

# Annual General Meeting Chair Report



Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020

The Taverners Australia Sydney Branch, Chairman's report for 2019-2020

Let me start by thanking our Honorary Patron, Brian Booth MBE, and wish him well in his recovery from a recent fall. Thanks also to the support of Brett Lee, our Honorary President and Trent Copeland, our Honorary Playing Captain, who is again donning the "baggy Blue" and bowling with distinction.

Nationally the Taverners agreement with Cricket Australia, who named The Lord's Taverners Australia as cricket's official community partner has continued. The partnership is actioned through "The Sporting Chance Fund" with the aim of raising significant funding to grow programs and initiatives focussed on the engagement of girls and women, multicultural communities; indigenous Australians and people with a disability. The Taverners was granted permission to raise funds at the Adelaide Test in both 2018 & 2019, and at the Sheffield Shield Final.

## **Financial**

Financials for 19-20, total income \$29,641 against previous year \$33,191, with an operating profit \$754, and total retained members funds of \$39,787, maintains our branch in a healthy position for the future. Sponsorships to our beneficiaries amounted to \$7500, which shows the cautious approach we have taken over the last year. Since February/March with Covid-19 our branch has been in semi-hibernation without our normal ability to hold any functions or events, so our passive fund raising through our wine offer and raffle are super important to help generate revenue (see below). As I have stated over last 2 years there remains a determination to build a stronger committee with the support of more individuals who have the time to spare. We are in the position to help support new and current beneficiaries in the year ahead.

## **Membership**

Our membership numbers are not as high as we want which has contributed to lower revenue. Objectives moving forward are to retain members and encourage new members to join by offering more value and to communicate to our members more often, which we have been doing with regular newsletters and an updated website

<https://lordstavernersnsw.org.au/> .

**THE LORD'S TAVERNERS AUSTRALIA SYDNEY BRANCH INCORPORATED**  
**WWW.LORDSTAVERNERSAUS.ORG.AU**  
**CHAIRMAN: RICHARD LUCAS | SECRETARY: NIC SAVAGE**  
**TREASURER: JASON MONTEATH | HONORARY PATRON: BRIAN BOOTH**

## **Fund Raising**

Our main event this year was our SCG Taverners Vintage Cricketer Lunch on 13th November 2019, honouring Australian cricketers Alex Blackwell and Gavin Robertson. Supported by Stephanie Brantz, our fantastic MC, The Grade Cricketer and Trent Copeland, who made a special appearance while playing in the Shield game. It was thoroughly enjoyable afternoon with over 100 Taverner members, friends and their guests. Many thanks go to Nic Andrews and the committee's support for organising the function.

Passive Fund Raising: the national Taverner raffle proceeds were lower than expected at \$2321 and the new national raffle for 2020-2021 is just being distributed to all members in both electronic format at the following link, and also via traditional printed tickets to all members. <https://www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=3ec8n&sref=bcu9fpk2&fbclid=IwAR2VX2nlcyqZKBt0OxfWI5loJTDlig9vUOosdDCUACNyJznxBgxp1TQ-b8>

I encourage all to buy some tickets on-line which is a very easy process to help support our beneficiaries.

We have a special Geoff Merrill Shiraz vintage which was released for the 2019-2020 and we are hoping this will help contribute healthy funds by purchasing cases at \$228 inc. delivery. We do have DGR status through The Tavs Foundation providing tax deductible receipts for donations of \$2 or more. We are grateful for all donations received and encourage further donations to help continue to raise funds to support our beneficiaries.

## **Beneficiaries**

Annually the Taverners support the National Cricket Inclusion Championships. This Carnival is held in January in Geelong, with the total national Taverner contribution being \$100k, and Sydney supporting at \$7.5k, New South Wales teams claimed two titles at this carnival, with the Blind and Low Vision team claiming its third successive title with a victory over South Australia in the final, while the NSW Deaf and Hard of Hearing team created history by winning its first ever title, by defeating South Australia in the final. The NSW team for Cricketers with an Intellectual Disability also had a successful tournament, and a more detailed report of these Championships can be seen on our website.

## **Thanks**

As always a very big thank you to the Sydney committee for their support and commitment to the Sydney branch. Enormous thanks to Nic Savage and Jason Monteath, our Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Thanks also to Diana Fisher, her energy and enthusiasm is incredible, Nic Andrews, Juris Turmanis and Darren Parmenter. We bid goodbye to Luke Murphy, from Cricket NSW who gave a lot of energy for the short time he was involved, Kevin Finegan, wishing him well through his health issues, and Edward Berry.

I encourage members old and current to re-join the Taverner family and support the many worthwhile causes "*giving the young and disadvantaged a sporting chance.*" For those of you wanting to become a member of the Taverners, an application form can be downloaded from our website <http://lordstavernersnsw.org.au/>  
To remain sustainable, we are looking for further support from individuals and companies and if you can support in any way, please don't hesitate to contact myself or any of the committee.

Richard Lucas, Chairman, The Lord's Taverners Australia, Sydney Branch, October 2020