



JUNE 2020 EDITION

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# LORD'S TAVERNERS IRELAND TAVERNERS' TALES

*"Giving young people, particularly those with special needs, a sporting chance"*

## Our Giving Continues!



Lord's Taverners Ireland was delighted to be in the position to once again present not one, but two minibuses at the annual Christmas lunch last December.

The two very deserving organisations were Kingdom Wheelblasters from Kerry and Portmarnock Integrated Arch Club in Dublin.

The Kingdom Wheelblasters minibus was purchased from the proceeds of RevUp 2019 and keys were presented to Club Chairman, Tadgh Buckley, who spoke of how the new minibus will be of huge benefit to the club. Its use will include transferring their basketball team throughout Ireland to take part in wheelchair basketball blitz's.

An Irish Wheelchair Association affiliated sports club for children and teenagers with a physical disability, The Kingdom Wheelblasters was established in September 2014 to provide young people with the opportunity to participate in sport in a fun and safe environment.



The keys for the Portmarnock Integrated Arch Club minibuss were accepted by Sinead McGowan who told all present that the minibuss will enable more flexibility for members and increase their attendance at offsite activities and events as well as reducing current transportation costs.

The Club was founded in 1990 by the parents and friends of children with special needs, living in Portmarnock. There were no facilities in Portmarnock, prior to this, for young people with special needs, who were not being integrated within their own community.

None of this giving would be possible without the support of all our members and friends and we look forward to reporting more giving in our next newsletter as well continuing to co-fund Table Cricket with Leinster Cricket and their Cricket4all initiative.

Thank you all for helping to make a difference to the lives of young people with special needs!

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

June 2020

Welcome to our early Summer Newsletter.

I hope you're managing to stay safe and well in these difficult times. The Coronavirus pandemic is, of course, dominating all our thoughts and has resulted in a shocking loss of life and huge disruption to all aspects of our lives. Apart from the obvious health and economic effects, our social and sporting activities have been put completely on hold. Cricketers should be enjoying the start of the season by now, but this has had to be postponed until late July at the earliest. I should be down by the white wall in Terenure reminiscing with my fellow "mature" colleagues about former exploits, which, like good wine, improve with age!



The Charity Sector has also been exceptionally badly hit and I will outline below how the virus has impacted on Lord's Taverners Ireland.

## Results for 2019

Firstly, let me summarise our results for 2019. This was a very successful year and we were able to build on the considerable achievements of previous years.

### Revenue

We were the beneficiaries of two major fundraising events during the year:

- (1) The RevUp Motorcycle Event, organised by the Dead Ducks Motor Cycle Club and held over the May Bank Holiday, raised over €31,000 from sponsorship. This was a fantastic achievement and we are extremely grateful to them for their amazing support.
- (2) Our Christmas Lunch was again a really great success and enabled us to generate a net profit of over €43,000.

The annual Golf Outing was a resounding social success and contributed over €3,000. We also benefited from subscriptions and other donations of over €25,000.

### Expenditure

What did we do with this money? We focused on three main areas:

- (1) Two Buses: In 2019 we were able to contribute the €52,000 needed, after contributions from the recipients, to purchase two buses. These were configured to enable children with special needs to participate in sporting activities. The beneficiaries were Kerry Wheelblasters (in Tralee) and The Arch Club in Portmarnock. I had the privilege of presenting the keys to the buses at the Christmas Lunch.
- (2) Table Cricket: We are the nominated Charity Partner of Cricket Leinster. Given our history

and our origins, this is a vital partnership for us. Table Cricket is a very fast growing sport and enables children with special needs to participate in a competitive activity. Lord's Taverners Ireland makes a major contribution to the cost of this Cricket Leinster programme- last season, this amounted to a payment from us of nearly €18,000. We are very grateful to Naomi Scott Hayward, who has enthusiastically promoted and developed Table Cricket in recent years.

**(3) Other Equipment:** We were also delighted to be able to purchase other sporting equipment last year amounting to €16,000 in total. This included two soccer powerchairs which cost €10,000.

## **Prospects for 2020**

The Coronavirus pandemic is having a serious adverse effect on our fundraising in a number of ways:

**(1) RevUp Motor Cycle Weekend** (organised by Dead Ducks Motor Cycle Club): this was due to take place on the May Bank Holiday Weekend, but has had to be cancelled. We had hoped that this event would have raised even more than last year- over €35,000- so its cancellation is a particular setback.

Current Charity Work by The Dead Ducks Motor Cycle Club: The Members of the Club have, however, been extremely busy in recent weeks using their bikes to deliver medical equipment and supplies to hospitals and nursing homes literally all over the country. Please use this link

<https://revup-2020.everydayhero.com/ie/revup-2020-registration-deposits>

if you would like to show your appreciation for what they do and assist RevUp/Lord's Taverners Ireland continue helping young people with special needs by making an appropriate donation. A contribution of any amount would be very gratefully received.

**(2) Christmas Lunch 2020:** The prospects for our Christmas Lunch this year are unclear. We will inform you of our plans as soon as these have been clarified.

**(3) Golf Outing:** Our annual golf outing was scheduled to take place 14th August 2020 but, due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, the decision has been made to cancel the event.

## **Impact on our Charitable Giving**

We are currently reviewing how we can best operate within the constraints imposed by our seriously reduced fundraising activity. There are a number of activities that we are very keen to support:

**(1) Partnership with IWA Sport:** Earlier this year, we agreed to nominate IWA Sport, a division within the Irish Wheelchair Association, as our Preferred Recipient partner. We have committed to them that we will contribute €13,000 this year towards the cost of vans which will be used to organise sporting events for children with a physical disability.

**(2) Table Cricket:** We hope to be able to continue to support the efforts being made by Cricket Leinster to develop Table Cricket.

**(3) Other Applications:** We are also considering a number of other worthy applications for

support. We would like to help these but this, of course, is subject to the necessary funds being available.

To carry out our plans, we absolutely need the continued support of our members and friends. I would like to thank you for all the assistance you have given us in the past and hope that you will also contribute generously this year.

Be sure to look after yourselves,

**Paul Farrell,**

**Chairman**

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At time of publication the following events are due to take place subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

## **The Lord's Taverners Ireland Fundraising Christmas Lunch 2020**

The annual Christmas Lunch will take place in the InterContinental Dublin, Ballsbridge on Thursday 17th December 2020 at 12.30pm.

As you are aware, this is our main fundraising event of the year and thanks to your support we hope to present our 17th minibus to a very worthwhile organisation on the day.



The main and silent auction that we operate on the day provides well needed funds for our charity and we constantly rely on the goodwill and generosity of companies and individuals who donate all items to us.

If you can assist in obtaining any items that we can use on the day, large or small, we would be extremely grateful to you.

The positive impact and difference your kindness has made to previous recipients has been graciously attested to in our newsletters and videos, confirming that you are truly "giving young people, particularly those with special needs, a sporting chance".

Please contact Paula Cross on 087 9953397 or [lordstaverners@live.ie](mailto:lordstaverners@live.ie) for more details.

## **The Lord's Taverners Ireland Social Golf Outing 2021**



This outing has been extremely popular, and we are delighted to be holding it again for a twelfth year in Castle Golf Club on Friday 13h August 2021!

Once again it will include golf and dinner. Non-golfers need not miss out, as it is also possible to join us that evening for dinner where you will have a chance to catch up with other members over some drinks and good food.

As well as individual bookings, tables of 4 / 6 / 8 & 10 can also be accommodated and we have once again secured a SHOTGUN START at 2.00pm so everyone will start and finish together.

Contact Keith Cairns on 087 2572848 or Paula Cross on 087 9953397 or email [lordstaverners@live.ie](mailto:lordstaverners@live.ie) for more details.

**We look forward to seeing you there!!**

# Christmas Lunch 2019

Lord's Taverners Ireland returned to The InterContinental Dublin, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 for our annual Christmas Lunch and once again we were overwhelmed by the huge support and generosity of members and friends.

We were once again in a position to present not one but two minibuses to very deserving organisations, Kingdom Wheelblasters in Kerry and Portmarnock Integrated Arch Club in Dublin, increasing our fleet to 16 vehicles.

A very special presentation was also made to our outgoing President, George Hook, by our incoming President, Michael Moriarty. We are extremely grateful to George for the dedication he's shown to Lord's Taverners Ireland during his time as President from 2006 until 2019.

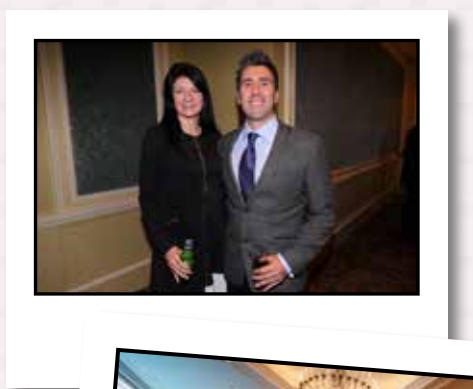
Oliver Callan provided lots of laughs after lunch and we were delighted to welcome Bryan Dobson as our compere for the day.

Both the main and silent auctions were a great success with thanks to our auctioneer, Heatley Tector, and there were lots of great items available to purchase.

As per previous years, once the lunch ended, the buzz and conversation continued in the Ice Bar late into the evening.

We look forward to returning to The Intercontinental Dublin once again for this year's event on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and details can be found on our website [www.lordstavernersireland.ie](http://www.lordstavernersireland.ie)





# RevUp 2020 cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions

Unfortunately, we had to cancel RevUp 2020 which was due to take place the May bank holiday weekend, due to COVID-19 restrictions. Many of you are be aware that this would have been the third year of joint collaboration with Dead Ducks Motorcycle Club and funds raised in 2018 and 2019 from this event resulted in us being able to present two minibuses instead of one at both of these Christmas lunches.



As you can imagine the organisers and participants are extremely disappointed but are now focussing on making 2021 bigger than ever.

In the meantime, we are extremely proud of our friends in Dead Ducks Motorcycle Club who are assisting with the delivery of vital PPE to hospitals, hospices and nursing homes nationwide.

The following link will give you a glimpse of the work they are doing and you will hear from President of Dead Ducks MCC, Don Moore.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/the-motorcyclist-volunteers-helping-front-line-staff-fight-coronavirus-1.4223114>

Dead Ducks MCC are also currently working on a fundraising idea which they hope will assist Lord's Taverners Ireland during this very challenging time for charities and we will keep you updated as this progresses!

In the meantime, the fundraising page for RevUp 2020 remains open and should you wish to make a donation to show your appreciation for the work that they are doing you can do so by using the link below.

<https://revup-2020.everydayhero.com/ie/revup-2020-registration-deposits>





# Daniel Tighe Update

In 2017 Lord's Taverners Ireland were delighted to support Daniel's Voyage by providing a customised running chair to Daniel Tighe. Daniel has a rare genetic disorder called Sotos Syndrome which causes him to have severe intellectual disability, epilepsy, visual impairment, sensory issues, no speech and challenging behaviour.

More recently we funded a hoist that was required in the family home that has been adapted to cater for Daniels needs and we contacted Daniels mother, Sinead, to see how Daniel and the family are doing during these challenging times.

"We are well thank you. Daniel is doing great and in good health. These times are hard with no school, carers or respite. He still has behavioural issues so running with him helps.

The running chair is a lifeline to us. Daniel loves it and we love running with him. It really stimulates him and he knows a lot of our routes now. We have done a lot of races to date, two of them being the Dublin marathon 2018 and 2019. We have a team that pushes him now which adds to Daniel's social skills. We are regulars still at our local parkrun in Tymon park.



The running chair has allowed Daniel to be part of a huge community and it has given him an identity. We love hearing his name being called out when we run and also hearing the beeps from the cars.

With regards to the hoist, this will aid Daniel for showering now and also when he gets bigger it will support me as we will no longer be able to lift him. We moved back into house in late December and then Daniel was sick. We had a lot to sort out with the house. I haven't used the hoist yet as you have to be trained to do so. I had that scheduled for March/April but due to Covid I can't let anyone into the house. Hopefully as restrictions lift I will get it sorted. The hoist will be very beneficial for the future care of Daniel and also for our physical health too.

We can't thank Lord Taverners Ireland enough as you have played a huge part in ensuring Daniel's quality of life for the future. You have supported us as family to be included and create beautiful memories within the community of running.

Kind Regards,  
Sinead Tighe."

If you would like to donate to Lord's Taverners Ireland so as we can continue to help young people like Daniel, please contact us today on [lordstaverners@live.ie](mailto:lordstaverners@live.ie) or Paula Cross on 087-9953397.

# Cricket will rise again

By Gerard Siggins

This has been a most difficult year for cricket, and as I write there is no sign of the torment ending. Several valued members of our small community have already been felled by the virus and we miss them greatly and will for some time to come.

Our sport and all the activities spinning off it have had to take a back seat as we wait for the nasty little beast to leave us.

But one thing is sure and that is this – cricket and cricketers will be back.

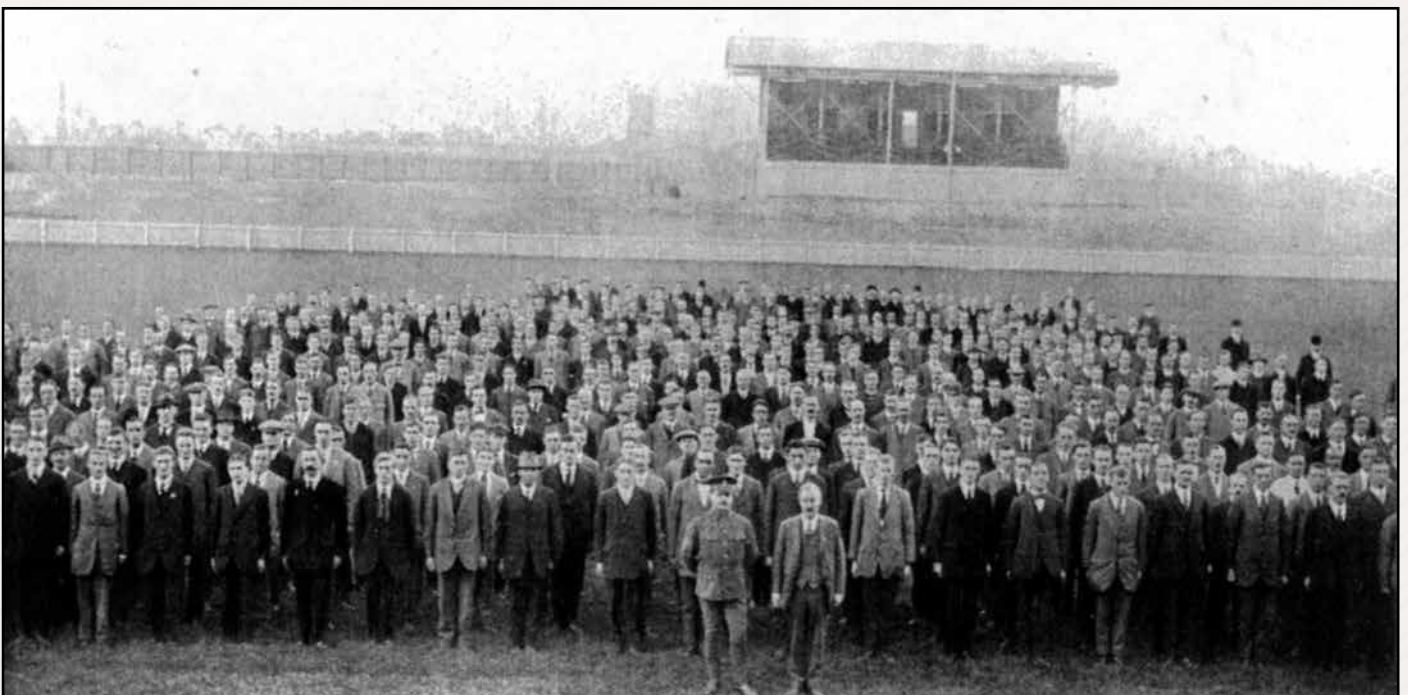
At times like this we can take comfort from history, and how the game has proved resilient in the face of great upheaval.

Back in the 1840s the Great Famine claimed a million lives and sent a million more overseas. Cricket was thriving before the potato crop failed, and continued to grow afterwards. When the hunger hit hard in Durrow, Co Laois, the local landlord, Viscount Ashbrook, hit upon a novel solution.

His club, mostly drawn from the local Protestant gentry, was short of players. With men out of work starving, local Catholic men were hired in to play for his Ashbrook Union team at a rate of two shillings for practice days and the same rate plus expenses for games. There is no doubt such an arrangement was able to keep the wolf from the door in several households.

The First World War also struck hard at cricket – a special sportsman's company was founded by a former Ireland captain, Frank Browning, who was at the time the president of the IRFU. Many cricketers joined up and many lost their lives in Gallipoli and Flanders. Four of the Trinity 1<sup>st</sup> XI from 1913 did not survive the war.

Browning himself was killed on the first morning of the Easter Rising, shot by a sniper's bullet on Northumberland Road. And while serious cricket was put aside in wartime – College Park and Castle Avenue were used to grow vegetables – there were plenty of smaller games and charity matches.



IRFU veterans company drilling at Lansdowne Road.

And after it was all over, and hundreds of Irish cricketers were dead, and others were busy fighting on either side of the War of Independence, there was still enough dogged cricket people around to set up the Leinster Cricket Union in 1919, and the Irish Cricket Union four years later.

The sport was not immune to tragedy outside war time – in 1921 a young student, Elizabeth Wright, was shot dead by a sniper while she watched a match in College Park. And just months after the Bloody Sunday incident in Croke Park the Black and Tans sealed off the Leinster CC ground in Rathmines during a sports day and searched the entire attendance, which must have been a terrifying ordeal.

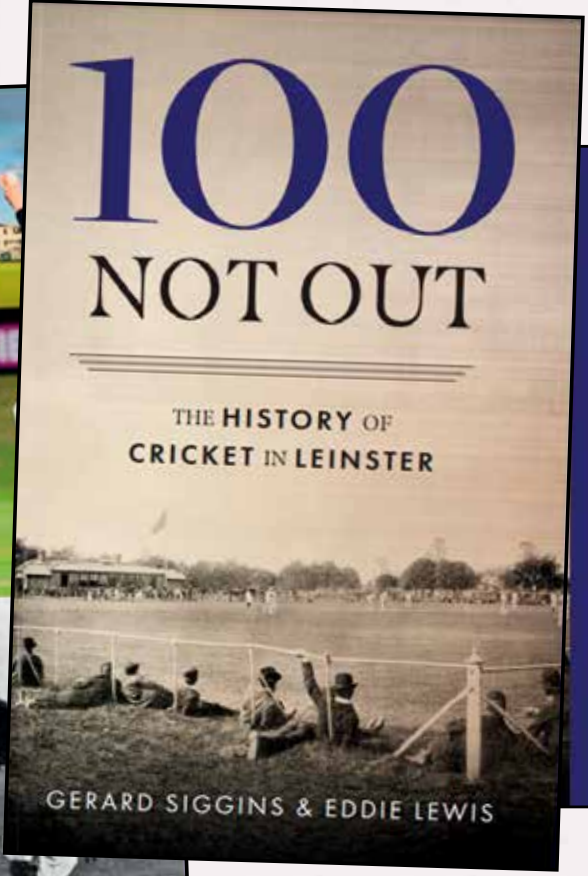
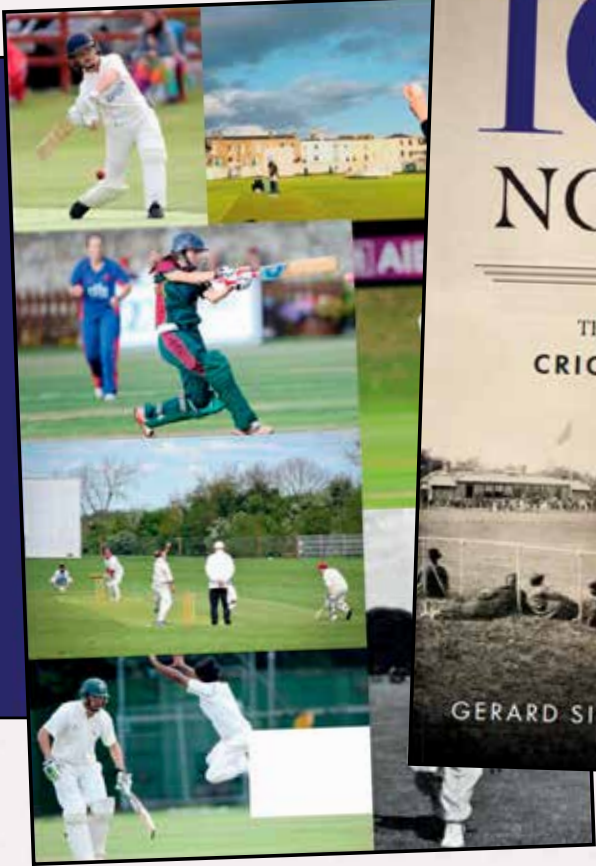
But while plenty of Irishmen went off to fight in the Second World War, the Leinster leagues continued without a blip, as did the Interprovincials through the darkest years of the Troubles.

Indeed, those terrible years often saw violence spill into the south, not least around the time of the hunger strikes in 1981. So you would imagine that 1982 was not the most auspicious time to start an all-Ireland cricket competition for clubs. But our game showed its mettle, as it has always refused to allow anything get in the way of a good sporting encounter.

And so it will be with Covid-19. In the meantime, stay safe and be good to each other. Cricket will rise again.

GERARD SIGGINS has been writing about Leinster cricket for 32 years. A former sports editor of the *Leinster Tribune*, he has written five books about cricket including *Green Days, Cricket in Ireland 1760-2000*. He currently writes about the game for the *Sunday Independent* and *The Times*, *Inland Edition*, and is author of a best-selling series of children's sports novels.

EDDIE LEWIS played for many years for his club *Merrion* and also represented Leinster and Leinster at inter-provincial level. He was President of the Leinster Cricket Union in 2001/2002 and first Chair of the new company that is the LCU plc. In recent years he has taken over responsibility for the compilation of cricket records. An author of books on public policy in Ireland he is also a regular contributor to the *Cricket Leinster* website.



CRICKET IN LEINSTER has been played for almost 300 years and many of Leinster's better-known clubs can trace their history back to the 17th century. But it wasn't until 18th April 1909 that a club first met in the Central Hotel in Rathangan, Meath. Dublin and the Leinster Cricket Union was formed. This book is published to mark the centenary of the union.

Gerard Siggins' text traces the ups and downs of cricket across the province, a sport buffeted by war, revolution and occasional social change over the past century. Five of the original 14 clubs no longer exist and there have been mergers and splits over time. The past twenty years have been characterised by Ireland's great advances on the world stage and the arrival of many of cricket's most fanatical followers from the Indian sub-continent. They have driven a huge increase in the numbers playing cricket throughout Leinster. Specially commissioned articles will also trace the story of women's, youth and inter-provincial cricket.

Eddie Lewis' statistical section will provide an invaluable reference of records from all of the minor clubs across the century. It will undoubtedly provide discussion in cricket here and changing routes for years to come.

# A Message of Thanks

The Lord's Taverners Ireland would like to take this opportunity to extend their appreciation for the support received from:

Uniworld Boutique River Cruises  
SuperValu  
Irish Wheelchair Association  
Ray Tilson  
InterContinental Hotel,  
Castle Golf Club  
David McKernan of Java Republic Coffee Company  
Tom Grace  
Specsavers  
The Connacht Hotel Galway  
The Merrion Hotel  
Luttrellstown Golf Club  
Martin Bates at Aylesbury Pharmacy Tallaght  
Dead Ducks Motorcycle Club  
Fujifilm  
HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum  
The Forster Court Hotel, Galway  
Richard Evans - Isaacs Hotel & Greenes restaurant Cork  
The River Lee Hotel, Cork  
Connacht Rugby  
Sunday World  
The Sign Lab Limited  
Ballymore Properties Ireland Limited

RPD Printing  
Leinster Rugby  
National Lighting  
Platinum Travel  
Dublin Tector Menswear  
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Cricket Ireland  
Dublin Grass Machinery  
Leopardstown Racecourse  
Butlers Chocolate  
Mondello Park  
BMW Motorrad  
Raidar Men's Clothing  
Blainroe Golf Club  
Bike Buyers Guide  
Irish Rail

AVIS Rent a Car  
Lockerfix  
Tayto Park  
Joe Duffy Motorrad

.... and we ask you in turn to support them

## M E R C H A N D I S E

We have a selection of merchandise on offer for the Lord's Taverners Ireland and orders can be made by emailing [lordstaverners@live.ie](mailto:lordstaverners@live.ie) or alternatively you can contact Paula Cross on 087 9953397.



The Lord's Taverners Ireland  
**Tie Pin**  
Cost: €10.00 plus €2.00 p&p



The Lord's Taverners Ireland  
**Official Tie**  
Cost: €25.00 plus €3.00 p&p

## OBITUARY

The officers and committee wish to express their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Brian Kerr, Carmel Fleming, Andrew Kenny and Rory McDonagh who sadly passed away since our last edition.