self-esteem, self-confidence, self-belief and assertiveness skills.'





The 2020 Good Sports Awards ceremony was held at Parliament House, Canberra on Wednesday 24 February 2021. Congratulations to the amazing Maddie Jones who was a major NSW award winner and national runner-up in the highly considered "Club Champion" category.

Despite COVID related travel restrictions, Maddie and Jordan Jones made the arduous trek to and from Canberra, joining Members of Parliament and Alcohol and Drug Foundation staff to celebrate the winners. Other club representatives joined in via video link. After a challenging year, it was great for the two older Jones sisters to join in to celebrate the amazing achievements around Australia.

These meritorious Awards shine the spotlight on the passionate clubs and volunteers who give their all to their respective sport. Maddie works hard, together with all of our wonderful volunteers, to improve the health and wellbeing of members, families and the BlowFly Cricket sporting community.

Special mention must be made of these two amazing young members of our community which saw Jordan drive to Canberra and back whilst still on her 'red' P Plates, her longest driving experience to date; our travellers stay overnight in accommodation kindly provided by Good Sports; and then to make it back in time to coach at the NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre and then to join in with the NDCC Sixers Women's Social Cricket games held at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara.



**Mark Rushton**  
Founder

# Life Membership Award



Life Membership is the most significant award that can be bestowed by our Association. For the nominee to be successful in receiving this award, at least two of the following criteria must be met:

- A minimum of 10 years participation/service – as a player or volunteer within the club;
- Served as a positive role model who contributes to the BlowFly Cricket community whether it be through coaching, volunteering or some other capacity; and
- Made an outstanding contribution to the development and/or progression of BlowFly Cricket

**Individual being nominated: Brian Binfield**

**Relevant positions held (both past and present) by the individual being nominated:**

- Brian is a long standing, hard working volunteer of BlowFly Cricket, having been an active member in many roles within the club over the past 12 years.
- Brian has taken on the Publications Officer role with great gusto and enthusiasm, carrying out the arduous task of the graphics and design of all of the BlowFly Cricket Annual Reports.
- Volunteered at many of our “early years” fundraising BBQs at Officeworks Hornsby, Bunnings Thornleigh and Hornsby Mall (Hornsby Shire Council sponsored BBQ Trailer).
- Takes on the fun role of Santa Clause each year at our WPHCCC James Henty Reserve Centre and our James Park Centre (don’t tell the kids!).

**Significant coaching/community achievements of individual being nominated:**

- Cricket Australia (CA) Accredited Community (formerly Level 1) Coach.
- Was instrumental in establishing a working relationship with ABBOX SONY Foundation Childrens Camp and has attended many of the camps assisting with the delivery of free BlowFly Cricket coaching sessions.
- Attended all three Camp Breakaway Respite Camps on the Central Coast assisting with the delivery of free BlowFly Cricket coaching sessions.
- Was the driving force and instrumental in establishing a working relationship with Giant Steps School (Gladesville, NSW) for two years, attending all of the weekly sessions and actively assisting with the delivery of BlowFly Cricket coaching sessions. In fact, it was Brian’s brainchild to implement this inaugural program which has developed into the successful free BlowFly Cricket schools programs offered today by our “*Uncoachables Coaching The Uncoachables*” graduates.
- Attended our Special Needs Schools program at: Mary Brooksbank School (Rosemeadow, NSW).

**Briefly state why the candidates’ service can be regarded as exceptional and exemplary:**

- Brian’s involvement in BlowFly Cricket is one of support, enthusiasm and modesty. He is happy to work behind the scenes and not take any credit for his amazing efforts. He is quietly spoken, though a champion amongst champions.
- Brian has amazing energy levels, strength and endurance defying the ageing process as he turned a youthful 75 years of age in August.

**Any additional notes:**

- Brian has been on the Management Committee since BlowFly Cricket incorporated as an association in October 2011.
- The Annual Report is of the highest professional quality, being well received by the BlowFly community. It remains a tremendous resource and marketing publication, securing many sponsors and supporters over the years. Brian does the photo editing, type setting, layout and graphic designs without charge, adding up to many, many thousands of dollars of in-kind sponsorship.
- Brian is a consummate gentlemen who is a highly valued and wonderful volunteer of BlowFly Cricket. His efforts are appreciated by all associated with our organisation.

# A Family Perspective



I was introduced to BlowFly Cricket by Veronika Walshe (Angela's Mum) when we were studying at TAFE together in 2018. She suggested Robbie might enjoy playing cricket so I contacted Bill Peterkin and we attended a trial session at James Henty Park at the beginning of the 2018/19 season. I'll admit that I was a little sceptical beforehand because we had tried lots of activities in the past, and whilst Robbie went through the motions, none of them seemed worth the time and effort (for both of us), because there were no new skills learnt, friendships formed or great desire to attend from one week to the next. What got me over the line was that it was close to home, Friday evening and Bill sounded nice on the phone.

Robbie's first sessions seemed to be more of the same; he was far more interested in going down the bush track or to the playground. If he did pick up a bat and ball, he would be nowhere near the wicket, instead doing laps of the oval whilst putting the ball. The big difference was that no one else cared; the game went on and Robbie could join in whenever he felt ready.

It didn't matter if his "warm-up" took 55 minutes and he made it out on the field for five minutes. No one looked at us funny and tut-tutted because Robbie was up a tree and I was underneath muttering "Get out of the bloody tree and play some cricket!" through clenched teeth; or because I had to piggy-back him to the wicket; or take him by the hand and run with him when he hit a ball; or Mike had to show him how to hold a bat and face the bowler time and again.

So what makes BlowFly so different? Maybe it's because everyone involved has either been the one up the tree or the one muttering underneath. It's a place where the normal world is left behind and our "normal" is accepted, and dare I say it enjoyed, rather than apologised for.

Mark told me a story about a father who turned up every game for years before his son was able to get out of the car to join in a game. Whilst I have nothing but admiration for the father and his unlimited patience and devotion to his son, I couldn't do that so it was lucky (for all of us) that Robbie soon got the hang of cricket and started to participate a bit more each week.

Unlike all the previous activities, at BlowFly he gained new skills and experiences, made friendships (we all have) and has a great desire to attend (only doctor's orders will keep him home).

Fast forward to 2021 and BlowFly has become a family affair:

- Robbie's brother, William, plays on Fridays too because he has found it's a nice way to start the weekend and forget about the stresses of school;
- Robbie and William are also refining their customer service skills at the Bunnings BBQs;
- I thoroughly enjoyed playing in the Sydney Sixers' women's social summer season;
- The three of us are completing our Community Coaching Course;
- My parents are addicted to Mark's citrus marmalades and now cut up 10kg of onions for every Bunnings BBQ to keep things sweet with their "dealer"; and

- William and I even took a cricket kit to Germany in 2019 to teach our cousins how to play, with the inaugural Hamburg BlowFly Test Match held during the only three hours of dry weather of our stay.

### **Robbie's Story**

Parenthood was quite a shock for Brett and myself. We had gone through life up to that point under the impression that good planning, hard work, perseverance and dedication (plus a smidge of good luck) were all that was needed to succeed. So we read all the books and took all the supplements and thought how hard can it be? Then William was born and everything got turned on its head. Now I know every parent feels the same and it wasn't the usual sleepless nights or the lack of a social life that knocked us for six; it was the unusual stuff like:

- Activating the child lock function on the microwave in the middle of dinner preparations (bet you didn't know about that feature either);
- Being able to open any gate, even the padlocked ones, so he and the dog could wander the neighbourhood or so he could organise the "Great Escape" on his first day of preschool (in 20 years no child had ever escaped from the Koala's room);
- Climbing up every tree and ladder, including up to the roof;
- Hiding himself or my car keys/wallet whenever it was time to go out; and
- Having zero patience or persistence with typical preschool activities, yet he could have a protest sit-in for hours.

The list goes on and my purpose is not to demonise William, who by the way has grown up to be a well-mannered, hard-working and very responsible teenager, but to indicate the level of relief we had when Robbie was a baby/toddler and turned out to be quite the opposite. We'd done the hard yards with William and now Robbie was going to be a breeze. Boy, were we wrong!

Robbie was quite big and sturdy when he was born. He had thighs like Mal Meninga (not as hairy) and could support his head from birth. He grew at double the normal growth rate and within three months had outgrown the baby capsule.

He was a happy baby who always smiled and engaged with everyone he met. He could play with puzzles for hours without getting cranky. His first steps were a determined stride across the room before crash tackling William to the floor (payback time). Everything seemed to be going well until Robbie was 2½ and he lost the ability to speak for no apparent reason. He had been attending speech therapy with William, largely as a preventative measure, and the experts were at a loss. He received a formal diagnosis of Autism at three (William had been diagnosed with higher functioning ASD a year earlier) and with limited improvement in his speech we started working on non-verbal communication systems. I did a PECS course and he attended speech therapy and OT plus got extra support at preschool. Importantly, he was still the easy going, happy child he had always been.

At 5½ everything changed again and Robbie would be irritable or start screaming and have tantrums on a regular basis.

Initially I put it down to the change in routine and regular proddings associated with the specialist assessments required for his enrolment in a support unit. My sister spotted that he was having absence seizures, which explained the behaviour but unfortunately required more prodding by different doctors (Robbie did not take kindly to having electrodes glued to his head for the EEGs). The medication worked well for a while and we could cope with the odd seizure, but it was a short lived reprieve. Within two years his seizures had become uncontrollable by even the maximum medication doses. They had also increased in severity leaving him unconscious or totally paralysed for minutes at a time every week. The damage caused by these seizures resulted in a major regression of his academic abilities and speech. It also cost him his place in the autism support class. The neurologist was out of ideas after exploring a range of possible causes and the Child Development Unit at Westmead wasn't interested. We were running out of options.



Luckily his speech therapist recommended a new therapy approach based on the concept of neuroplasty (i.e. retraining the brain). The EEG identified that Robbie was having micro-seizures every minute in the parts of his brain associated with language and memory and this was caused because his brain was underactive in other areas, the seizures were a side-effect of his brain overcompensating for the underactivity. His non-invasive therapy program focussed on stimulating the underactive regions and his seizures stopped and he hasn't been medicated for about five years. This meant that he could start other medication which helped his speech to develop (for the third time). It also meant that the sedating and energy sapping side-effects of the seizure medication were gone and Robbie could finally go on long bushwalks, etc. There have been other health hiccups along the way, like the time we all caught pneumonia but Robbie's was the worst and he had to be quarantined until the 9th course of antibiotics finally worked (don't complain to me about

COVID lockdowns), but he is still the happy and friendly boy he always was. Now we are on a long road to get him to catch up on all the things missed and lost during his preschool and primary years. Brett and I are realistic in our expectations and know that Robbie will never be a Rhodes Scholar but it would be nice if he learns the fundamentals and gains a degree of independence that allows him to participate in society. We know that Robbie's capabilities are far greater than what his communication skills allow him to demonstrate. We just need to find the keys to unlocking his potential. And one of those keys is BlowFly.

**Fiona Hanks**  
*Parent/Volunteer*

# Club Coach Report – James Park



Considering the raft of Covid protocols needed to keep BlowFly happening this season gone, I think we (that's a collective "we") performed and interacted very well.

At one stage there, the need for two pairs of gloves, inner and outer, became quite laborious. That is making sure everyone was sanitised etc, however, especially the young folk were quite OK with all of the new practices. Once we were finally able to meet again after "lockdown", the "Blowies" were eager to get back on the park to have a bash.

I was so impressed again by their socialisation and the way they went about their brand of cricket.

The leadership team members were always compliant and willing to help when asked. Maddie Jones, Female Club Captain, took on a bit more responsibility this season by agreeing to select next batters etc.

The season seemed to be over with pretty quickly due to Covid and our wet summer, however I'm sure all "Blowies" are looking forward with eager anticipation to next season.

Not much of a roundup from me, but it seems I can just hang around the periphery to be there in case of difficulties that may pop up. Did I say I was impressed??

CONGRATULATIONS "BLOWIES"



**Steve Perry**  
*(Slowly becoming the obsolete coach)*

# WPHCCC BlowFly Cricket Centre



I know I say it every year but once again our BlowFly Cricket has had another amazing year. We have been able to continue the growth of our established centres and as well as extend our BlowFly sessions further in Sydney.

The friendships that develop from this program are just exceptional and what we are all about. Players have become close friends, as well as players and the volunteers and this then organically grows into volunteers forming great relationships as well!!!

Again the senior players have continued to take on more and more ownership of BlowFly Cricket and this couldn't be more evident than via the coaching opportunities offered to our Community (formerly Level 1) Coaches!! Once again we ran a very successful Community coaching course this season. A huge congratulations to the participants who are now qualified coaches. We must thank Craig Stubbs for his outstanding work as our long term Coaching Consultant who works amazingly with the players to help them obtain their certificates.

This time next year I am very confident we will have our first candidates starting their Representative (formerly Level 2) coaching certificates!!

In partnership with the Junior Blasters and BlowFly Cricket we were able to offer Akanksha and Maddie the opportunity for some more coaching on Saturday mornings assisting our Head Coach Dani. We hope the girls enjoyed it and look forward to offering this again next season.

Our newsletter has continued to grow this year and we must offer huge thanks to our Director of Operations and in this case Editor, Kate Guild, for preparing and sending this out to everyone each week. I have really enjoyed receiving this and it is also a nice way for us to recognise our sponsors for all that they do to help BlowFly. Kate's joke section is something that can't be missed!

I cannot thank ALL our sponsors enough for their contribution – 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.

This year we had some challenges with firstly the late start to the season and then the necessary safety standards required as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We thank our special visitors this year who came down and took part in our sessions. I would like to make specific mention of Julian Leeser (Federal Member for Berowra) who took time out to spend the entire session with us. We hope he and his son James can make this an annual event as the players love nothing more than smashing a pollyie for six or getting him out!!!!



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

To **George's Fine Meats** at Cherrybrook Village – thank you for the wonderful meat you provide every Friday for our barbeques.

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

Like every year I marvel at what Mark Rushton does for BlowFly Cricket. He never lets his own daily hurdles get in the way of making sure everyone is being looked after and having a great time . . . thanks Marky Boy for everything you do.

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



**Bill Peterkin**  
*Centre Coordinator*



# NDCC BlowFly Cricket Inclusion Centre



I had the privilege of being part of the inaugural NDCC/BlowFly Cricket Inclusion program this year.

This program was designed for children who are living with a disability between the ages of 5 and 12. Delivered by qualified coaches also living with a disability. It gave the participants the opportunity to learn from positive role models in a fun environment. There was free registration courtesy of Woolworths.

We had a fantastic few weeks. It was only a small crowd but they all came back enthusiastically every week and their bowling, batting and catching improved!

The coaches had a great time putting their skills to work. We would set up the fields each week and run through programs with the kids.

I enjoyed the program so much and really felt like I had made a difference and loved knowing I was being paid to have such a great time thanks to Cricket NSW.

We were given very professional shirts and hats thanks to the generosity of Caring Approach, the major sponsor of BlowFly Cricket. This program would not have been possible without the huge efforts of Daniel Anderson, Cricket NSW Cricket Manager – North Shore, Jordan Jones, Co-ordinator extraordinaire and of course Mark Rushton!

The coaches were Nathaniel Baker, Nicko Callanan-Williams, Maddie Jones, Harry Langford, Aaron Lewis and Akanksha Swarup. Kevin Lewis did an amazing job feeding everyone every week (including parents and carers) with a sausage sizzle. Thanks also to my Mum Lisa Langford who turned up – most of the time.

This program has been one of the best things I have ever been part of. Thank you so much to everyone who made this possible.

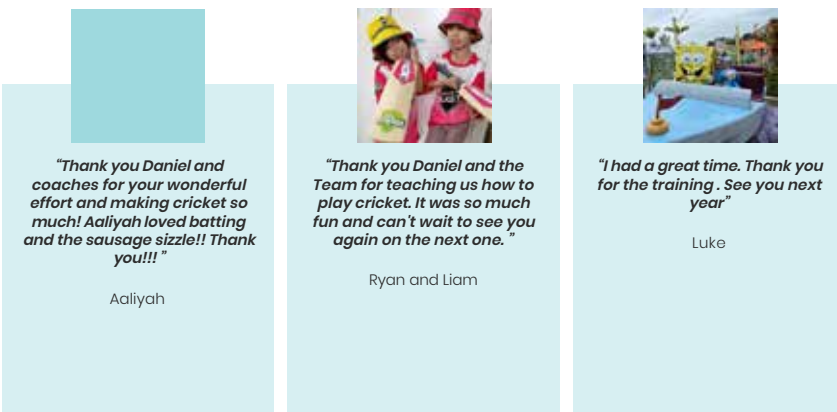


**Harry Langford**  
NDCC Special Olympics  
"Uncoachables Coaching  
The Uncoachables"  
member

For the love of cricket, teamwork,  
learning and all things great, THANK  
YOU!



Aaliyah



*"Thank you Daniel and coaches for your wonderful effort and making cricket so much! Aaliyah loved batting and the sausage sizzle!! Thank you!!!"*

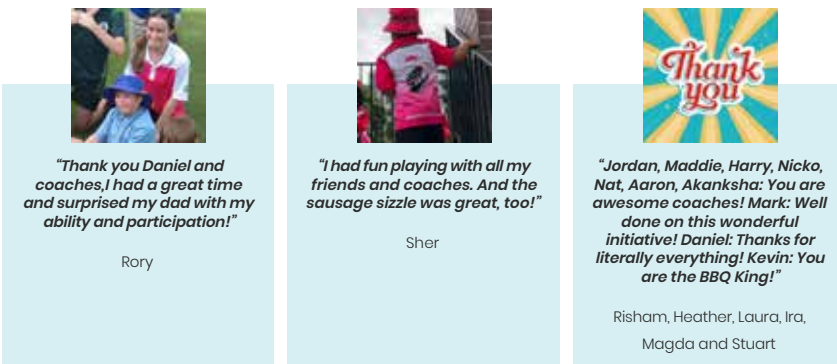
Aaliyah

*"Thank you Daniel and the Team for teaching us how to play cricket. It was so much fun and can't wait to see you again on the next one."*

Ryan and Liam

*"I had a great time. Thank you for the training. See you next year"*

Luke



*"Thank you Daniel and coaches, I had a great time and surprised my dad with my ability and participation!"*

Rory

*"I had fun playing with all my friends and coaches. And the sausage sizzle was great, too!"*

Sher

*"Jordan, Maddie, Harry, Nicko, Nat, Aaron, Akanksha: You are awesome coaches! Mark: Well done on this wonderful initiative! Daniel: Thanks for literally everything! Kevin: You are the BBQ King!"*

Risham, Heather, Laura, Ira, Magda and Stuart

# Winter Season – PCYC



Winter season got off to a great start in May this year. Many, many thanks to **Blitzit Plan Manager** for their generous sponsorship which paid for the costs associated with the venue hire and new playing shirts.

The PCYC at Waitara is our new venue and it is fantastic. We have the entire indoor court section to ourselves which gives us plenty of room for play. We also have a great outside area to have our regular sausage sizzle before we start. The staff are welcoming and have joined in with the spirit of BlowFly Cricket.

We are running the program similar to the women's cricket competition that was run at Mark Taylor Oval during the summer. Everyone gets to bowl an over and bat for 3 overs.

Everyone must field in order to get a bat so everyone is involved at all times.

The best thing is we can play in rain, hail or shine and we can be as loud as we want without bothering anyone else.

We do have a great turnout every week and I am proud to say everyone is making great leaps forward with their cricketing skills.

Unfortunately, our season has had a pause due to the lockdown in Sydney but we are hoping to get a few more weeks of play in before the end of the season. If not, we will all be ready to play again in Summer.



**Nicola Jones**  
*Winter Season  
Coordinator*

# St Edmund's College x BlowFly Cricket x St Leo's Catholic College *"Wheelie in Partnership"*



Our new *"Wheelie in Partnership"* Centre started on the 19th April 2021. The Centre was originally set to start in 2020, but was postponed until COVID-19 restrictions eased. The Centre successfully ran throughout Term 2 with eight (8) All Ability Eddies students attending each week on Mondays.

The sessions ran for 40 minutes and were held on St Leo's bottom oval. Thank you to our coaches Akanksha Swarup, Maddie Jones and Harry Langford and our volunteers Kristina King, Nicola Jones, Mark Rushton, John Cosgrove and Ruben Johnson for coming along and assisting with the delivery of sessions.

The Eddies kids were presented with personalised BlowFly Cricket shirts, and their own wide-brim hats and bats. They were ecstatic with their new gear as they put the shirts on straight away over their sports uniform and popped their hats on.

Each session focused on a different cricket skill and ended in a game of cricket. The Centre was filled with laughter, cheeky giggles (thank you Akanksha and Maddie), and big personalities.

This centre is especially exciting for BlowFly Cricket's future as it further opens pathways to work in partnership with schools to develop programs for All Ability students. We look forward to working more with St Edmund's and St Leo's in future and continuing *"Wheelie in Partnership"* in the following years.



**Jordan Jones**  
*President*

# Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC)



NDCC is delighted to be associated with BlowFly Cricket. This season was significant in that the work of Blowies and NDCC in cricket, often working hard in parallel, was very much in concert with the NDCC-BlowFly Inclusion Centre created at Mark Taylor Oval. The Inclusion Centre owes much to the work of Mark Rushton, Jordan Jones, and the support of Cricket NSW and in particular Daniel Anderson. A special note of thanks to Lisa Langford whose long contribution to Special Olympics Cricket at NDCC was crowned with the creation of this additional offering in All Abilities Cricket.

The Covid-affected season of 2020/21 was different in many ways for all of us. It is great that we were able to progress the BlowFly concept and open the Inclusion Centre at MTO as we did.

NDCC was not able to host a normal Back to Waitara Day as in previous years and could not welcome back our All Abilities players as we did the year before. However, it was wonderful at the NDCC Presentation Night on 23rd April to hear from Jordan and Maddie Jones about the experience of the season and the NDCC-BlowFly Inclusion Centre. Naturally, both spoke wonderfully and informed and entertained the record crowd.

NDCC had its most successful season on-field in its 96-year history:

Club Champions

1st Grade Women's Premiers

3rd Grade Premiers

5th Grade Premiers

Green Shield Premiers

Men's and Women's Spirit of Cricket winner

This was a remarkable season for the Club. We take pride that three of our captains won Captain of the Year Awards, and we put extra emphasis on the Spirit of Cricket successes. For us it is important to win, but we must win well.

This season we did both and it is for that reason it is a summer that will live on long in the memory.

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

Congratulations to the BlowFly Cricket community on another outstanding season. We can't wait for next year!



**Jeremy Hook**  
President NDCC

# Noel's Observation



Once again it is my privilege to write a few words on behalf of Northern District Cricket Club in relation to the operations of BlowFly Cricket Club. It is always an honour to be able to write a few words for an organisation that is so distinguished in assisting and developing those who have a disadvantage in life.

More importantly it is indeed exciting to see how the members of the organisation progress both individually and collectively in society. This delivers them the opportunity to participate and enjoy Cricket without feeling at any sort of disadvantage.

COVID-19 has indeed been a real challenge and I commend the BlowFly Cricket Organisation on the remarkable achievements that they have made throughout these challenging times.

I look forward to continuing to support BlowFly Cricket and once again I commend all concerned especially the Management Committee for their dedicated and inspirational development of this organisation.

Looking forward to the 2021-22 Season. Congratulations one and all.



**Noel Moig**  
NDCC Life Member

## **Editor's Comment:**

All associated with BlowFly Cricket are thrilled with the developing and progressive relationship with NDCC, our local Premier Grade Cricket Club. NDCC have left no stone unturned in including our all-ability club and we were thrilled to be invited to attend the club's gala presentation evening.

We were afforded a table of 10 which was a wonderful gesture of goodwill. Our Uncoachable Coaches who coached throughout the NDCC Inclusive Centre program had a wonderful night. Maddie and Jordan Jones spoke with great emotion and maturity in front of an admiring audience of over 300. Well done everyone.

# Women's Social Cricket Program



The Women's Social Cricket Program is a friendly game of cricket played by women from every part of the Australian community. An inclusive program that would take place every Wednesday evening under floodlights at Mark Taylor Oval in Waitara. The group of women (100+) was split into twelve different teams and every week the teams would take turns to verse each other one by one. This was a great way for many women who came to play every Wednesday to socialise and be involved in a group activity.

This program was intended to celebrate all women in the community. The slogan "have a go!" encouraged women to play the sport. The idea of empowerment of women was an important theme in the Women's Social Cricket Program. The purpose of the program is to overall have fun and learn some new skills. From my personal experience, this program boosted my confidence and improved my social skills and generally, it was a fun experience as this was something that I looked forward to each week as it was a good source of exercise.

This program was open to any women around the area, it didn't matter if you were old or young this was for everyone no matter race or cultural ethnicity.

After we had a game of cricket, usually some teams would bring a picnic mat, have a nice conversation with their teammates under the stars, and celebrate with a glass of wine. This special program established the empowerment of female cricket players, showing people that women can play cricket as it is a sport for everyone not only men. This can also inspire young girls to start playing competitive sports and show people girls are strong and powerful.



**Aya Iwabuchi**  
Programs Manager

**Editor's Comment:** BlowFly Cricket, in recognising the wonderful efforts of our female volunteers, members, families, Carers and supporters, entered three teams into this amazing program.

There was no costs to the participants as the registration costs were fully absorbed in addition to providing each player with a complimentary playing shirt. The program was an enormous success and has highlighted another marginalised group for BlowFly Cricket to focus on. We look forward to the progress and development of BlowFly Women's Cricket in the years to come. Who knows, we may even have four teams entered in the 2021-22 Season.

# Sydney Sixers



On behalf of the Sydney Sixers BBL10 Champions, I would like to congratulate BlowFly Cricket for their wonderful contribution to not just the participants, but families, the carers and the entire community.

Having first-hand experienced Cricket Blast, social cricket and trophy visit this season. I see such joy, meaningful friendships and a safe place for everyone to be involved in cricket.

It is this joy and spirit that is in my opinion the true purpose of our game, to bring people together and have fun.

Thank you to BlowFly Cricket for their continued support of the Sixers.

Although it was much tougher to attend games this season, I know many of you continued your support by tuning into our games from home. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to our home games in 2021-22.

Lastly, without calling out names, I wanted to give a big shout out to all the volunteers, including the uncoachable program. Giving up your time for others is one of the most rewarding things you can do and I encourage you to keep inspiring one-another through cricket.

All the best.



**Aaron Wharton**  
Sydney Sixers – Fan  
Engagement Specialist





# The Coaches' Association



The Coaches' Association is proud to have been associated with BlowFly Cricket for the past 10 years through the provision of free coaching sessions at Mark Taylor Oval (MTO), Waitara; volunteering at the Blowies' fundraising BBQs at Bunnings Warehouse, Thornleigh; and occasional attendance at James Park, Hornsby (Saturdays), and James Henty Reserve, Dural (Fridays).

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

BlowFly Cricket was formed when Mark Rushton had an inspired vision that all children with special needs deserve the opportunity to enjoy cricket and improve their eye/hand co-ordination and confidence by learning new skills and interacting with other children and families in a supportive, sporting environment. The children's special needs include autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, Asperger's, Fragile X, visual impairments, verbal and hearing impairments. They play a hybrid form of cricket on Saturday afternoons at James Park, Hornsby during Terms 4 and 1 (cricket season), followed by a family BBQ. They also play a hybrid form of cricket on Friday evenings with West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook CC at James Henty Reserve, Dural; and NDCC Special Olympics cricket at MTO, Waitara on Wednesday afternoons.

The Coaches' Association held two free coaching sessions for BlowFly Cricket at MTO, Waitara this season on 30 September 2020 and 13 January 2021. The HKHDCCA coaches who helped the Blowies in 2020-21 were Bruce Wood, Daniel Wood, Dani Chivers and Jack Nati.

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 Jones (President) aim to set their club members up for success through cricket coaching accreditation, opportunities to implement their new skills; public speaking, representing the Blowies at Cricket NSW, interstate and at other forums; taking on committee positions; helping out at the regular fundraising 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.

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 Coaches' Association *continued*



It is great to see that the Blowies combined with Northern District CC's Special Olympics cricket program at MTO, Waitara on Wednesday afternoons this season. Another exciting new program is the PCYC cricket sessions planned for Sunday evenings at Waitara in Autumn / Winter 2021.

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 attractive 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 BBQs at Bunnings.

A total of 22 HKHDCCA coaches have helped the Blowies at our coaching sessions over the years, including Bruce Wood, Jamie McEvoy, Aaron Crofts, Nick Miller, Daniel Wood, Josh Miller, Cooper Davenport, Daniel Anderson, Braden Cheng, Tom Felton, Dani Chivers, Dylan Bish, Justin Epthorp, Will Fiedler, John Anderson, James Madden, Joe Hiley, Nathan Middleton, Jack Nati, Andrew Harvey, Utkarsh Somaiya 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 inducted Mark Rushton as a Life Member in 2020 and HKHDCCA wishes BlowFly Cricket all the best on their exciting journey, which is benefiting so many children with special needs, it congratulates the new President of BlowFly Cricket, Jordan Jones (aged 18), on her inspirational leadership of the organisation, under the astute mentor-ship of Mark Rushton. Bruce Wood, President, Coaches' Association, presented Jordan with a wall plaque at their AGM at Hornsby RSL on 7 June 2021.



**Bruce Wood**

# Cricket New South Wales Report 2020/21



2020/21 was a season like nothing we have seen before. It presented significant challenges both on and off the field, yet the resilience of our cricketing community allowed us to put on another highly successful season.

I would like to congratulate BlowFly Cricket on their outstanding work in once again delivering excellent programs that were engaging, welcoming, exciting and innovative – all in a COVID Safe way. Our purpose at Cricket NSW is to 'Inspire everyone to play and love cricket' and BlowFly Cricket lives this purpose every day.

I would like to call out some highlights from season 2020/21 that I believe showcases this in action.

## **The NEW NDCC/ BlowFly Cricket Inclusive Centre**

The purpose for this new centre was clear – to inspire young children who are living with a disability to fall in love with cricket by simply providing an opportunity for them to play.

This program is the first of its kind and had many unique features including using coaches from the BlowFly 'Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables' program and Northern District CC Special Olympics. I believe this was vital in providing quality role models for the young participants and showcasing how they can have a future in cricket – You can't be what you can't see. It was also important to provide an opportunity for our amazing coaches to further develop their coaching and communication skills.

We hope that this program will continue to grow in future years and feed participants into the BlowFly Cricket and NDCC Special Olympics Programs.

This will ensure that both programs will be sustainable long term and provide consistent employment opportunities for our older participants. The benefits of this program are wide reaching and have potential to create significant positive impact on the lives of our participants and their families.

Special thanks to our Organising Committee including Mark Rushton, Lisa Langford, Jeremy Hook, Aaron Wharton and Jordan Jones.

I would also like to thank our incredible coaches for their efforts in delivering the program – Harry Langford, Maddie Jones, Akanksha Swarup, Aaron, Lewis Nathaniel Baker, Nicko Callanan-Williams and our Coordinator, Jordan Jones.

Finally, thank you to Woolworths who provided funding for the entire program so that participants could register for free.

## **Social Women's Cricket**

It was amazing to witness 3 teams from BlowFly Cricket participating in Social Women's Cricket – Northern District CC this season. Whilst results might not have gone their way too often, it was inspiring to see Akanksha and Maddie (among others) smashing sixes and taking wickets each week! I also really enjoyed seeing mums, daughters, friends and extended family participate together as previously this has not been possible in NSW.



It was also pleasing to see that living with a disability is no longer a barrier to participating in a 'mainstream' program and the competitiveness of opposing teams showed the high level of respect for BlowFly Cricket.

Social Women's Cricket is all about having fun and getting 'on the other side of the fence'. I hope that all the women and girls who participated return for next season as their skill level will continue to improve and even more fun will be had. Who knows, we may even be able to get a 4th BlowFly team!

### **St Leo's/ St Edmund's Program**

Unfortunately, this program was unable to run due to COVID-19 but I believe it is worth mentioning the amazing efforts of Jordan Jones in pulling this together. For someone so young to have the passion and skillset to start a new program from scratch and involve 4 separate parties is incredible.

Keep up the good work Jordan as your passion for BlowFly Cricket is what our great game is built on and on behalf of Cricket NSW I would like to say thank you.

### **Volunteers**

Finally, none of the great work BlowFly Cricket does would be possible without your amazing volunteers. There are actually too many to mention, but I need to give a special shout out to Kate Guild for compiling the BlowFly Bulletin and for setting up the new MyCricket registration forms, all of the parents and carers who bring the players/coaches every session and of course Mark Rushton. Mark is the beating heart of BlowFly Cricket and we are very lucky to have him.



**Daniel Anderson**  
Cricket Manager  
North Shore

### **Editor's Note**

*It is pleasing to report the St Leo's/ St Edmund's Program will be commenced on Monday, 19 April 2021 and be held every Monday afternoon at St Leo's throughout Term 2 and Term 3. What a wonderful initiative for these two schools working in partnership. Many thanks to our President, Jordan Jones, for her outstanding enthusiasm and foresight in ensuring this program gets underway.*

# Support Partner **ACE** Body Corporate Management



Welcome to Reena Chand and ACE Body Corporate Management to the BlowFly Cricket community as our newest sponsor.

Reena's company has kindly made a very generous contribution to the Club which will assist with the "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" program.

We are thrilled and extremely grateful to have you as part of our Club.

*EDITOR'S NOTE:*

Reena has generously sponsored our unique, inclusive Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables program for a period of five years. This injection of funds will greatly benefit the day-to-day running costs and ensure the longevity of this rapidly developing program.

Thank you Reena and team.

# Support Partner **Bite Me Bakehouse**



## **BITE ME** **BAKEHOUSE**

**Bite Me Bakehouse** and our loyal customers have been proud supporters of BlowFly Cricket since we started trading over seven years ago.

Bite Me Bakehouse continue to proudly sponsor the BlowFly Cricket *Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables* program, designed for the development of adolescents and young adults for important leadership roles within the BlowFly Cricket community and beyond.

All our produce is freshly baked on site every day, the folks at Bite Me Bakehouse go about their business – rolling, mixing, baking and whipping up the most delicious treats for you to enjoy when it's time to start your day.

Pies, Sausage Rolls, Quiches, Toasted Sandwiches, Cakes, Pastries and more . . . everything you could wish for in a delicious meal straight from the oven. Choose from a variety of Coffees, Teas, Milkshakes and refreshing Cold Drinks from the fridge.

We cater for mums and dads, families, truckers and 'tradies' who can park their rigs straight out front or just catch up with a friend. Take-away is the only option now during our unique, worldwide pandemic. Though we can all enjoy a few moments of 'time out' with friends who frequent our store whilst waiting for their culinary delights to be prepared .

If you have an upcoming event, conference or party, let us take care of your function, call Bite Me Bakehouse.

We are situated on the Pacific Highway at Mount Colah, in Sydney's North, just a few minutes from Hornsby and there's ample space for parking.

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**Bite Me Bakehouse (02) 9477 1732** for all of your local, trusted bakery delights.

# Support Partner **Blitzit Plan Manager**



**Blitzit Plan Manager** is proud to be part of the team supporting BlowFly Cricket. We are delighted to know the funds have been allocated towards BlowFly Crickets winter competition with the purchase of shirts and venue hire.

On Sunday the 16 May, Blitzit Plan Managers staff and BlowFly Cricket Team linked up for a wonderful evening of indoor cricket and a sausage sizzle.

Team Blitzit have shared their experience below:

*It was a great atmosphere where everyone joined in and had a fun evening. One of the most memorable things to take out of the night was the amazing sight of all the smiles across both Blitzit Plan Manager staff and the Blowfly Cricket community.*

*The highlight of the evening was when Blitzit's very own Ned smashed a big hit off the last ball of the night that almost damaged the big cheque that was presented to Blowfly Cricket in the evening.*

*Natalie*, Blitzit Plan Manager

*Blowfly's team members taught me how to bowl and when I put my skills to the test, I managed to bowl out my own teammate Ned. We shared lots of laughs and we have great memories of the evening.*

*It was such a fantastic experience. I am looking forward to doing it again!*

*Kayla*, Blitzit Plan Manager

*I thoroughly enjoyed the evening; it was great to see everyone getting involved. It was inclusive for families, friends, carers, and supporters which is what it's all about. Blitzit and Blowfly players encouraged each other, and the Blowfly players were showing us at Blitzit how to play cricket. With Blitzit Plan Manager being a sponsor for the winter competition everyone was very appreciative of the support and expressed their excitement about the new uniforms.*

*It was great to see smiles all round. The Blowfly Cricket team members asked Blitzit to come back again as they expressed how they enjoyed the evening, and we certainly had a lot of fun too!*

*Leane*, Blitzit Plan Manager Director





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# Support Partner **Caring Approach**



BlowFly Cricket is a program for children, adolescents and adults (5 to 50 years of age) with special needs and /or intellectual disabilities. We continue to cater for children, adolescents and adults with Autism, Down Syndrome and other special needs /intellectual disabilities.

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



Proud sponsors of



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

**Personal Care Assistance (Basic and Complex):**

- Plan Management:**
- Support Coordination:**
- Overnight care & Respite Care:**
- Community Nursing:**
- Social Support & Shopping:**
- Live-in care for you:**
- Domestic Assistance & Transport:**

1300 655 026

[www.caringapproach.com.au](http://www.caringapproach.com.au)

**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST**



# Friends of BlowFly Cricket Register



PHOTO CREDIT: Nong Vang

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

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

# Business Partnerships

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



# A word from our Founder

Bravo bravo bravo to all concerned in our inclusive, All-Ability BlowFly Cricket community.

Congratulations are certainly in order on our twelfth season, which perhaps has been the most successful of all on many fronts. This is not a throw away comment as one only needs to reflect on the growth and development our progressive club has made throughout the 2020/21 Season.

There have been endless highlights but firstly it is important to remember that BlowFly Cricket would not be where it is today without the ongoing level of community and corporate support we continue to receive, including the following:

ACE Body Corporate  
All Seasons Trophies  
Antenna Whisperer  
Australian Sports Foundation  
Bite Me Bakehouse  
Blitzit Plan Manager  
Bramar Group

Bunnings Thornleigh  
Caring Approach  
Club GRANTS  
Coaches' Association  
Cricket Australia  
Cricket NSW  
Fullpoint Graphics  
George's Fine Meats  
Hornsby Shire Council  
Kookaburra Sports  
Mt Kuring-gai Village Family Butchery  
NDCC  
NDCC Special Olympics  
Rotary Club of Wahroonga  
Sydney Sixers  
Veri Shades  
WPHCCC

Craig Stubbs, our Cricket Australia (CA) Accredited Elite Coaching Consultant held our seventh and eighth CA Community Coaching Courses where we saw another seven of our young charges, together with volunteers, family members and Carers attain this highly considered qualification.

Congratulations to all seven of our new coaches who have now graduated into our unique "Uncoachables Coaching the Uncoachables" program. I am certain all associated with our BlowFly Cricket community are justifiably proud of your respective achievements.

Congratulations and thank you "Stubbsy" as this is the first time we have held two Community Coaching Courses in the one season.

Without further ado, I trust you will enjoy the following Annual Report which we are extremely proud to present. There have been many special moments throughout the 2020/21 Season which are highlighted throughout the Report.

To all of our wonderful volunteers I sincerely thank you for your collective efforts and support as you are the lifeblood of our Association. In closing, stay safe all and please adhere to the government restrictions as they are set in place to ensure all of our safety. If you haven't been vaccinated to date, please consider your stance here as to my mind it is the safest option throughout this challenging worldwide pandemic.



**Mark Rushton**  
Founder

# Vale Tom Richmond OAM



It is with sadness that I report the passing of Life Member Tom Richmond OAM. Tom had a lifetime commitment to cricket in northern Sydney, and the cricket world and our Club benefitted from his tireless efforts. He had a massively positive impact on several generations of Green Shield cricketers, and hence the Club itself.

Tom went to school at Barker College in the era of NDs greats Neil and Lynn Marks, and the Blazey brothers. He played in the 1st XI in 1957 before undertaking Teachers College in Wagga and fully involving himself in playing and coaching cricket, initially in the country and then closer to the Hornsby district where he had grown up.

Tom was NDs Green Shield coach for a period of sixteen years, and was coach when we won our first Green Shield in 1968/69. That commenced a rich period of success for the Club, winning four Green Shield titles in a period of 11 seasons.

In the words of one of the members of his Green Shield squads who messaged me last night *"we loved him, at a time in our lives when such a positive role model was so important"*.

Tom was made a Life Member of NDs in 2012. He was a Life Member and Patron of HKHDCA.

Tom received an Order of Australia Medal in 2002 for "services to youth through education and cricket, and to researching the history of Hornsby".

Tom was a co-founder of the NDs Schoolboys Cup with Neil Marks. Last season the Club inaugurated the Tom Richmond Medal for the Player of the ND Cup Final. This was first presented at our April Presentation Night by Ross Turner, and Tom was delighted to know that this award was named in his honour.

RIP Tom Richmond (15/7/41 – 14/9/21) – a wonderful cricket man.

## **Jeremy Hook**

*President  
Northern District Cricket Club*

## *EDITOR'S COMMENTS:*

### **Bruce Wood**

*President Coaches' Association, wrote:*

"We are sad to advise the passing of our Patron and Life Member, Tom Richmond OAM, on 14 Sept 2021 at the age of 80. Tom was a wonderful contributor to local cricket for over 50 years.

Tom coached the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association U/16 Watson Shield teams for nearly two decades and the Northern District Cricket Club AW Green Shield teams for 16 years, winning four titles.

He was inducted as a Life Member of HK&HDCA in 1981; a Life Member of NDCC in 2012; and the inaugural Life Member of the Coaches' Association in 2014.

He was the Founder of the HK&HDCA U/15 Ross Turner Cup in 1998-99, and the younger Glenn Hourigan Cup in 2003-04. He successfully managed these annual events for 12 years before passing the responsibility to Bruce Wood in 2010-11.

Our thoughts are with Tom's family and many friends at this time."

# BlowFly Cricket Free A3 Poster Giveaway



**This is your unique chance to get an individually numbered  
Collectors BlowFly Cricket Caricature A3 size Poster  
with all early registrations (before 25 October)  
for the 2021-2022 BlowFly Cricket Season at  
James Park – Hornsby or  
WPHCCC James Henty Reserve – Dural**

***Register at: [play.cricket.com.au/club/blowfly-cricket-club/7c4ed8ad-86d8-eb11-a7ad-2818780da0cc](https://play.cricket.com.au/club/blowfly-cricket-club/7c4ed8ad-86d8-eb11-a7ad-2818780da0cc)***



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