



Seven of our Life Members celebrating the 2014 achievements at the Annual Dinner.

Back row (l to r): Graeme Watts, Yvonne Talbott OAM, Linda Ross, Craig Jarvis

Front row (l to r): Richard Cordukes, Judy Simpson and Errol Hyde

The Board and Staff of Wheelchair Sports NSW wish all our members, volunteers and supporters a Merry Christmas and a successful 2015

Chair's Report

I am delighted to report some wonderful successes of our members at award ceremonies of late. They involved the following:

- Our Patron Louise Sauvage OAM and Kurt Fearnley OAM were inducted into the Path of Champions at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre.
- WS NSW Foundation Member and Australia's first female Paralympian Daphne Hilton, along with 2 time Paralympic Gold medallist Troy Sachs OAM, were inducted into the NSW Hall of Champions.
- Wheelchair tennis player Adam Kellerman (world no. 12) won the Most Outstanding Athlete with a Disability Award at the recent Tennis Australia Newcombe Medal presentation in Melbourne.
- Ryley Batt OAM "cleaned up" at the NSW Institute of Sport Awards, winning Regional Athlete of the Year, Team Athlete of the Year and Male Athlete of the Year. Keep in mind this was competition from all athletes – able bodied and those with a disability. Incidentally Ben Ettridge coach of our Aussie Rollers Wheelchair Basketball Team was Coach of the Year at these same awards.



Congratulations to these superstars of wheelchair sport. We are all immensely proud of our member's achievements and subsequent recognition.

WS NSW itself was a finalist in the NSW Disability Industry Innovation Awards in the category "Excellence in Regional Development". Board member Angie Ballard, originally a regional athlete herself, accepted a finalist plaque from the Hon. John Ajaka, Minister for Disability Services.

Whilst on Angie she was the guest speaker at our last Boardroom function for the year. Fellow Board Craig Mitchell from the Dexus Property Group, hosted a luncheon for some of our corporate contacts and their guests. These functions, which we hold periodically throughout the year, introduce us to a new network of potential supporters. Thank you to Dexus, Stacks Goudkamp and Corrs Chambers Westgarth who have hosted these functions in 2014.

Congratulations are in order for our team at WS NSW for putting on a spectacular fundraising luncheon in the city whilst raising much needed funds to support our membership. The lunch was attended by 230 and sponsored by ClubsNSW. Highlights were the expertise of MC Stephanie Brantz from ABC Sport, the performance of Anja Nissen winner of The Voice 2014 and our wonderful guest speakers in Paralympians Nick Taylor and Angie Ballard and juniors Bradley Pemberton and Hayley Slocombe. Our major fundraising event for the year was an outstanding success.

I hope you have appreciated the obvious note of celebration in my report, so continuing in the same vein could I wish you all wonderful celebrations over the Christmas/New Year period and we look forward to further successes in 2015.

David Piper OAM
Chair Wheelchair Sports NSW

Come N Try Day

On Sunday 28 September Wheelchair Sports NSW ran a multi-sport Come N Try Day in conjunction with Royal Rehab Return2Sport. Approximately 20 participants of all ages took part across the day. The participants were able to try tennis, basketball, table tennis, golf, hand cycling, rowing and carpet bowls. As the first Come N

Try Day open to members of all ages the day was a huge success with good attendance numbers. Wheelchair Sports NSW looks forward to running many more in 2015. Stay tuned for more information and dates for 2015 Come N Try Days.

Wheelchair Sports NSW and Royal Rehab working together



CEO's Report

Wheelchair Sports NSW recently held its Annual Awards Dinner at Bankstown Sports Club. It was a marvellous night enjoyed by a very enthusiastic audience. It's just a great shame that more members do not experience these celebrations. Congratulations to all the winners with the big 2 being Club Person of the Year – Angie Ballard and Athlete of the Year – Ryley Batt OAM. A detailed report of the Dinner is contained elsewhere in this Pushers Post.

WS NSW in conjunction with our national body, Disability Sports Australia, held the Wheelchair Rugby National Championships at Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre in October. It was an excellent promotion for the sport and a number of the Aussie gold medal team (Steelers) from the 2014 World Championships were on court at the event. This of course included our own Ryley Batt OAM who was part of the NSW GIO Gladiators team. Our NSW team took out the Championships. Congratulations to members of that team.

A highlight of the closing ceremony of these Championships was a surprise presentation to Life Member and Vice Chair of WS NSW – Craig Jarvis. Craig was presented with the highly prestigious Sir Ludwig Guttman Award for outstanding contribution to Australian wheelchair sports. Sir Ludwig was the international father of wheelchair sports and he was based in England following World War II, where he introduced sport to those with a spinal injury from the war. The award has been going since 1981 and other NSW recipients have been Kevin Betts OAM (1981), Dr. John Grant AO OBE (1992), Michael Godfrey-Roberts AM (2006) and Graeme Watts (2010).

When examining the finances of WS NSW there has been one area of our fundraising that has been on the downturn for some years now. Our external Telemarketing has been really sliding and it has become not cost effective to continue this calling program. So the Board has made a decision to drop Telemarketing as a fundraising source, and instead try to convert donors across to things like Direct Mail Appeals. These are the letters with stories of our members (juniors in particular) that are posted to our internal donor base. The purchase of a new donor base IT System called Thank Q will enhance this process. The Thank Q System, which will incorporate our member database as well, will no doubt prove a very worthwhile investment.

On a sad note I can confirm the passing of long term member and trailblazer Peter Trotter. Peter along with Life Member Jeff Wiseman, was instrumental in getting the OZ Day 10K started back in 1990 and he also served as President of WS NSW in the early 1990's. Vale Peter.

As we do each year we would like to extend an invitation for all our members to come and witness our 2 major international events in January. The Apia Wheelchair International Tennis (a ticketed event) is from 13-17 January whilst the GIO Summer Down Under Wheelchair Racing (a free event) is from 21-26 January in both Canberra and Sydney.

On behalf of the Board and staff of WS NSW could I wish you all best wishes for Christmas and a fulfilling 2015.

Jim O'Brien
CEO



Fundraising News

ASX Art Union Raffle – proudly continues its support of WS NSW

Wheelchair Sports NSW are proud to continue as a charity partner of the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation in 2014/2015. As a charity partner, WS NSW has the opportunity to sell tickets in the annual ASX Art Union Raffle. 100% of ticket proceeds sold by WS NSW go directly towards our wheelchair sports programs throughout NSW.

Tickets on sale now – \$20 each, 3 for \$50, 8 for \$100 or 50 for \$500.

Purchase a ticket/s today for a chance to win in a great pool of prizes valued over \$60,000!

This year, all ticket sales have moved online. Head to www.wsnsw.org.au/asxartunionraffle/ to purchase tickets today, or call the office on 02 9809 5260 to purchase your tickets by phone.

Please help us spread the word and direct people to our website to purchase tickets online today.

For more information, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/asxartunionraffle/ or call Margaret at the office on 02 9809 5260

Corporate Australia Helping Those in Need **WIN!**

1st Prize Valued at \$45,839*
*includes metallic paint and on-road costs (NSW registration, CTP insurance, NSW Stamp Duty, Dealer Delivery and GST)

2nd Prize Valued at \$13,500
Exquisite AUTORE South Sea Pearl, Diamond and White Gold Pendant. From AUTORE's Boutique Collection of casual items with simple, elegant detail the pendant can be worn at any occasion.

3rd Prize Valued at \$3,080
Captain Cook Murray River 3 Night Cruise for 2 people in a State Room including on board accommodation and all meals.

AUTORE
Total Value of Prizes \$62,419. Art Union Permit Number GOCAU/1578
ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation Limited | art union

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Christmas Appeal



It's now that time of year as we launch our annual Christmas Appeal with the aim of raising over \$35,000 for wheelchair sports programs throughout NSW. We sincerely thank Harry, Sue & Dave (pictured) for sharing their story for this year's Appeal.



Encourage others to 'give the gift of sport' this Christmas by making a tax-deductible donation today via our website: www.wsnsw.org.au or phoning 02 9809 5260.



The Primary Club award Liesl Tesch with the prestigious Sir Roden Cutler Award

Long term supporters of WS NSW, The Primary Club, who represent the Australian cricket community, recently inducted WS NSW member Liesl Tesch into sporting history, awarding Liesl with the prestigious Sir Roden Cutler Award.



THE PRIMARY CLUB
OF
AUSTRALIA

To acknowledge outstanding sporting achievement by an athlete with a disability, The Primary Club of Australia created the Sir Roden Cutler Award – awarded to an individual with a disability with outstanding sporting achievement and who has performed extraordinary community service.

As part of the award, Liesl was awarded a grant of \$20,000 for recreational facilities for the sport of her choosing. Liesl generously donated \$10,000 to WS NSW programs and \$10,000 to Sports Matters – a movement co-founded by Liesl to provide sporting opportunities to people with disabilities living in developing countries.

Congratulations Liesl and thank you for your support.

Further thanks to The Primary Club for honouring one of our inspirational WS NSW members in such a way.

Charity Challenge Gala Night

Each year, Charity Challenge partners with WS NSW to deliver our annual Stacks Goudkamp Charity Golf Day. Charity Challenge Golf run the day for WS NSW solely at cost, to ensure all funds raised on the day go straight to WS NSW programs.

Each November, Charity Challenge hosts a Gala night to fundraise and celebrate its association with its 16 charities, including WS NSW. A further \$5,000 was raised for WS NSW on the night.

Special thanks to Gary Dawson OAM and Matt Laverty of Charity Challenge for their continued support.



WS NSW at the Gala L-R: (Back) Tom Brassil, Bonnie Brassil, David Piper OAM, Janyne Hogan, Rima Sciberras, Di Hart, Craig Jarvis (Front) Rick Engles, Rebekah Engles.

2014 Annual Luncheon

We sincerely thank you all who attended and supported our Annual Luncheon on Friday 17 October at The Amora Jamison Sydney - our marquee fundraising event of the year.

An inspirational afternoon, filled with special presentations from guest speakers - senior wheelchair athletes Nick Taylor and Angie Ballard, juniors wheelchair members Hayley Slocombe and Brad Pemberton and their mums, as well as performances from Anja Nissen, winner of The Voice 2014.

Special thanks to ClubsNSW for their continued support as Major Sponsor of the Annual Luncheon. Further thanks to each of the organisations and individuals who kindly donated items to our pool of raffle and silent auction prizes.

Having tallied all raffle, silent auction and pledge support, we are incredibly excited to announce that we achieved a magical six figure result (for the first ever time!), raising just over \$100,000. A sensational result that now ensures the purchase of many more sports wheelchairs throughout the year ahead for WS NSW programs and via the loan program for WS NSW members.

Please save the date, and help spread the word, for next year's Luncheon - Friday 16 October, 2015.



Our wonderful MC for the Annual Luncheon - Stephanie Brantz (ABC Sport)



Anne Fitzgerald (ClubsNSW) receiving a Champions Award from CEO Jim O'Brien



More of these wheelchairs able to be purchased with proceeds from the Luncheon

Cauliflower Club of Australia welcomes WS NSW into the fold!

In 2014 the Cauliflower Club of Australia, representing the Australian Rugby Union community, welcomed WS NSW into its community as an official charity partner. The Club focusses on supporting the welfare of those with disabilities by using sport and recreation as a method of enhancing the lives.

In 2014, the Club launched its support of WS NSW through the purchase of two new custom fitted Rugby Wheelchairs for developing players in the GIO NSW Gladiators Squad.

GIO NSW Gladiator Simon Bartlett and Janyne Hogan WS NSW Fundraising Manager were also invited to attend the Club's recent Annual Lunch at The Westin Hotel and share details on our vital state wide sports programs with the 600+ guests attending the function.

Sincere thanks to the Kerry Henry, Chairman of the Cauliflower Club and his Committee for welcoming WS NSW so warmly in 2014. We look forward to working together to create many more sporting opportunities for WS NSW members throughout NSW in the year ahead.

Get involved in 2015:

WS NSW members – please help spread the word of our events for 2015.

Encourage your friends, family, or workplace to get involved in our fundraising events throughout the year – to ultimately, help us deliver your wheelchair sporting programs.

Corporate Challenge (Tennis)

Friday 16 January 2015 | Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre

Secure an exclusive team spot in the Apia Corporate Challenge, held during the 2015 Apia International Sydney in January 2015.

Teams (comprised of 4-6 players) will play on the same courts as the pro's throughout the morning including access to tennis legends, before an afternoon complete with catering and ground passes per player, which enables them to sit back, relax and watch all of the Apia International on-court action.

Entry is \$1,000 per team, however team places are strictly limited!

For more information, or for teams to enter, download an entry pack from www.wsnsw.org.au/corporatechallenge/ today or call Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260.



Day at the Races

Saturday 7 March, 2015 | Royal Randwick Racecourse

We are excited to head back to Randwick Racecourse for our annual "Day at the Races".

It is a fabulous day of fashion & fun whilst fundraising for much needed funds for Wheelchair Sports NSW programs. Guests will be entertained by MC Tracey Spicer (respected newsreader, journalist and mum and one of Australia's most versatile media personalities), music talent with duo Rachel Eldon & Victoria Jayne, as well as several WS NSW members as they share their sporting stories.



Tickets are on sale now. \$220 per person or a Table of 10 for \$2,100.

Entry to Racecourse & Grandstand Ballroom, Race Program, gourmet lunch & beverages, access to private betting facilities and a spectacular pool of prizes available on the day through Silent Auction, Mystery Balloons and raffles as well as prizes for Best Dressed Lady & Gentleman and Lucky Door.

For more information, and to book tickets today, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help/fundraising/dayattheraces2015/, or call Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260

Stacks Goudkamp Charity Golf Day

Friday 8 May, 2015 | Macquarie Links International Golf Club

Team registrations soon open for the 9th annual Stacks Goudkamp Charity Golf Day in May 2015. Team registration includes Golf for 4 players, breakfast and morning tea, snacks and beverage cart on course, gourmet buffet lunch, prizes and entertainment.



For more information, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help/fundraising/stacksgoudkampcharitygolfday2014/, or call Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260

Conquer City2Surf with WS NSW

Sunday 9 August, 2015 | Sydney to Bondi

All WS NSW members, plus friends & families, are invited to get involved and push/walk/run to Conquer City2Surf in 2015 with Wheelchair Sports NSW.

All full members who enter City2Surf and fundraise for WS NSW as their chosen charity in 2015, will receive 50% of the funds they raise into their levy own account!

For more information, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help/fundraising/city2surf/ or call Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260.

WS NSW Annual Luncheon

Friday 16 October, 2015 | The Amora Jamison Hotel Sydney

The Annual Luncheon, our marquee fundraising event of the year, provides an entertaining and moving afternoon hearing from inspirational wheelchair athletes over lunch as guests entertain clients, staff or friends. Tickets on sale mid-2015.

For more information, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help/fundraising/2014annualluncheon/ or call Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260



WS NSW Annual Luncheon, proudly sponsored by ClubsNSW

Thank you!

WS NSW recognises that the continued delivery of its programs for people with a disability would not be possible without the support of key individuals, Community groups and Clubs, Trust and Foundations and partnering organisations.

Sincere thanks to all who have kindly supported Wheelchair Sports NSW over this past year - we look forward to working with you throughout the year ahead!

To get involved and support WS NSW programs in 2015, visit www.wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help today.

Sydney Sports Medicine Centre Offer

Exclusive discounts for WS NSW members on all consultations at Sydney Sports Medicine Centre

Sydney Sports Medicine Centre is one of the largest multi-disciplinary Sports Medicine practices in Australia. Located in the NSW Institute of Sport building in Sydney Olympic Park. The Centre encompasses all aspects of Sports Medicine including Sports Physicians, Sports Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Orthopaedic Consultants, Massage Therapists, Dieticians, Exercise Physiologists and Sports Psychologists.

Sydney Sports Medicine Centre kindly extend their support to WS NSW by offering all full WS NSW members can enjoy 10-20% off consultations at the Centre.

Visit www.ssmc.com.au for a full list of services available.

To take advantage of this offer:

Call Sydney Sports Medicine Centre on (02) 9764 3131 to make an appointment, and present your WS NSW Membership card upon arrival to receive your discount.

Sydney Sports Medicine Centre

Address: Level 2, NSWIS Building, 6 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127

Phone: (02) 9764 3131

Website: www.ssmc.com.au

Already, many WS NSW members enjoy the services of the Centre, including our Patron, Louise Sauvage OAM:

"I have used the facilities at the Sydney Sports Medicine Centre for over 10 years including Massage, Physio, Nutrition and Specialist Doctors. They have helped me to overcome many injuries and get through the toughest parts of my competitive career. I would recommend all of my athletes to the Sydney Sports Medicine Centre"

Louise Sauvage OAM

Five-Time Paralympian and WS NSW Patron

City2Surf Offer

Conquer City2Surf 2015 with WS NSW in 2015 and share in a cut of fundraising!

All WS NSW members, plus friends & families, are invited to get involved and push/walk/run to Conquer City2Surf in 2015 with Wheelchair Sports NSW.

City2Surf is an annual one day 14km community fun-run event designed to support charities throughout Australia. Participants enter and fundraise online with an Everyday Hero page to raise vital funds for their chosen charity. Normally with any community fundraising event like City2Surf, 100% of funds raised via fundraising pages are directed to nominated charities.

As a registered charity with City2Surf, WS NSW extends an offer, to give WS NSW members access to a cut of fundraising simply by getting involved in the event.

All full members who enter City2Surf and fundraise for WS NSW as their chosen charity in 2015, will receive 50% of the funds they raise into their levy own account!

Don't miss this great opportunity to challenge yourself, meet other members and raise vital funds for wheelchair sporting programs and your own sporting expenses!

To take advantage of this offer:

Register your interest today by calling Janyne at the office on 02 9809 5260, or emailing janyneh@wsnsw.org.au.

Visit wsnsw.org.au/how-you-can-help/fundraising/city2surf/ for more information.

How City2Surf can help you raise vital funds for your sport...

In 2014, WS NSW junior member, 8 year old Cormac conquered City2Surf with his mum and dad as a sporting challenge and to raise funds to help the purchase of a new racing wheelchair.

Cormac and parents shared his fundraising page link with friends, his local school, local businesses and family over 3 months leading into City2Surf, and raised an incredible \$5,500!

A new racing wheelchair has since been ordered – with Cormac zipping around the track every Saturday morning as part of the Sydney Olympic Park Track & Road development program.

2014 Annual Dinner

At the recent 2014 Annual Dinner, themed "Black and White" the members, Board, supporters and staff of Wheelchair Sports NSW (WS NSW) enjoyed a fantastic night of fun, trivia, raffles and awards. There were 7 WS NSW Life Members in the room and representatives from many of our sports including athletics, basketball, juniors, lawn bowls, rugby, swimming and tennis.

Congratulations to the following award recipients for 2014:

Sport Awards

Athletics: Kurt Fearnley

Basketball: Luke Pople and Nick Taylor

Handcycling: Grant Nickel

Junior: Jessica Cronje

Lawn Bowls: James Reynolds

Rugby: Ryley Batt

Swimming: Matt Levy

Tennis: Adam Kellerman

Association Awards

Volunteer of the Year: Sarah Stewart

Rookie: Anderson Parker (Tennis and Basketball)

Encouragement Award: Jono Tang (Athletics and Tennis)

Coach of the Year: Louise Sauvage OAM

Team of the Year: GIO NSW Gladiators

The Nick Morozoff Scholarship

Nick Morozoff passed away in April 2011 leaving Wheelchair Sports as one of its most loved and respected members. Nick joined Wheelchair Sports NSW over 30 years ago and in this time he was a marvellous mentor and "life coach" for many of its members, particularly those who went through spinal rehabilitation. The Scholarship is for someone who has only recently been through spinal rehab, the sort of person Nick would have mentored and encouraged. As well this person must be showing a strong involvement in and commitment to wheelchair sport. The scholarship is a monetary one with the money going into the winner's Levy account. We sincerely thank the Ashley Coops Trust for contributing to the scholarship this year.

The 2014 Nick Morozoff Scholarship recipient is 19 year old Ben Leudais.

Ben Leudais acquired his injury in September 2013. Ben was in a car accident and as a result became a quadriplegic. During his rehabilitation Ben was introduced to Wheelchair Sports NSW by the Royal Rehab Centre in Sydney. Ben's determination to just get on with his life so soon after his accident was admirable. He has powered through his rehabilitation with sheer determination and is now part of the WS NSW Wheelchair Rugby Squad. During the Rugby season Ben travelled from the Central Coast to Ryde 3 days a week to train 6 hours a week. This paid off with a spot in the team that travelled to Adelaide in August to compete in the inaugural Adelaide Cup. Ben is most certainly one to watch out for!

The Invacare Rising Star Award

We introduced a new award at the dinner this year. Our friends at Invacare approached CEO Jim O'Brien and the Sports Development Unit earlier this year looking for ways to develop the relationship between our two organisations, and the "Invacare Rising Star Award" is part of the partnership that has been established.

The 2014 Invacare Rising Star recipient is Mary-Anne Latis. With the establishment of the Western Sydney Wheelchair Basketball Program, there have been a few new faces into wheelchair basketball and 16 year old Mary-Anne is one of these new players. Mary Anne has shown great potential and interest in developing her basketball skills.

Mary-Anne competed in her first ever wheelchair basketball tournament in the WS NSW Winter League playing for the Blacktown Storm. This was also the first tournament for the Blacktown Storm! Congratulations Mary-Anne we look forward to seeing great skills in the new custom made Invacare chair! Thank you to David Jeffries Marketing Manager, Invacare for presenting this Rising Star Award on the night.

2014 Clubperson of the Year

The winner of the 2014 Clubperson of the year is an athlete, a volunteer, a mentor, a consultant and a popular Ambassador for WS NSW.

Angela Ballard has worked very hard over the past few years on her track racing and was rewarded with Gold in the 1,500m at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

WS NSW is proud to have Angie on the WS NSW Board and in that capacity Angie is always promoting the members



The Walsh family getting into the spirit of the Black and White theme

and their perspective as athletes with a disability.

Every Saturday morning Angie can be found at Sydney Olympic Park coaching and mentoring the developing track and road athletes.

Angie is also on the Organising Committee for the Summer Down Under Wheelchair Track and Road Racing Series and works very hard to improve the Series for athletes, sponsors, media and the general public. Congratulations to Angie Ballard our 2014 Clubperson of the Year

Wheelchair Sports NSW Athlete of the Year 2014

And the winner is: Ryley Batt OAM

Ryley has had another great year playing wheelchair rugby. Representing Australia he has been a member of the Steelers who won the Canada Cup and then the World Championships, in Denmark. This makes the Steelers both Paralympic and World Champions at the one time. During the World Championships, Ryley received a plaque celebrating his 200th game for Australia.

Ryley was awarded the MVP and 3.5 All Star 4 player at the recent Fierce 4 Rugby Nationals, (the GIO National Wheelchair Rugby Championships) where he was a member of the winning NSW GIO Gladiators team.

Ryley has also been recognised by the NSW Institute of Sport as their 2014 Regional Athlete of the Year, 2014 Team Athlete of the Year and 2014 Male Athlete of the Year.

Thanks and congratulations to the Annual Dinner Committee for the fun evening and thanks to those who donated prizes in the raffle; Breville, Bankstown Sports Club and Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.

We look forward to a bigger and better dinner in 2015 – make sure you book in early!!

Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow

The Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow Program has visited over 71 schools during the past three months, presenting our unique and educational program to 6,687 school children throughout NSW.

We have had the pleasure in attending four separate regions during this period, visiting Tumut, Albury, Junee, Dubbo, Forbes, Grafton, Port Macquarie, Orange, Mudgee, Blayney, Eugowra and Lightning Ridge. It was our first visit to many of these Regional Schools during this period, so we were excited to meet some new teachers and students along the way.

During a 3 week period in October the Ford Roadshow Van was out of action, due to the 12 basketball wheelchairs being repaired, stripped and re-sprayed. I would like to thank Mogo Wheelchairs for the amazing job they did on the wheelchairs!

All of the Roadshow Staff do an amazing job representing the Roadshow Program and Wheelchair Sports NSW as an organisation. A special thank you to John, Brendon and Rick for their efforts travelling around NSW on our Regional Trips over the past three months.

I have received some wonderful emails from schools we have visited recently, and I would like to share some of these with you:

"I would like to say a huge thanks for today. Our kids found the talk informative and it provoked a lot of awareness for safety, plus the reality of needing to use a wheelchair. My little boy was lost for words today and was rather humbled by the entire experience". Tracy W. - Mum from Junee School.

"I just wanted to say that our girls thoroughly enjoyed the wheelchair basketball yesterday. It was a great success!" Louise R. - Teacher at East Hills Girls Technology High

If you or anyone in your family attends school, TAFE or University please advise the Principal, Head PE Teacher or Year Advisor of the unique Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow program that we run. My details are below if they would like to find out further information.

Contact: Mel Jones – Roadshow Manager
9809 5260
reception@wsnsw.org.au



Proudly sponsored by



Corporate Profile

Wheelchair Sports NSW (WS NSW) has a number of great corporate supporters and in this Pushers Post we are focussing on Stacks Goudkamp Compensation Lawyers.



Stacks Goudkamp is a boutique Personal Injury Law practice, with its head office in Martin Place, Sydney. The firm is part of the wider Stacks Law Firm franchise. The practice focuses on compensation claims arising from spinal, brain and other serious injuries suffered in transport accidents.

Stacks Goudkamp also has expert lawyers in medical negligence cases, "slip and fall" accidents and injuries suffered in accidents whilst on holidays (e.g. cruise ships, flights, travelling abroad etc). The practice also has a human rights practice, acting for injured asylum seekers and for the victims of sexual abuse.

For more details see the Stacks Goudkamp web site www.stacksgoudkamp.com.au

Stacks Goudkamp support WS NSW in a number of areas:

- Sponsor of the Stacks Goudkamp Bears, one of our women's Teams in the National Wheelchair Basketball League. (A 9 year sponsorship).
- Major sponsor of the WS NSW Annual Golf Day (Again a 9 year sponsorship).
- Stacks Goudkamp regularly hosts Boardroom functions with clients and associates listening to the stories of our wheelchair athletes.
- Stacks Goudkamp also broker FOC radio ads for WS NSW with Smooth FM as part of their commercial relationship.
- As well Stacks Goudkamp supports all our major fundraiser events by taking tables at these.

There are many other ways this wonderful firm support our organisation.

Tom Goudkamp OAM Managing Director at Stacks Goudkamp is a "Champion of Wheelchair Sports NSW" and as such is a great believer in WS NSW and the work we perform.

To quote Tom on his relationship with WS NSW

"Stacks Goudkamp has developed a close association with Wheelchair Sports NSW because we are in awe of the support and hope that the organisation gives to people who have suffered one way or another, from major disabilities.

People with disabilities go to Wheelchair Sports in despair, and most find a completely new, and liberating way of life, and a real reason for living.

We at Stacks Goudkamp, who act for many victims of major trauma, and who know how debilitating spinal injuries can be, are continually inspired by what these people achieve in the sporting sphere, and how they inspire others. That, in a sense, enriches our own lives and makes us more determined to make the most of our good fortune.

Wheelchair Sports NSW is inspiring!"

Stacks Goudkamp is truly a wonderful supporter of WS NSW in so many different programs and events. A giant thank you to Stacks Goudkamp.

Regional News

Sport Development Officer Mark Wilson recently made the trip up to Taree and Coffs Harbour.

In Coffs Harbour, the visit served a double purpose. Not only did he get to see the great facilities and good work that is being done up on the North Coast but it also allowed him to take 3 of the new Top End Pro BB basketball chairs, purchased in the middle of this year, to the program headed up by long-time member Raymond Munro.

Back in Taree Mark got to meet up with Life Member Terry Mason and see the program that engages not only local members but also outside groups. This program helps to spread the word about wheelchair basketball. Whilst there Mark took part in a local school group's elective P.E lesson where Terry had the class organised in to 3 teams playing round robins against one another.

The trip really highlighted the great work being done in our regions and the dedicated people who are doing it. It was good to see such solid programs being run and really emphasised the great regional work that can be done.

Fierce4 Rugby

In October the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre saw the GIO NSW Gladiators contest the Fierce 4 Rugby Nationals, the GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championships, in a bid to get back on track and regain the National title. After a disappointing 4th place finish last year, a hardened roster took to the court. Boasting a squad list with World Champions Ryley Batt OAM and Curtis Palmer, as well as new talent Richard Voris, Dan Holt and the live wire AJ Holloway, the stage was set for the Gladiators to make a statement.



The Fierce 4 Rugby Nationals were hosted by WS NSW in conjunction with Disability Sports Australia and sponsored by GIO Insurance. During the Championships over 1,400 school kids made their presence felt in the stadium, creating a great home side advantage for the GIO Gladiators.

From Day 1 the Gladiators made their intentions clear with a comprehensive victory over the Asteron West Coast Enforcers and an encouraging 3 point win over the competitive Victoria Protect Thunder.

Day 2 saw the Gladiators come up against Vero New Zealand Te Waka Hou and the AAMI South Australia Sharks. Despite valiant efforts from the opposition the irresistible combination of Batt and Holloway, proved too much for both these teams.

Finals day began with the last round robin game of the Championships which saw the Gladiators face off against long-time rivals the Suncorp Queensland Cyclones. Overcoming a potential stumbling block, the Gladiators eased to victory with one eye on the final. The Gladiators faced the experienced and consistent Victorians in the Gold Medal match.

In the final the Gladiators proved too strong for their southern neighbours and took home the inaugural Fierce4 Rugby title with a 68-52 victory. This provided a great end to a jam packed year and the win was thoroughly deserved by all NSW players involved.

The Bronze Medal match was played between the AAMI South Australia Sharks and the Suncorp Queensland Cyclones. The 3 days of play proved the difference in this match as the fatigued Sharks gave way and were defeated by the Cyclones (61-56).

Results:

1st	GIO NSW Gladiators	4th	AAMI SA Sharks
2nd	Victoria Protect Thunder	5th	Vero NZ Te Waka Hou
3rd	Suncorp Queensland Cyclones	6th	Asteron West Coast Enforcers

MVP: Ryley Batt (GIO NSW Gladiators) and Matt Lewis (Victoria Protect Thunder)

Best New Talent: Robyn Lambird (Asteron West Cost Enforcers)

The Fierce 4 Rugby Ambassador Nathan Sharpe, former Wallaby, showed his skills in wheelchair rugby when he lead the way in the 'Celebrity Match'. Nathan was joined by our own 11 year old Harry from Bathurst, GIO Gladiator Squad members, members from the Asteron West Coast Enforcers, Australian Navy Rear Admiral Stuart Mayer, Australian Navy Invictus Games representatives, Matthew Kayrooz (GIO National CTP Manager), WS NSW member and Equestrian Paralympian Hannah Dodd and GIO staff (who had won the opportunity to play in the match).



Winners of the 2014 Fierce 4 Rugby Nationals - the GIO NSW Gladiators

Tip Off in the Gold medal match



Sports Shorts

Athletics

International

New York Marathon

Congratulations to Kurt Fearnley on his 5th win of the New York marathon. The marathon was held in appalling conditions and the wheelchair marathon was cut short by a number of kilometres due to the high winds. Kurt managed to take out the win despite a 6 way sprint to the finish. Richard Nicholson placed 27th and Christie Dawes placed 6th in the women's race.

Chicago Marathon

Congratulations to Kurt Fearnley and Christie Dawes on their 2nd and 6th places, respectively, in the 2014 Chicago Marathon.

Oita Half Marathon

WS NSW athletes Luke Bailey and Rosemary Little made the trip to the Oita, Japan to take part in the 34th Oita Marathon. Competing in the half marathon both Rosemary and Luke competed against athletes from across the world.

In the women's event, Rosemary took first place by the trim on her tyre, finishing 0.001 seconds in front of second place Kazumi Nakayama. In the men's event, 17 year old Luke finished a respectable 8th (of 99 competitors) to record a top 10 finish in his first ever competition overseas.

Not only was this a great opportunity for competition but also a great chance to travel and see new things, people and places. Well done to Luke and Rosemary for their results and for flying the flag for Australia and WS NSW in Oita.

State

The Development group continues to run under the watchful eyes of Angie, Louise and new recruit Laura. As well as the regular Saturday group trainings the guys have been taking part in the Sydney Club competition, The Treloar Shield. If you are interested in getting involved, whether it be to stay fit, meet friends or to compete, don't hesitate to get in touch with Mark Wilson on 9809 5260 or markw@wsnsw.org.au

Northcott Athletics Carnival



Members Julie, Greg and Chithic having fun with their school friends

Congratulations to Wheelchair Sports NSW members Julie Charlton, Gregory Luff and Chithic Machar who competed at the Northcott Senior Athletics Carnival on the 3rd of September.

Basketball

National

National Wheelchair Basketball League's

Congratulations to both the Wollongong Rollerhawks and the Stacks Goudkamp Bears on their Bronze Medals in the 2014 Men's and Women's National Wheelchair Basketball Leagues respectively. Congratulations must also go to the Sydney University Wheelkings and Sydney University Flames on their efforts throughout the 2014 Season.

2014 Invacare Slam Down Under

Everyone involved had a great weekend of basketball down in Wollongong at this year's Invacare Slam Down Under. Firstly a huge thank you to Betty Hassan and Eino Okkonen. The amount of time and effort they put in is extraordinary and is the reason the 2014 Invacare Slam Down Under and every Slam Down Under before it have been so successful. Thank you also to all the referees, score bench, barbeque and all other volunteers for giving up their time to help with this year's Slam Down Under.

The 2014 Invacare Slam Down Under results:

Division 1:

Winner – NSWIS

Runner Up – Rollerhawks

3rd – NZ Development

4th – Lost



Division 1 Winners: NSWIS

Division 1 All Star 5:

Michael Auprince – NSWIS

Sheldon Larson – NZ Development

Luke Pople – NSWIS

Mitchell Stone – Lost

Darren Hayes – Rollerhawks

Division 2:

Winner – Illawarra Hawks
Runner Up – Coffs Harbour
3rd – NSW Juniors
4th – Illawarra Eagles
5th – Rolling Thunder



Division 2 Winners: Illawarra Hawks

Division 2 All Star 5:

Anderson Parker – NSW Juniors
Dylan Child – Rolling Thunder
Martin Jojou – Coffs Harbour
Timor Senor – Illawarra Eagles
Ash Kennedy – Illawarra Hawks

Division 3:

Winner – Canberra Chargers
Runner Up – Illawarra
3rd – Sutherland



Division 3 Winners: Canberra Chargers

Division 3 All Star 5:

Sarah Walsh - Sutherland
Pat Reid – Canberra Chargers
Liam Luff – Sutherland
Nick Scott – Illawarra
Luke Andrews – Canberra Chargers

Congratulations to not only the winners but to all who participated.

Don't forget to put October 17 – 18 2015 in your diary!

You won't want to miss the 2015 Slam Down Under! Next year will also include a Masters tournament (over 40's) from 13 - 15 October.

Handcycling

Spring Cycle

In mid-October the first round of the WS NSW Handcycling Spring Series was held.

This first event was hosted at Merrylands Oval and saw 8 competitors take part in 4 separate events; the flying 200m, which is a timed half lap with a moving full speed start, the stationary 400m, a 2km pursuit and a team 2km relay. Andrew Naglins posted some of the faster times, and clearly showed the hard work he has been putting in with Gary Foley at the Wednesday night sessions in Parramatta Park and the Fridays at Merrylands. Grant Nickel also showed his credentials and stamina with a solid 2km time and a winning leg in the 2km relay.

Sunday saw the WS NSW Spring Series combine with the Spring Cycle Criterium event at Sydney Olympic Park. Lidcombe Auburn Cycling Club conducted the Criterium which allowed our athletes another chance to race their way around the Olympic Park. Despite the hot conditions a field of 8 again competed and showcased their abilities in front of cycle mad crowd. First time competitor Matthew Demetrious took advantage of an Andrew Naglins tyre blow out to take line honours on the day. A special mention must go to Zoe Brissett who has only been in the sport for 3 months but completed every race and showed some real progression since her first few sessions.

The next event looks to be another 2 part instalment with a track event on the Saturday evening and a morning criterium event on Sunday. This will take place on the 13th and 14th December. Location and times TBC.

If you are interested in getting involved, either recreationally or competitively, don't hesitate to contact Mark Wilson on 9809 5260 or markw@wsnsw.org.au

Lawn Bowls

International

International Bowls for the Disabled World Championships, Lower Hutt, New Zealand.

Three members of the WS NSW Lawn Bowls program have been selected for the upcoming International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) World Championships in February. Lynn Smith, Carolyn Nelson and Doug Lambert have been selected to represent Australia in the 11 day competition at the NaeNae and Hutt Bowling Clubs in New Zealand.

Congratulations to all three members, thoroughly deserved and WS NSW wishes you the best of luck.

State

WS NSW State Championships

The sun was shining for the 2014 WS NSW State Championships held at the Taree Leagues Club. The Club

once again proved itself as one of the most hospitable clubs in NSW.



Underway in Taree at the 2014 State Championships

Bringing together members from across NSW, the State Championships ran for 5 days and encompassed both a pairs and singles competition. Acting as a selection event for the State Squad, with prize money on the line, the "State Champs" involved all that is good about the WS NSW Lawn Bowls program - competitive bowls with friends, old and new.

In the pairs competition the irrepressible James Reynolds and Jacob Casswell proved too strong for new members Col Parkes and Christian McKay. Recapturing the form that earned them the same title last year, Reynolds and Casswell played some scintillating bowls en route to the title. Played over the Tuesday and Wednesday, the pairs competition provided ample opportunity to warm up leading into the singles.

In the singles competition, the writing was on the wall with James Reynolds showing the sort of form which earned him a place in the Australian 2014 Commonwealth Games team. The standard of play in the singles was extremely high.

In the women's section, strong performances from Joanne Hunter and Carolyn Nelson saw them both advancing to the final on the Saturday. In what turned out to be a 3 hour thriller, Jo Hunter squeezed past Carolyn to take out the 2014 Women's title. In a slightly shorter bronze medal match, Donna Ellis beat a spirited Cheryl Benbow to take home a third place medal.



Competitors in the 2014 State Championships

In the men's draw, the standard was set by James Reynolds so again the level of competition and some of the bowls were top standard. Enhanced by the quality of the greens and the perfect weather, at times it looked as if any of 5 bowlers were positioning themselves for a spot in the final. Unfortunately only two can make it, and despite strong efforts from Geoff Seton, Mark Whiteman and Eddie Gollan, it was debutant Christian McKay and James Reynolds who made the Men's Singles final. In a tight contest experience told, and James Reynolds played some unbeatable ends to retain the title and take home the double.

A big congratulations must go to all competitors who represented themselves and WS NSW extremely well throughout the Championships and again our thanks goes to the Taree Leagues Club, particularly Dave Penman who proved invaluable with his organization of the competition.

If you are interested in getting involved with the WSNSW Lawn Bowls programme, or know someone who is, don't hesitate to contact Mark Wilson on 9809 5260 or markw@wsnsw.org.au

Come N Try days

In 2015 we will be looking to run a number of Lawn Bowls Come n' Try clinics around the State. If you or your Club are interested in hosting an event designed to introduce people with a disability to the world of lawn bowls, please contact Mark Wilson on 9809 5260 or markw@wsnsw.org.au

Rugby

National

As reported earlier in this Pushers Post, the GIO NSW Gladiators won the 2014 Fierce 4 Rugby National Championships after defeating the Victoria Protect Thunder in the Final.

State

Bathurst

They came, they saw, they conquered.... what a weekend and Bathurst you were brilliant! The Gladiators made their way to Bathurst for a Wheelchair Rugby bonanza. A big thanks must go to Dave Clist and Sue Goodlet who



Harry in action (in the GIO shirt) with some Bathurst locals



ensured there was a bumper crowd at the Bathurst Indoor Stadium. For the first time the "Golden West" has had a taste of the sport they call "Murderball".

Starting off with a Come n' Try Clinic led by Gladiators Coach Curtis Palmer and a few of the Gladiators, the participants were giving a taste of what it's like to train like a Gladiator. This was then followed by an exhibition game where local celebs got a chance to give wheelchair rugby a go, while trying not to be smashed by local favourite Harry Clist. It was after this the real fun and games began - a Sydney Slam round followed by a City/Country clash.

All up it was a fantastic day, great people, great location. What more could you want? Thanks to everyone that made it happen in Bathurst.

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Table Tennis

Congratulations to Wheelchair Sport NSW member Mark Harris who was selected to travel to Beijing as a part of the Australian Team to the 2014 ITTF Para Table Tennis World Championships. Although Mark did not have any wins at the Championships he has a very positive attitude towards his future in the sport of table tennis.

"It was very good learning experience for me and after all it is my first world championship. It's good to know that I am not too far from the top world-class competitors. Rio is two years away, so I have to get ready for it then!"

Tennis

South Pacific Wheelchair Tennis Open (Nowra)

The first of the UNIQLO wheelchair tennis tournaments was a great success. We had wonderful weather down in Nowra for the South Pacific Wheelchair Tennis Open. New Zealand's Travis Moffat came out on top in the Consolation final. Travis was successful again in the doubles. Travis with doubles partner Keegan Oh-Chee proved too good for Mick Connell and Stephan Rochecouste. Mick Connell also made it into the singles final, trying to win his 8th consecutive South Pacific open singles title. However young gun Keegan Oh-Chee proved too good winning

the singles final for 2014.

NSW Wheelchair Tennis Open (Wollongong)



South Pacific Open Doubles winners



Players, volunteers and staff at the South Pacific Open

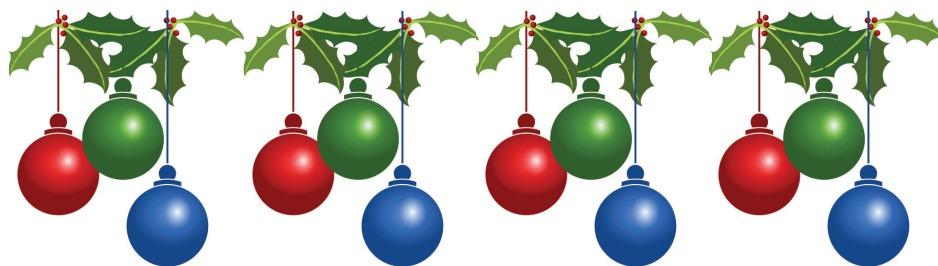
With such great weather in Nowra, we were due for some rain. And that is what we got, along with a lot of wind! The rain and wind was a nice change from the extreme heat earlier on the Saturday. However we did manage to get through all matches and Sunday's weather was much kinder. Henry de Cure from South Australia won the Consolation final. The doubles final saw Henry de Cure and Mick Connell claim victory over Wollongong local Jerry Markjoa and Keegan Oh-Chee. As they did in Nowra, Mick Connell and Keegan Oh-Chee met in the singles final. This time Mick claimed victory over Keegan for the 2014 NSW Wheelchair Tennis Open.



Winners and the ball kids at the NSW Wheelchair Open

Upcoming Events

Date	Level	Sport	Event	Location	Event contact
December 2014					
Saturday's		Athletics	Track and road racing training	SOP Athletics Track	WS NSW - Mark
21	State	Athletics	Athletics NSW Treloar Shield #8	SOP Athletics Track	WS NSW - Mark
25			Christmas Day		
26			Boxing Day		
January 2015					
			New Years Day		
13-17	International	Tennis	Apia International Sydney (Tennis)	SOP Tennis Centre	WS NSW - Maddie
10-11	National	Triathlon	Australian Para-triathlon Championships	Sydney International Regatta Centre	Triathlon NSW
16 -18	National	Basketball (Juniors)	Suncoast Spinners Tournament	Caloundra Indoor Stadium, QLD	QLD Sporting Wheelies
21-22	International	Athletics	Summer Down Under Series - Canberra Track	AIS Athletics Track	WS NSW - Mark
24	International	Athletics	Summer Down Under Series - Sydney Track	SOP Warm Up Track	WS NSW - Mark
25	Development	Athletics	Summer Down Under Series - Mentor & Development Clinic	SOP Warm Up Track	WS NSW - Mark
26			Australia Day		
26	International	Athletics	Summer Down Under Series - GIO Oz Day 10K	The Rocks, Sydney	WS NSW - Mark
30-1	National	Basketball	Women's Festival of Sport	Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen	WS NSW - Melanie
February					
	National	Handcycling	National Paracycling Series Round 1	Toowoomba, QLD	WS NSW - Mark/ Cycling Australia
	Development	Tennis	Coaching Clinic	Rehabilitation Centre, Ryde	WS NSW - Melanie
TBC	State	Rugby	Sydney Slam Series	Ryde Community Sports Centre	WS NSW - Mark
15	Local	Tennis	Tennis Clinic	TBC	WS NSW - Melanie
16-22	National	Lawn Bowls	Australian Open AWD	Melbourne, VIC	Bowls NSW
	Development	Basketball	NSW Junior Basketball Camp	Sydney Academy of Sport	WS NSW - Melanie
28	Development	Juniors	Junior Come N Try Day	TBC	WS NSW - Melanie
March					
TBC	State	Rugby	Sydney Slam Series	Ryde Community Sports Centre	WS NSW - Mark
	National	Handcycling	National Paracycling Series Round 2 - TT & RR	Bathurst, NSW	WS NSW - Sebastian/ Cycling Australia
	National	Handcycling	National Paracycling Series Round 3	Perth, WA	WS NSW - Sebastian/ Cycling Australia
	State	Swimming	Multi Class Swimming meet 1	Blacktown	Swimming NSW
22	Development	Tennis	Coaching Clinic	TBC	WS NSW - Maddie
28	State	Swimming	Multi Class Swimming Meet #1	Blacktown	Swimming NSW
29	Development	Juniors	Junior Come N Try Day	TBC	WS NSW - Melanie



For more information or enquiries call: 02 9809 5260 OR WE ARE LIVE @ www.wsnsw.org.au

Images contained in this document have been kindly provided by Serena Corporate Photography, William A Stewart AAPS and Wheelchair Sports NSW members. The views expressed in the Pushers Post do not necessarily reflect the views of Wheelchair Sports NSW Inc.

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