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Giving disadvantaged youth a sporting chance
So much has happened since my report in the 2008 Lord's Taverners magazine. The spirit generated at the Canberra National Council Meeting has certainly carried forward for the ensuing twelve months. The ten active Lord's Taverners branches around Australia made much money and merriment as they pursued our mission of “giving the young and disadvantaged a sporting chance”.

The celebrations that were held in Perth, Melbourne, Darwin and Newcastle to commemorate the 100th birthday of Sir Donald Bradman were very, very special. The tone of each function was a tribute to the memory of our greatest ever sportsman.

We worked closely with Damien Bown and Neale Price from Cricket Australia to finally get to a position where we shook hands with Cricket Australia Chairman Jack Clarke for the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding for a working partnership on all matters to do with Indigenous Cricket. In particular the Lord’s Taverners helped sponsor the Imparja Cup in Alice Springs, and have promised $20,000 for the Indigenous team to tour England in June/July this year.

An even bigger project is our involvement as the major sponsor for the upcoming Tri Nations Cricket Series between England, South Africa and Australia in Melbourne in December 2009. This is our key interaction with Ausrapid and their vibrant CEO Robyn Smith.

The Australian Lord’s Taverners outfitted the Australian Blind Cricket Team for their Test series versus England in Sydney in late 2008. Whilst the Aussies lost, it was a truly illuminating experience to be part of.

The overall sum of monies generated this past year exceeded $260,000. Western Australia had a crackerjack function prior to the Test in Perth, and the Victorians had a first in that they ran the Boxing Day Breakfast within the MCG in conjunction with Cricket Victoria.

The Sundowner in Adelaide continued to be a class evening with Mike Coward and Martin Crowe. In fact ALL the branches pulled their weight to produce a stellar year of successful functions.

The Wine tasting in Darwin, the Golf Day in Peel Region, the Bradman Dinner and Golf Day in Newcastle, the Race Day in Sydney, the “best ever” Ron Barassi Debate in Hobart, the Invincibles Dinner in Canberra and the ongoing Lunches and Golf Day in Brisbane.

Perhaps the biggest success for the year has been the raising of $55,000 net from the raffle for two tickets to England for the Lord’s Test, with the airline tickets donated by Etihad Airways. Great work.

This money will support our ongoing work with Cricket Australia as an official Community Partner.

Thank you so much to all the Chairmen, the Committees and of course our great band of supporters. 2009/2010 promises to be an extremely exciting time for the Lord’s Taverners of Australia as we progress down the path of extending our activities in conjunction with Cricket Australia and the Australian Cricketers’ Association.
The past 12 months has seen a consolidation of the foundation work that has taken place over the last 2 years. Our standing with our beneficiaries at the national level is certainly cemented and our work is being regularly reported and acknowledged at all levels. An example of this recognition was the donation made to the National body by the Australian Cricket Writers’ Association and I would like to acknowledge Mike Coward and Malcolm Conn from that Association.

The edition of this magazine is also testament to the continued success of our Branches and the goodwill the organisation enjoys throughout Australia with our members, beneficiaries and stakeholders. The editor now has a task of filtering through a host of good stories recording achievements of the organisation. I will concentrate on some national initiatives in this column.

Last year, our Chairman’s message included a report on the wide range of sponsorship we are currently providing across Australia and the significant amounts of these sponsorships. This year, our total sponsorship exceeded $260,000 — given to the young and disadvantaged by our Branches and National office. This is a tremendous effort and shows that our organisation is making a difference.

On the National level, we have not only continued with three National sponsorships covering Indigenous Cricket, Blind Cricket and Intellectually Disabled Cricket but have also confirmed future sponsorships carrying significantly higher amounts.

Firstly, we are committed to sponsoring the Indigenous touring team to England at an amount of $20,000. This tour is of great significance to the whole Indigenous movement and I was privileged to be in Alice Springs when the team was announced. To see the exuberance shown by these young men in the knowledge that they will be following in the footsteps and spirit of their ancestors was a moving moment. The tour is a culmination of many years planning and all Taverners can be proud that we have contributed to the journey.

In addition to this tour, the Imparja Cup continues to be a top priority for the Lord’s Taverners Australia both at a branch and national level. It has become a sporting showcase for the indigenous community.

Last year, our Chairman announced a $30,000 sponsorship for the Intellectually Disabled Tri Nations Tournament in 2009 – the largest single sponsorship ever undertaken by the Taverners. The tournament takes place in Melbourne in December and our support of the event goes well beyond the sponsorship. The National Chairman is on the organising Committee and has identified a number of sponsorship opportunities. The Victorian Branch members will also be helping out with logistics during the tournament.

Blind Cricket continues to be another beneficiary and we were delighted to sponsor the Ashes series this year in Sydney. These players have a tremendous passion for cricket and their country and overcome enormous difficulties to play the game.

Our Chairman has already mentioned the partnership with Cricket Australia and I am delighted that this platform will enable our organisation to move to another level. Our grass roots support and our members’ passion for “the young and disadvantaged” must remain the cornerstone of our organisation. But a positive relationship with Cricket Australia will allow us to achieve more and make an even bigger difference.

Finally, I thank all members and sponsors for their continued support. Your generosity is really appreciated.

**Krafty Rules with Krafty Rules**

By Vic Levi

Northern Territory Taverner, Wayne Kraft (Krafty), mine host of the legendary Overlanders’ Steakhouse in Alice Springs, came up with another piece of fund-raising genius this year.

You will all remember how Krafty got to see Buckingham Palace because he wore his Taverners’ tie during the Royal Visit in 2000. (See last year’s Taverner – “From the Alice – To the Palace”).

Well he has done it again, this time with a tea towel.

Krafty had the hilarious “RULES OF CRICKET” printed on the tea towel in time for us to get it signed by Mattie Hayden and other former test cricketers at The Alice during this year’s Imparja Cup.

For the uninitiated, here are the “rules”:

**HOLD THE PRESSES FOR OUR NEW BRANCH**

As this 2009 edition of The Taverner goes to press, we have some exciting news about the formation of a new Branch of the Lord’s Taverners Australia on the NSW North Coast.

With the blessing of Newcastle and Sydney Branches, Mr Stan Gilchrist, father of Adam Gilchrist, has convened a meeting at Lismore on May 20 to form the new Branch to be known as Northern Rivers.

Stan, a former school teacher who is well known throughout the region, responded with great vigour to a call from our National Executive to form the new Branch.

The formation meeting will be held at the new Goonellabah Sports Centre in Lismore at 7 pm.

National Chairman, Greg Brown, Queensland Branch President, Ross Duncan, and Chairman Lew Cooper, and Newcastle Chairman, Vic Levi, will attend the historic meeting.

The Newcastle Branch has pledged $500 to help form the Branch which will be the 12th across the nation.

**FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY TREASURER**

MICHAEL MARTIN OAM

Best of lucky Krafty. Our love to Karen, who has not been well.

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For the uninitiated, here are the “rules”:

You have two sides, one out in the field and one in. Each man that’s in the side that’s in goes out and when he’s out he comes in and the next man goes in until he’s out.

Sometimes you get men still in and not out.

When a man goes out to go in, the men who are out try to get him out and when he is out he goes in and the next man comes out and goes in.

There are two men called umpires who stay out all the time and they decide when the men who are in are out.

When both sides have been in and all the men are out and both sides have been out twice after all the men have been in, including those that are not out, that’s the end of the game.

Best of lucky Krafty. Our love to Karen, who has not been well.
Australia’s wicketkeeper-batsman, Brad Haddin, has emerged from the shadow of the great Adam Gilchrist, establishing himself as a champion in his own right.

Who could forget Brad’s sensational 169 off 222 balls with twenty-four 4s and two 6s for Australia against New Zealand at Adelaide on November 28 last year.

And what about his 94 off 136 balls with seven 4s and four 6s against South Africa in Perth on December 17 last year.

His ODI form has been just as impressive. Two one day innings which spring to mind were his 109 run out off 114 balls with eight 4s and three 6s against New Zealand in Sydney on February 8 this year and his 88 n.o. off just 65 balls with five 4s and three 6s against New Zealand in Brisbane five days later.

In this exclusive interview with The Taverner prior to the Indian and South African tours, Brad was the first to admit that we will never see another Gilly.

“Gilly is a phenomenal talent and has left a legacy for keepers not only in Australia but around the world,” he said. Brad is excited about leaving his own mark as Australia’s wicketkeeper and he is certainly achieving that goal.
Q: First of all Brad, congratulations on the birth of your baby boy, Zachary James.
A: Thanks. Zachary was born on the 12th of September. It’s very exciting for myself and my wife Karina. With the Pakistan tour being called off, it was just perfect. I’ve been able to spend a couple of weeks at home with the family. Otherwise I would have been off the day after the birth. I’m lucky I have an understanding wife who has given me the opportunity to follow my dream. Zane has been the centre of my world. He’s healthy and has been sleeping and eating well.

Q: Congratulations are also well deserved on your selection as Australia’s No. 1 wicket-keeper. How does it feel to take over from the incredible Adam Gilchrist?
A: It’s been something I’ve worked towards for a long time and maybe if Adam had kept for another two or three years I might not have had the opportunity. But now I have, I’m just excited about the prospect of leaving my own mark as the Australian wicket-keeper. I just want to enjoy the ride.

Q: Like Gilly, you are outstanding with the bat as well as with the gloves. Was Gilly a role model for you in your rise through the grades and then Sheffield Shield ranks?
A: He was someone I think who changed the perception of the way a wicket-keeper was looked at. Obviously, with his explosive batting, from the day Gilly got onto the scene, wicket-keepers weren’t just looked at for their work with the gloves. We were also looked at for what we did with the bat. When you look around the world now the teams are all looking for another Adam Gilchrist. I don’t think this should be happening to this degree. We should be looking for the best wicket-keeper. I don’t think we will ever see another Gilly. He is a phenomenal talent and he has left a legacy for keepers not only in Australia but around the world.

But I believe that first and foremost you are picked as a wicket-keeper. Obviously you have got to score runs as well as the time you can on your batting. But the passion for most wicket-keepers is wicketkeeping. You have to contribute with the bat and make sure you are successful in that area but wicketkeeping should be the number one consideration.

Q: You have proved to be an excellent captain of the NSW side. Is the Australian captaincy or vice captaincy a long term goal for you?
A: I haven’t really thought about it. I was a very reluctant captain with NSW. It’s not something I lay awake at night and think about. I think it’s quite tough for a wicket-keeper to take the full time job as captain and I’ve seen the work that Ricky and now, recently, Michael Clarke, have put in and I tell you what, they can have it. But if there was a personal interest I wouldn’t really have a desire to captain Australia. I think for a wicket-keeper you’ve got too much to do.

Q: Brad, when and where did you start playing cricket seriously?
A: It started when I was 18. At the time I was coming through as a cricketer, the Canberra Comets arrived on the scene and I think I was very lucky to get the chance to play first class cricket at that young age and be exposed to first class competition. I had 18 months playing at that level and that was my first real taste of serious cricket. Mike Veletta played in that team and there was also a larger than life character by the name of Merv Hughes, now a national selector. So it was a very enjoyable time for me and I think I was quite lucky to get that opportunity to play at that level. A lot of guys of my age where playing in the 17s and 19s level but I had the luxury of being involved in a national competition at a first class level. That gave me a little bit of a leg up. It was very exciting and enjoyable. We weren’t expected to do real well but we had a couple of great wins against Victoria and it was good to be part of those. It was a massive learning experience. It also allowed me to make some mistakes and learn from those. I knew I was off to NSW after the first year with the Comets.

Q: What about your very first steps in cricket. Where were they?
A: I went through the junior ranks in Canberra. My family was always very sport orientated. I have two younger brothers and we were always involved in sport over the weekends. Our first taste of cricket came from our father. I can remember how I first became a wicket-keeper. It was probably in an Under 12 trial. I remember you had to put your hand up if you were a fast bowler and when you are under 12 everyone thinks they are a fast bowler so I put my hand up. I was very short and they took two other guys to the nets to bowl. Then they asked for opening batters and I put my hand up again. Again they picked two guys to go in front of me to bat first. Then they asked for wicket-keepers and no-one put their hand up. My first thought was well how hard could it be to catch a ball so I put my hand up and the next thing I knew I was the wicketkeeper for the ACT. At that age it’s all natural. I was a pretty active kid and mucked about in the backyard bowling spin and fast and batting. So in all honesty I thought how hard could it be to catch when the guys were bowling to me and I would be in the game every ball. So I put my hand up and here I am now on my way to a tour of India for Australia.

Q: Who influenced you most in those early days?
A: I was influenced a lot by my parents. They were always very supportive and encouraged my brothers and I to do the best we could in whatever sport we chose. Once I got to grade cricket, I spent three years in fifth grade with Queanbeyan. I wasn’t moving up the grades because I was too short. Then Greg Irvine from the ANU Cricket Club asked me to come and wicket keep in first grade. So I went from fifth grade to first grade. Then Greg Irvine and Peter Solway mentored me through the first two years with ANU. I was very small and didn’t have much power in those days but Greg Irvine saw something in me and took an enormous gamble on me. At that time in my career it was just great fun playing to a team with mentors around me. I was 15 and Greg took a punt and copped a lot of flak but I was oblivious to all that. I was just enjoying playing cricket and going to training. I hope now those guys who gave him flak can look in the eye and say “well done.”

Q: The NSW Branch of the Taverners has a special interest in you because you are the Captain of their Branch. Have you had any previous links with The Taverners?
A: Yes. That’s right and I’ve been a little disappointed because my many commitments haven’t allowed me to get involved with the Taverners yet. I hope I can juggle my schedule so that I can get more involved, have a game with the Taverners and help out in other ways.

Q: What are your hopes for the coming season?
A: I’m just that excited about going to India and taking them on there on their home soil. I’m really looking forward to the challenge. They are one country who play their home conditions really well. But India is not as foreign to Australian cricketers any more. We’ve spent a lot of time over there. We enjoy the culture and playing cricket over there now so it doesn’t hold the demons that it used to for Australians. I’m really looking forward to the contest and to getting involved on the massive stage in India.

Q: Who do you regard as the best bowlers you have kept to and the best you have faced as a batsman?
A: I think the best bowler I’ve kept to ( and I might be biased because basically my whole career has been with NSW) has been Stuart MacGill. Particularly on a last day wicket at the SCG when he turns the ball and you are always in the game. My development as a wicketkeeper had a lot to do with having the luxury of keeping to someone like Stuart. The best bowler I’ve faced as a batsman is easy. Shane Warne. I was only lucky enough to face him a couple of times in one day cricket. He had a tremendous aura about him. He could put the ball on a ten cent piece. I just really enjoyed the occasion. A lot of people say that because you are a wicketkeeper you tend to watch the bowler’s hand more closely and you are able to pick the spinners a lot easier. I won’t go down that path. But the problem is you have still got to play the ball. I’ve known a lot of players who can pick the spin quite easily but it’s another thing to be able to play it.

Q: Who do you regard as the best batsman in the world today?
A: I really enjoyed watching Brian Lara. The way he could dominate a game and he had the ability, once he got a hundred, to start his innings again. He was just great entertainment value for the fans. I think Ricky Ponting now as well. The fighting spirit that he has now and how he gets runs in all conditions against all bowlers. Those two stand out for me.

Q: Who are the best of Australia’s up and coming wicketkeepers?
A: In State cricket at the moment the stocks out there look quite good. Tim Payne, down in Tasmania, is a quality glove man who can bat but all around we are in good shape as far as wicketkeepers are concerned.

Q: And finally, what advice have you for our youngsters who want to become top line wicketkeepers?
A: The one thing I have always gone by is enjoyment. I enjoy the trade and I enjoy the game of Cricket. The bottom line is, if you want to be a good wicketkeeper, opening batsman or bowler, you really have to love what you are doing. There are tough days and things don’t always go your way but you’ve really got to love what you are doing and that’s how I feel about my game. I enjoy the good days and I also enjoy the bad days and learning from those and trying to make myself a better cricketer.
The spirit that took Australia’s first overseas touring cricket team on a 16,000km adventure to England 141 years ago was alive and well at the Imparja Cup Indigenous Cricket Carnival at Alice Springs in February.

Back in 1868, a courageous band of Aboriginal cricketers – half a world away from their homeland – became the first foreign team to challenge England at its summer game. They were the pathfinders who led the way to the Ashes competitions which have thrilled generations of Australians ever since they began more than 130 years ago.

Today, Indigenous cricketers are showing the same resolve and ingenuity to get to The Alice to compete in the Imparja Cup, the Aboriginal equivalent of the Sheffield Shield.

The extraordinary journey of 34-year-old Maurice Nona, who lives on the tiny Torres Strait island of Badu, 42 kms north of Thursday Island, is a wonderful example.

Maurice began his adventure when he set out from his home for Thursday Island in a small tinny with two of his mates.

The seas became so choppy the tinny was in danger of capsizing and they began to think about turning back.

Desperately in need of ballast to hold the tinny down in the rough sea, Maurice got a bright idea.

He spotted a dugong close to the boat, speared it and hauled it aboard solving the weight problem. They made it to Thursday Island and then took a larger boat to Horn Island, close to the mainland, where Maurice boarded a small plane to fly to Cairns.

He made the final leg of his epic pilgrimage by conventional passenger aircraft to The Alice where he turned out for the Cooktown Crocs in Division 1 of the Communities Competition.

The journey to Imparja of 16-year-old Trent Clemments is almost as dramatic.

Trent, a very talented all-rounder making his Cup debut for Queensland, set out from his home in flood ravaged Ingham for the Alice with his dad in the family car.

Floodwaters blocked their way about 2 kms from the Ingham airport so they abandoned the car and headed towards the nearby railway line which was just above the water.

Trent and his dad dragged his luggage and cricket gear along the rail lines to the airport where the pilot of a two-seater aircraft who had just delivered the newspapers to Ingham from Townsville agreed to take the boy to Townsville.

From Townsville he flew by passenger plane to Brisbane and then on to The Alice.

Trent’s tenacity paid off. He made 63 not out against the ACT, took one wicket off nine balls and became the youngest member of the Australian Indigenous team picked to tour England between June 20 and July 19.

Queensland was again the champion side in the Imparja Cup, beating Tasmania in the final. NSW won the Women’s competition, beating Tasmania in the final. Northwest won Division 1 of the Communities Competition and Division 2 was won by the Tangentyere side, also from Alice Springs.

Player of this year’s Imparja Series was undoubtedly Queensland all-rounder Preston White who took eight wickets for three in one match and hit a brilliant 100 in the final.

Watch out for another youngster who made the Australian team, leg spinner Chris Swain with the Warnie lookalike run up.

One of the highlights for me was the game between an Indigenous Honours side and the Australian Cricket Association Masters team which included Ashley Mallett, Brad Hogg, Matt Elliott, Greg Campbell, Ryan Campbell and Wayne “Cracker” Holdsworth.

The confrontation between the old off-spinner Ashley Mallett and crowd favourite and big hitter, Keith Stevens, of Victoria, was worth travelling to Alice Springs to see.

Keith, who hit 16 sixes during the tournament and six sixes in one match against Western Australia, took to Ashley’s first ball and clouted it out of the ground.

He tried to do the same thing with Ashley’s next ball but the wily “offie” bowled it from behind the crease and big Keith skied it for Brad Hogg to run 30 metres and take a great catch.

The Imparja Cup competition, with the excellent coverage of NITV and the help of Cricket Australia, especially Michael McGregor, and The Lord’s Taverners, is going from strength to strength.

NITV’s John Bain and his team, especially commentators, Jeff Hardy and John Duckett, continue to do a fantastic job promoting Indigenous cricket.

They would be the first to agree that it is the kind of spirit behind the Imparja Cup that is significant.

A spirit that makes a cricketer brave heavy seas in a tinny just to compete and helps a youngster overcome a flood to meet his sporting destiny.
Top left: Imparja Cup champions Queensland with their trophy.
Top right: Cricket Australia Chairman Jack Clarke presents an award to members of the victorious Queensland team.
Middle left: Taverners National Secretary, Michael Martin and National Chairman, Greg Brown, present the Taverners’ trophy to the winning NSW women’s team captain Samantha Hinton.
Middle right: Ex-test stars, Brad Hogg (left) and Ashley Mallett (right) congratulate the big hitting Keith Stevens.
Bottom left: Matt Hayden, Terry Alderman and Bill Leane, representing the Australian Cricketer’s Association at the Imparja Cup.
Bottom right: Matt Hayden, Cricket Australia Chairman Jack Clarke and Indigenous cricket leader Vince Copely with members of the Australian Indigenous team picked to tour England in June and July.
Left: Trent Clemments, who got through floodwaters at Ingham to get to the Imparja Cup, gained a place in the Australian Indigenous team.

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS TOURING TEAM

Daniel Christian  SA (capt)
Peter O’Callaghan  ACT (vc)
Trent Clemments  QLD
Joshua Lalor  NSW
Brad Lovell  TAS
Ben Mainhardt  QLD
Darcy Short  NT
Chris Swain  QLD
Cameron Trask  QLD
Lewis Upton  WA
Dane Ugle  WA
Josh Walmsley  TAS
Preston White  QLD
Worrin Williams  QLD

Coach:
Michael Mainhardt  QLD
NEW ROLE OPENS UP FOR
Matty Hayden

Former champion opening batsman Matthew Hayden hopes to dedicate some of his “life after test cricket” to help Indigenous cricketers around Australia.

The two-time World Cup winner gave this assurance when he was the special guest of honour at the Imparja Cup Indigenous Cricket carnival at Alice Springs in February.

During his stay in the Red Centre, Matt also led a Cricket Australia contingent which included CA Chairman Jack Clarke and former test team mate Brad Hogg to several small communities including Tiunjala, 120 kms south of Alice Springs.

Matt’s visit also included a stint on the School of the Air, answering questions from youngsters in many parts of the outback.

In an interview with ABC presenter, Scott Levi, Matt said he was “blown away” by the standard of the Imparja cricket and his reception in the communities.

He said he was sorting out how he could be effective in helping to find Australia’s next indigenous test cricketer.

“The Imparja Cup is significant because it does attract the best of the best from most regions of Australia,” he said.

He said it was inevitable that he would become involved in the development of indigenous cricketers in the long term.

“Right now it’s a matter of finding out how I can be most effective,” he said.

“That picture is probably not one hundred per cent clear to me just right now but it is starting to take form.

“The experiences I have had over the last couple of days have been phenomenal.

“No-one realizes just how unique and how remote some of these communities are. For some, there are incredible natural barriers just getting to venues.

“At the moment we have seen the opposite ends of the scale with the tragedy of the fires in Victoria and the floods of the tropical north.”

He said the underlying respect for the Imparja tournament and commitment to the Indigenous cricket program was so significant that it was great to be part of the story.

“It opens yours eyes up and you think there is a real impact we can make as a cricket community,” he said.

The Australian Cricket Association Masters had also been well represented at Imparja as part of their program to support regional and indigenous cricket.

Among their representatives at the Alice were Greg Campbell, Greg Matthews, Matt Elliott, Bradley Hogg and Terry Alderman.

He said these former players were fantastic storytellers of our great game and helped the connection between the baggy green and the indigenous culture.

He also commented on the presence of former test leg spinner, Bob Holland, who was at Imparja as the new President of the Taverners’ Newcastle Branch.

“Here is a man who has been out of the test arena for 30 years but is still playing the game and still loving it,” Matt said. “He is still inspiring young people and still educating young people and still valuing what the cricket culture contributed to his life.

“He has been able to give something back to the Australian community so as far as role models go, cricket, from an historical perspective, has been an incredible creator of that kind of potential to pass the game on.”

Matt also had a comment to make about his old team mate, Shane Warne.

“Warrnie’s still in the game which is the greatest part about Warnie,” he said “He is still there communicating and still has a great passion for the game as you see in his commentary. It is so important to have someone like Shane in the system – someone still communicating his love for the game and his great ability.”

Matt firmly believes sport can be the answer we are looking for to supercede or heal conflict among cultures.

He praised the work done by the Clontarf Foundation, a “not for profit” organization improving the employment, education and life skills of Australia’s teenaged male indigenous population.

Incorporated in Western Australia, the Foundation now has 18 Academies in WA and the Northern Territory.

“The Foundation is helping to provide a functional environment for young people and is preaching and committed to the process of literacy and numeracy,” Matt said.

“Everyone knows how important it is to be able to communicate. Sport then can flourish on the back of that balance.”

He said the great advantage of sport was that it communicated right across the world and across different cultures.

“In fact, it sits above those cultures as a way to get people together,” he said. “It supercedes and heals conflict. It gets people together across the world.”

He said the Olympic Games and the Olympic Spirit were great examples.

“Cricket has also got that uniqueness at its fingertips.

“To me the most important thing is education along with the ability to be able to participate in sport.

“Now I don’t care whether that sport is ping pong or surfing. The same message is true for all sport. The culture, the history, the discipline, the education, the sacrifice, the commitment.

“All of these various elements of any sporting culture, or team culture, are so important to embrace, in life, business and everything.

“It’s something I’m very passionate about.

“I’ve seen some incredible things over the past couple of days including the tremendous ability of our young indigenous community.

“ I’m just blown away by it to be honest. I guess I shouldn’t be.”

“We see a sport like the AFL that has really tried to harness the indigenous community for generations, creating great role models, and there it no coincidence that they are some of our leaders in sport.”

When asked whether he thought cricket could take a leaf out of the AFL Book by following some of those programs, Matt’s answer was simple: “It would be absolutely stupid if it didn’t.”
The formation of an official partnership between the Lord’s Taverners Australia and Cricket Australia on a number of national projects was the highlight of the Taverners’ 2009 National Council Conference in Alice Springs on February 13 this year.

It was a ‘watershed’ decision for both bodies which will open up many exciting opportunities for the two organisations.

Chairman of Cricket Australia, Mr Jack Clarke, addressed the conference and later joined our Chairman, Greg Brown, in announcing the partnership at the Imparja Cup Dinner.

For the second year, our conference was held at Alice Springs to coincide with the Imparja Cup Indigenous Cricket tournament.

The conference was also addressed by the CEO of AUSRAPID, Robyn Smith, who gave a presentation on the very exciting Lord’s Taverners tri-nation series for intellectually disabled cricketers from UK, South Africa and Australia.

Robyn thanked Lord’s Taverners members throughout Australia for their support of intellectually disabled cricketers and said she was looking forward to working with us on the championships. She also gave us an update on the 2009 indoor cricket championships and the tennis classic involving sports people with an intellectual disability.

Indigenous cricket was a major focus of the meeting and Vince Copley gave us a detailed presentation on the indigenous cricket tour of England which will take place from June 20 to July 19 this year. A team of 14 players under 23 years of age has now been selected and will play a total of 12 games during that period. We are endeavouring to arrange a game against the UK Lord’s Taverners and a number of members from the National Council will be in London during the tour.

The Lord’s Taverners Australia is a major sponsor of this tour and the conference agreed to contribute $20,000 towards the cost.

During the last 12 months a small team has been working on a strategic plan and this group made a number of recommendations to the conference. The following strategies to raise both the profile of the Lord’s Taverners Australia and our fundraising capacity were agreed:

- The appointment of National Ambassadors to promote Branch activity and National Sponsorships.
- The establishment of a headline cricket match which would attract media attention. Canberra has been selected as a potential site for such a game during 2009.
- A National Indigenous Cricketer of the Year Award to be discussed with Cricket Australia and hopefully to be awarded at the Allan Border Medal presentation night.
- The creation of a National website which would provide information at a National level, but would also provide links to all our Branches.

The conference was also addressed by the Australian Cricketers’ Association (ACA) and its representatives Matthew Hayden, Terry Alderman and Bill Leane. This association does magnificent work for the wellbeing of both past and present players and there are many synergies between our respective groups. The ACA will be able to introduce our Branches to suitable keynote speakers and other notable attendees at our fundraising functions.

The conference also discussed establishing formal relationships with the Lord’s Taverners U.K. and we have already been in some communication with that body. Another exciting discussion was the possible creation of a new Branch in Northern NSW which has been fully supported by our Sydney and Newcastle Branches.

Finally, the conference did discuss the disastrous Victorian Bushfire situation and agreed that an appropriate donation of perhaps cricket equipment to young sportspeople impacted by this National catastrophe would be consistent with our purpose. The Victorian Branch has the responsibility to identify a suitable donation.

The next National Council Conference will be held in Melbourne in December 2009 to coincide with the Tri Nations series for intellectually disabled cricketers.
England defeated Australia 3-nil in the Blind Cricket Ashes Series held in Sydney in December last year but the Aussies gave their supporters plenty to cheer about with a thrilling tie in the final match.

Incredibly, the Australian side chased down England’s massive 331 runs off 40 overs to snatch the tie with eight wickets down at the Mark and Steve Waugh Oval, Bankstown, on December 17.

England won the toss and elected to bat first in the match. Dan Field top scored with 126 and he was well supported by Luke Sugg (59) and Nathan Foy (54).

Best bowler for the Aussies was Matthew McCarthy (QLD) who took 2 for 35.

The batting heroes for Australia were Cory Heberley (QLD) who top scored with 151 and Lindsay Heaven (Vic) who finished with 72.

Five matches were scheduled in the Series but the second game, at The Kings School, Parramatta, was abandoned because of rain after only four overs.

There are three categories of cricketers in international blind cricket – B3 and B2 for partially sighted players and B1 for totally blind players. Each team consists of four B3 players, three from the B2 category and four from B1.

Double runs are awarded for totally blind batsmen and totally blind bowlers must bowl a total of at least 16 overs in each innings or 40% of the overs in a reduced match.

All bowling is under-arm and the ball must contact the pitch at least twice before reaching the batsman and once before a half way line drawn on the pitch.

In the first match of the Ashes Series, at Waitara Oval, Hornsby, Australia went down by only 33 runs.

Victorian Chris Bertuch took two for 55 when England totalled 6 for 315.

Australia replied with 4 for 282 with Nick Haydar (ACT) scoring 105 and Brett Wilson (Vic) 49.

Game 3 at Barker College, Hornsby, was easily won by England when they totaled 6 for 370.

Australia replied with 5 for 235 with Nick Haydar notching his second century.

Haydar was again Australia’s leading batsman in game four with 87 but Australia lost that match by seven wickets.

Once again our blind cricketers thank Lord’s Taverners throughout Australia for their generous sponsorship.
When Tasmania’s Lord’s Taverners helped young Mika Kirk-Williams play hockey for the State at the Pacific School Games in Canberra late last year they granted the boy’s desperately ill mother her dearest wish.

Mika’s mum, Anne had supported her son’s nomination for the representative team but because of her serious illness was overwhelmed by the cost involved.

When she was told the Taverners would help pay for Mika’s trip she said she felt like she had won the lottery.

Mika took part in the 12 and Under tournament with teams from the ACT, Northern Territory, Singapore, New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. It was the first time hockey had been included in the Games and Tasmania finished sixth.

Sadly, Mika’s mother died in January this year.

At the funeral, her daughter Sophie told how the Taverners donation had made her mother happy and had removed a large amount of stress from her mind at a difficult time.

The Tassie Taverners went to the aid of three other very deserving young people during the year.

Sixteen year old paraplegic, Dimity Broadby, of Hobart was one of two young people who won a $1000 scholarship and commemorative certificate as part of the Ron Barassi Award.

The award is made at the Ron Barassi Debate at Wrest Point in Hobart every year to a young person who has displayed spirit, courage and determination in pursuit of their goals.

Prior to becoming a paraplegic at the age of 14, Dimity was a keen netballer and was also involved in soccer, Aussie Rules, athletics and hockey.

In 2005, she came to the attention of scouts at a Paralympics talent search day while playing table tennis at the YMCA.

When she started playing wheelchair basketball in 2007, her talent was immediately recognized and that year she competed in the “Day of Difference” Junior Disabled Games in Sydney, winning a bronze medal playing for her state.

She was selected in the Australian All Stars team that defeated the USA and also won gold medals in singles and doubles at table tennis.

Dimity was named female player of the tournament and now plays with Dandenong Rangers in the national women’s wheelchair basketball league.

It seems her ambition to represent Australia at the 2012 Paralympics is very achievable.

The other Ron Barassi awardee is 15 year old Trent McLaughlin, of Hobart, a member of the Eastern Shore Sharks Swimming Club, who achieved a national qualifying time in 50m breaststroke that made him eligible for last year’s Australian Swimming Championships and Beijing Olympic Trials.

He won four gold medals in last year’s Tasmanian Open Championships in 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly.

Trent’s ambition is the represent Australia at the 2012 Olympics.

The third youngster recognized is 12 year old Jayden Broad, of Launceston who won the $1000 Jim Bacon Award presented every year to a young person with a disability who displays sportsmanship and a spirit of fun in his or her sporting endeavours.

Jayden suffers from Aspergers Syndrome, which normally affects a child’s social, emotional and communication skills but participates in athletics, gymnastics, ten pin bowling, soccer and cricket.

He has been a member of the Special Olympics since 2006 and last year he was captain of the Tasmanian Athletics Team at the Special Olympics National Junior Games in Canberra.

He was also a member of the gold medal winning soccer team.

Photos from top:

Paul Sheahan with Mika Kirk-Williams
Dimity Broadby receiving her award from Deputy Premier Lara Giddings
Trent McLaughlin receiving his award from Deputy Premier Lara Giddings
Jayden Broad being presented with his award by MLC Doug Parkinson at the Barassi Debate.
BRADMAN 100th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

By Harry Sorensen

Lord’s Taverners WA celebrated the life of Sir Donald Bradman with a special luncheon held in the WACA’s Boundary Room on Wednesday August 27 last year.

The 300 attendees were treated to stellar performances from our evergreen MC Trevor Jenkins and our three excellent speakers – Alan Edwards, John Inverarity and Graeme Wood. Alan reflected on what it was like to play against Bradman’s “Invincibles” at the WACA in 1948 and Graeme proposed a toast to the memory of Sir Donald. John provided his insight into Bradman “the man” from his experiences as a near neighbour in Adelaide in the early ’80s.

Inverarity referred to Sir Donald’s reputation as a prolific letter writer and added the little-known fact that as such, the light in Sir Donald’s study was invariably on until the early hours of the morning.

Members and their guests were also entertained with a special “appearance” from The Don himself, via an audio tape of a wonderfully humorous speech he made to the Lord’s Taverners in Adelaide in 1986.

All this was interspersed with historic video footage of the “Great Man” in action, capping off a truly memorable afternoon.

Steve Hall, WACA Museum Curator, and Geoff Havercroft, WA Lord’s Taverners Committee Member, put on display an outstanding collection of WACA Museum pieces highlighting Sir Donald’s life.

Special guests included Lord’s Taverners National Chairman, Greg Brown, who travelled from Melbourne to join us on this historic occasion; Kevin Skipworth, Official Secretary to the Governor of Western Australia; Tim Regan, Australian Deaf Cricket representative and Grant Cross, Australian Intellectually Disabled Cricket representative.

The 300 attendees were treated to stellar performances from our evergreen MC Trevor Jenkins, Auctioneer John Garland and the various sponsors – University of Western Australia; Integrated Travel, Channel 9, Ferngrove Wines, Patersons Securities, Caffarelli & Associates and the WACA.

Mike Hussey with Mike Snell, LTWA Chairman

TEST BREAKFAST ANOTHER SELL-OUT

The 645 Taverners and their guests who rose early to attend the Taverners’ Annual Test Match Breakfast on December 16 certainly received value for money.

Not only did they hear from South African legend Barry Richards, from Australia’s most experienced and travelled cricket writer, Mike Coward, and from Australian Test and ODI Star, WA’s own Mike Hussey, but they got, also, to watch some of their cricketing heroes rolling their arms over in the practice nets.

The venue for the Lord’s Taverners Annual Test Match Breakfast, for the past few years, has been in the grounds of the WACA, in a large marquee, adjacent to the practice wickets.

Support for this annual event has been such that there is not a hotel in Perth capable of accommodating the numbers now supporting this event.

Lead speaker, Mike Coward, said that the coming series of Test Matches versus South Africa were the most eagerly awaited in recent times. Barry Richards, one of the finest talents of the 20th century, whose place in history was cut short by South Africa’s exclusion from participation in World Cricket, entertained guests with his comments on the many changes to cricket in his lifetime. Mike Hussey gave us a taste of what we could expect over the following nine months – 11 Test Matches and a host of ODIs and Twenty 20 fixtures.

Chairman, Mike Snell, particularly thanked MC Trevor Jenkins, Auctioneer John Garland and the various sponsors – University of WA, Integrated Travel, Channel 9, Ferngrove Wines, Patersons Securities, Caffarelli & Associates and the WACA.

Marcus North receiving the congratulations of Mike Hussey.

MARCUS NORTH JOINS ELITE COMPANY

With a score of 117 in his first Test Match at the Wanderers Ground in South Africa, Marcus North has joined an elite band of Australian batsmen to have scored a century in his first game wearing the baggy green.

From an early age, Marcus North was destined to play cricket for Australia – but it took a little longer than his many supporters had expected!

Lord’s Taverners WA recognised his undoubted talent in 1996 when he was honoured by being named Junior Taverner of the Year. The following year, during an Australian Youth team’s tour of Pakistan, he showcased his talent with a remarkable double of 200 and 134 in a match at Sheikhupura.

Marcus was appointed captain of the Western Australian Warriors at the start of the 2007/08 season, recognising his consistent performances over a number of years.

He is now in every sense a professional cricketer, plying his trade during the England summer with stints, at various times, with County teams Derbyshire, Durham, Gloucestershire, Hampshire and Lancashire.

In all forms of cricket – Tests, First-class, List A and Twenty 20 – Marcus has scored 13391 runs (including 30 hundreds) as a well-organised left-handed batsman, taken 165 wickets with his right-arm off breaks and snared a total of 149 catches.

Lord’s Taverners WA is delighted to see one of its Junior Taverner Award winners achieve this well-earned success.

Mike Hussey with Mike Snell, LTWA Chairman

Top: (l-r) Guest Speaker, John Inverarity; John Moody, LTWA President; Kevin Skipworth, Official Secretary to the Governor of WA; Greg Brown, LTWA Chairman.

Above: Ros Heal, WACA Executive Assistant; Laurie Sawle, LTWA Honorary Life Member.

John Moody, LTWA President, His Excellency, The Governor of WA, Dr Ken Michael AC, Hon Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mike Snell, LTWA Chairman (Photo courtesy Rob O’Connor)
**KEVIN GARTRELL IS WA’s VINTAGE CRICKETER**

Midland-Guildford Cricket Club and Kevin Gartrell have an association that spans more than 50 years.

When selected in the 1st XI in the 1952/53 season, at the age of 16, no-one could have anticipated that this wiry, red headed left-hander would subsequently serve his club in the capacity of captain, coach, committee man, secretary, treasurer, president and curator – a range of duties and service probably unequalled in Australian cricket!

Kevin holds Midland-Guildford’s record for most games played (249); highest number of runs (7649); most runs in a season (898); and highest opening partnership (200 with Peter Colquhoun).

Over the years Kevin played in two premiership teams, scored seven centuries, captured 281 wickets and took 194 catches. He represented Western Australia in ten first-class matches between 1959 and 1963, scoring 482 runs at 25.36, with one century. Kevin’s contribution to Western Australian cricket extends far beyond his exploits on the field.

He was one of the architects, and a major contributor to the highly successful Lilac Hill Festival Match played each year since 1990; and he has coached some of the State’s most successful cricketers including Damien Martyn, Tom Moody, Brendon Julian and Simon Katich.

Lord’s Taverners WA honoured Kevin Gartrell as its 2008 Vintage Cricketer at a special luncheon held in Perth.

**SIR JAMES CRUTHERS IS NUMBER ONE**

Sir James Cruthers AO has accepted the invitation to become Ticker-holder No 1 of Lord’s Taverners Western Australia. He succeeds the late Sir Charles Court who had held that honour since Lord’s Taverners was established in Western Australia in 1982.

Because the Lord’s Taverners UK was established by a group of men from the theatre and arts community, when the WA Branch was formed some 30 years later, it seemed natural to offer the post of President to a gentleman closely associated with the arts and entertainment industry in Perth.

Sir James was a natural choice and served as President until work commitments took him to New York.

Sir James’ earlier work experience was in newspapers as a cadet journalist with the Daily News. In 1958 he was appointed founding general manager, later Chairman of TVW Channel 7.

Other chairmanships included Australian Film Corporation, News American Publishing Inc, where he was personal advisor to Rupert Murdoch, and on his return to Perth, The Sunday Times.

Sir James is a philanthropist who established TVW’s Telethon and Perth’s annual Christmas Pageant and personally supports a wide range of other charitable organizations.

Sir James and his wife Sheila are strong supporters of the arts, with Lady Cruthers especially interested in twentieth-century art by Australian women. In May this year Sir James and Lady Cruthers donated the Cruthers Collection – more than 400 works by 155 Australian female artists - to the University of Western Australia.

**RECORD FIELD AT GOLF DAY**

The sixth annual Lord’s Taverners/Redkite Charity Golf Day at the picturesque Lake Karrinyup Country Club last August attracted a record field of 146 golfers.

A total of $28,524 was raised and divided equally between Lord’s Taverners WA and Redkite. This amount was enhanced by the generous bidding of Peter Wesley who acquired a magnificent Cricket Bat with Sir Donald Bradman’s autograph and two tickets to the first day of the Perth Test Match against South Africa.

The golf was of a high standard and the Australian Old Collegians team comprising Graham McCracken, Simon Lill (son of LTA President John), Peter Dominish and Michael Clark took off the Best Gross score trophy with 63; the Future Now/Learning for Life team of Mal Gammon, Ken Norquay, Rob Thompson and David Love won the Best Net prize with 55.25.

The contribution of sponsors, Flying Fish Cove Winery, Citi Smith Barney and Resource Capital Funds was gratefully acknowledged.

Gracie Daniel, Redkite and Peter Davies, LTWA host a happy team of golfers in the Citi Smith Barney marquee.

**JUNIOR TAVERNER AWARDS**

Amanda Williams and Chris Quelch have been announced as the 2008 recipients of the Junior Taverner of the Year Awards. Both have promising futures in the sport.

Amanda, now 19, has already played two seasons with Western Fury and is regarded as a genuine all-rounder.

She first represented WA at U/17 level, when only 13 years of age, and in her first representative match took 2 for 37 and scored 25 not out. Maintaining that early form saw Amanda participate in six under-age carnivals and win selection in the U/17 National Honour Team in three successive years.

Chris celebrated his 18th birthday at the Awards Presentation Luncheon. He has become a regular member of Wanneroo’s First XI and is regarded as an outstanding right arm fast bowling prospect.

Chris has enjoyed a number of years as a WA representative at both U/17 and U/19 levels and was selected as a reserve for Australia’s U/19 World Cup Squad. During this past season he made a successful debut for WA’s Second XI, taking two wickets.

Presentations to Amanda and Chris included an engraved Lord’s Taverners plaque, an embossed green baggy cap and a voucher to purchase sporting equipment to the value of $750. These presentations were made by His Excellency, The Governor of Western Australia, Dr Ken Michael AC.

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Gracie Daniel, Redkite and Peter Davies, LTWA host a happy team of golfers in the Citi Smith Barney marquee.
AND THE WINNER IS ... FROM DARWIN

As the owner of Hardy Aviation in the Northern Territory, John Hardy could probably fly himself to London for the Lord’s Test match in the much-awaited Ashes series later this year. But John now can do it in style, flying courtesy of Etihad Airlines after winning the Lord’s Taverners national fund-raising raffle.

A former committee member of the NT Branch of the Taverners, John reacted with a laconic but colourful phrase when telephoned and congratulated by Victorian chairman John Jeffries.

When the news of his good fortune really sank in he said: “That’s fantastic. When do we go?” John Jeffries later rang his NT counterpart, Michael Martin, to inform him that the raffle winner was a Darwin member of the Taverners.

Second prize of a cricket bat autographed by the Australian team was won by Andrew Bishop of Kensington Park, in South Australia. Another Territorian, Frank May, won third prize by the high standard of cricket displayed by all who took part in the respective finals. Organised by Cricket Victoria, the Lord’s Taverners’ Cup, which was first played in 1983, was won by Melbourne Grammar who defeated St Patrick’s Ballarat.

Second prize of a cricket bat autographed by the Australian team was won by Andrew Bishop of Kensington Park, in South Australia. Another Territorian, Frank May, won third prize of two dozen bottles of Geoff Merrill wines. The raffle raised more than $57,000.

BOXING DAY BREKKY A GREAT HIT

The Lord’s Taverners Boxing Day breakfast, which was held for the first time in the Cricket Victoria function room, was again a resounding success with 300 guests entertained by a host of guest speakers before the start of the Test match between Australia and South Africa.

With the lush surface of the MCG as a backdrop, Former Test bowler Damien Fleming reminisced about his days in the Australian team under captains Mark Taylor and Steve Waugh while ABC cricket commentator Jim Maxwell provided a colourful insight into life in the commentary box.

A veteran broadcaster of more than 200 Test matches, Maxwell spoke of having to use a mobile phone when media communications broke down in India – a not infrequent occurrence. Another highlight was his recall of the many famous people who had made guest appearances in the commentary box including young film star Daniel Radcliffe, Hugh Grant and Nigel Havers.

Paul Sheahan, President of the Victorian branch of the Taverners, introduced the Lord’s Taverners of the Year. They were Renee Melton, who had a batting average of 73.17 opening for Brunswick Park; Elise Valardy, another opening batter, and James Pattinson, another opening batter, and James Pattinson, an 18 year-old member of the Dandenong Cricket Club and brother of Darren, who plays for Victoria and represented England in a Test match last year.

As the 27th Boxing Day Breakfast drew to a close, Sam Kekovitch, the man who has put the spring into lamb sales around the country with his aggressive advertising style on TV, regaled the audience with his quirky humour. Advising everyone to follow his example, Sam finished with his philosophical approach to life – “love, laughter and lamb!”

Speakers at Victorian Taverner functions this year included John Bradman, (left) son of the late Sir Donald and 1948 Invincible Sam Loxton (right) with Branch member ‘Smokey’ Dawson.

BRANCH SUPPORTS WORTHY CAUSES

Victorian committee members attended a number of events sponsored by our organisation over the summer months including the Lord’s Taverners Cup for boys and the Lord’s Taverners Shield for girls.

Committee member Ian Crawford who presented trophies and medals at both competitions reported that he was impressed by the high standard of cricket displayed by all who took part in the respective finals. Organised by Cricket Victoria, the Lord’s Taverners’ Cup, which was first played in 1983, was won by Melbourne Grammar who defeated St Patrick’s Ballarat.

Cricket Victoria staff ran the competition, which was played on turf wickets at the competing schools. Premier League umpires officiated. The grand final of the Shield for girls, which began in 1984, was played at Epping sports reserve and won by Norwood Secondary College.

The Taverners also continue to support the ‘year-long’ competition for disabled male and female cricketers held at the Footscray Indoor Centre. The Taverners began their involvement with the Western Region Indoor Youth Cricket teams in 1991. In December, Ian Crawford presented trophies for the victors of the winter/spring competitions.

At the beautiful Albert Ground in January, several committee members attended AUSRAPID’S tennis tournament, another event dear to the heart of the Taverners. The president of AUSRAPID, Marie Little, was interviewed on radio during the event, describing the Lord’s Taverners as a very valued sponsor.

Committee member Peta (Pip) Phillips emphasised our involvement at the trophy presentation, which was greeted by a huge round of applause. Pip said: “It was a wonderful tournament, very rewarding, and a chance to see what joy we bring to those who need our support.”

Speakers at Victorian Taverner functions this year included John Bradman, (left) son of the late Sir Donald and 1948 Invincible Sam Loxton (right) with Branch member ‘Smokey’ Dawson.
Former Australian leg spinner and Lake Macquarie cricketing legend, Robert “Dutchy” Holland, is the new president of the Newcastle Branch of the Lord’s Taverners. Bob succeeds inaugural president, Professor Saxon White, a former Rugby Union international and first grade cricketer, who had held the position since the Branch was formed 16 years ago.

Saxon was made an honorary life member of the Branch when he stepped down at the annual general meeting.

The meeting recognised his outstanding service to the Branch and to the Taverners movement across Australia.

Bob Holland made his test debut at the age of 38, making him the oldest Australian debutant in more than half a century.

It was not until the 1978-79 season that he was called up into the NSW side to form a great spin attack with Murray Bennett and Greg Matthews, a combination which played a major role in the state’s Sheffield Shield wins in 1982-83, 1984-85 and 1986-87.

Bob played 11 test matches and took a total of 34 wickets at an average of 39.76. He had 10 wicket hauls in two matches – at Sydney against the mighty West Indies in the fifth test in 1984-85 and at Adelaide against New Zealand the following season.

I can still remember watching from the M.A. Noble stand when Bob had the great Viv Richards caught in slips off a leg break that rivalled Warnie’s famous “Gatting ball.”

Bowling towards the Randwick end, he helped bowl out the Windies for only 163, taking 6 for 54. His other wickets that day included Desmond Haynes, Larry Gomes and Clive Lloyd – not bad scalps.

Bob took 4 for 90 in the second innings, leading Australia to a resounding win. This was after the Windies had crushed Australia in the first three tests.

At Lords on the 1985 tour, he took 5 for 68 in the second innings of the Second test against England, breaking a stubborn century partnership between Mike Gatting and Ian Botham to take the last four wickets and ensure Australia had a small target to chase which they did successfully.

His ten wickets against the Kiwis was also a match winning haul.

Always a gentleman on and of the field, Bob has been associated with the Southern Lakes Club, now Toronto Workers, almost all of his career. He recently helped to organize a very successful 50th anniversary dinner for the club.

The club also celebrated the anniversary on the field by being minor premiers in first grade but losing the final to Belmont and winning second, third and fourth grades – a wonderful effort.