



OCTOBER 2021 EDITION

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CHY 18470

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AMBASSADOR: ED JOYCE

# LORD'S TAVERNERS IRELAND TAVERNERS' TALES

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



## CRISIS OR NO CRISIS, THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

The last two years have been very difficult for all of us, but imagine what it has been like for those less well off than yourself. The day to day challenges of living safely and getting around that most of us take for granted were made immeasurably difficult by life under Covid-19.

So while much of the economy, and society, closed down or went into hibernation, the needs of those we look to support did not have that luxury.

The Lord's Taverners Ireland has continued to raise funds to help give young people with disabilities a sporting chance.

Despite being forced to abandon our famous Christmas lunch, we were delighted to receive enormous support from a Christmas Appeal which completely exceeded expectations raising over €65,000. We also ran a very successful on-line table quiz in conjunction with Cricket Leinster and all these events helped keep our funding going for organisations and individuals and the vital services we support.

Over the past year we have presented two more minibuses to the Galway Speeders and the North-East Thunder clubs, as well as specialised equipment to some inspirational young people you can read more about inside this edition.

Galway Speeders are a multi-sport club based in Galway, affiliated to the Irish Wheelchair Association providing sporting opportunities for its members.

The club engages in all IWA-Sport activities, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby,





Athletics and Table Tennis. The club is also involved in a number of activities outside IWA-Sport partnering with local agencies to provide water-based activities for its members (Sailing, Rowing and Kayaking). Club members travel nationally to attend events, there is also an international element to the club where several of its members have progressed through the ranks and now represent Ireland at international level at Table Tennis, Athletics and Sailing.

Galway Speeders currently has 41 registered members participating and 22 registered volunteers and coaches.

Galway City Community Centre provides day services to 75 service users. On a weekly basis the centre delivers social and education programmes, one-to-one supports and community engagement.

The specially-adapted minibuses provided by Lord's Taverners Ireland are an essential resource to Galway Speeders, ensuring that many of their members are able to attend the centre as alternate transport options are limited for many.

The Community Centre is an integral part of their lives and the minibus will help keep Galway Speeders members connected with their peers and their extended community.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the centre had to restrict in-house services, and the people who used it lost their central contact base in their communities and their access to much-needed supports. In a very short space of time they adapted their services and developed a Community Outreach model to address the new needs of Galway Speeders service users, who have found the Lord's Taverners minibus to be their lifeline to the outside world.

Our second minibus was gratefully received by the North-East Thunder Wheelchair Basketball Club in Ardee, Co Louth.

On weekends and evenings North-East Thunder are a senior and junior wheelchair basketball club who participate in IWA-Sport National Programmes. They also have a multisport element and participate in Boccia, Wheelchair Rugby and Para-Athletics.

During the weekdays the minibus is utilised by IWA Ardee to support the transport needs of its members.

As you can see, the funds raised by Lord's Taverners Ireland are going to amazing use, bringing joy and hope into the lives of young people who deserve a sporting chance.

**Ger Siggins**



# NATHAN KIRWAN

In February of this year Nathan received a new indoor trainer funded by Lord's Taverners Ireland and we're always delighted to receive updates from him.

## February 2021

*"Yesterday I received confirmation that my new indoor trainer is being shipped from the UK. I am absolutely delighted that it has been purchased for me. I have been looking at them for a while and even tried to build my own, which was unsuccessful.*

*I have been getting out on the track chair as much as possible. It is difficult at this time of the year with the weather and with covid all the safer routes are packed with people out walking so it's difficult to get a good run. This indoor trainer will allow me to continue to build up the miles safely. I hope to complete a half marathon this year, and maybe some triathlons, if they go ahead.*

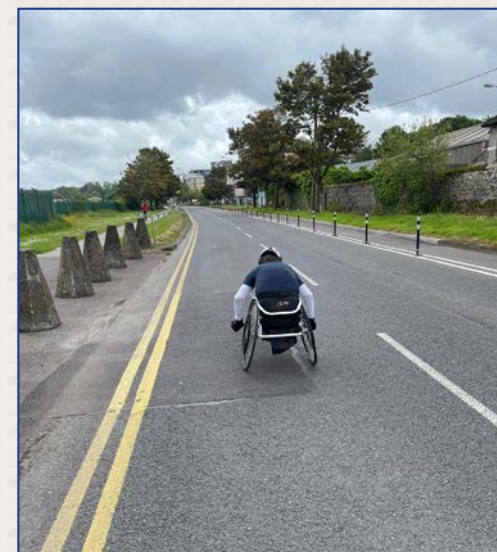
*I continue to use the hand bike you purchased for me about five years ago. It is currently set up on a turbo trainer in my house, which I use every week. I nearly have the full triathlon set up. The next thing I need is a swimming pool!!!"*



## June 2021

*"Just an update on how I have been getting on with the indoor trainer that Lord's Taverners purchased for me. I set it up in a gym that wasn't being used during lockdown. As I work from home this gave me somewhere to escape to as well.*

*I started training slowly. I began at 30min sessions and added an extra 10mins each week. It wasn't long before I decided I would enter the Cork City Half Marathon, which was virtual this year. It gave me something to aim towards. I built up my training to two hour sessions. At this stage I was happy to turn on my strava and hit road.*





*I was 14km into the 21km push when I hit a pot hole and damaged the front wheel. I had to abandon the half marathon. I was very disappointed as I was 2/3 the way there and feeling strong. A week later after rectifying the damage I returned to the same route and completed the 21km half marathon.*

*A few weeks prior to this I took the hand bike to Waterford where I completed the Cork City Marathon which was virtual this year too.*

*All in all it has been a good start to the summer. All the winter training has paid off.*

*Thanks again for your support.*

**Nathan."**

## Digital Medal



Nathan is an inspiration to us all and we wish him continued success in all that he sets his mind to!



# UPDATE FROM LEINSTER



In September 2020 we started working with the Sports Inclusion Development Officer (SIDO) for Wexford, Triona Shalloe, on a pilot run for our Table Cricket Lending Scheme. We started the scheme in October 2020 in Wexford and in 2021, we have been moving across Leinster to other counties, one by one, to work with the sports partnerships and county councils which have ongoing cricket programmes. Sets are currently in South Dublin and Wexford and moving into Wicklow and DLR schools over the coming months.

Cricket Leinster staff have delivered the Table Cricket Leaders Course to SIDOs in the Sports Partnerships and in School to upskill teachers and Sports Officers. Where we were not able to do in-person sessions due to covid we were able to provide them with some videos on how the game works and how to set it up, along with information booklets. We are currently arranging filming for a video so that we have professional video in an Irish setting to share with organisations. Cricket Leinster are creating this in partnership with HBV Studios and Lord's Taverners Ireland.

Despite government restrictions in schools, we now have over 400 kids and adults under the age of 25 that have participated since we started the scheme. We also have almost 20 trained Table Cricket Leaders in schools and community organisations.

We also ran a workshop for coaches at the end of March, before the season kicked off on "How to Make Your Cricket Sessions More Inclusive for All Abilities". It was well attended with 49 registered and 32 showing up. 19 clubs were represented in the end, which was very positive to see. We were delighted to have the Sports Inclusion Development Officer in South Dublin Sports Partnership, Lucy Cush, to deliver a piece around the appropriate language to use. Then I ran several scenarios and did breakout rooms with the participants so they discussed and gave feedback on what they would do in the different situations. It was also a great opportunity to show participants what Table Cricket is and create awareness for The Lord's Taverners Ireland. It was very well supported and great feedback from the participants. They were all asking for another one! We were able to release a clip from the workshop on World Autism Awareness Day and hope that we will be able to use other clips to create awareness in the future.

On the back of that workshop I ran a workshop for clubs in May on how to start a Cricket4All programme in their clubs/communities and that has now allowed us to identify and start working with three more clubs on inclusion within their clubs.

**Naomi Scott-Hayward**





# BIG ROY: HIS LIFE IN WORDS

The pandemic cut a wide swathe of all sections of society and cricket did not escape. In January, Covid-19 claimed the life of a much-loved member of our community, and a man who made an enormous contribution to Irish cricket in many areas and was a regular visitor to our dinner.

Roy Torrens played for Ireland just 30 times in a career that spanned almost 19 years. The fixture lists were thin in the 60s and 70s, but the big Brigade seamer was unfortunate to be around at a time when Ireland had several high-quality pace bowlers.

On retirement he became involved in administration and after a spell as Ireland selector he was given the honour of serving as President of the Irish Cricket Union in 2000. But he came into his own when Ireland's successes and expanding fixture list required a committed manager for the senior XI.

Roy stepped in and for more than a decade he organised, mentored, babysat and acted as confessor for Ireland's best players as they toured the globe. Roy was at three World Cups and four World T20s, becoming the public face of the side for many.

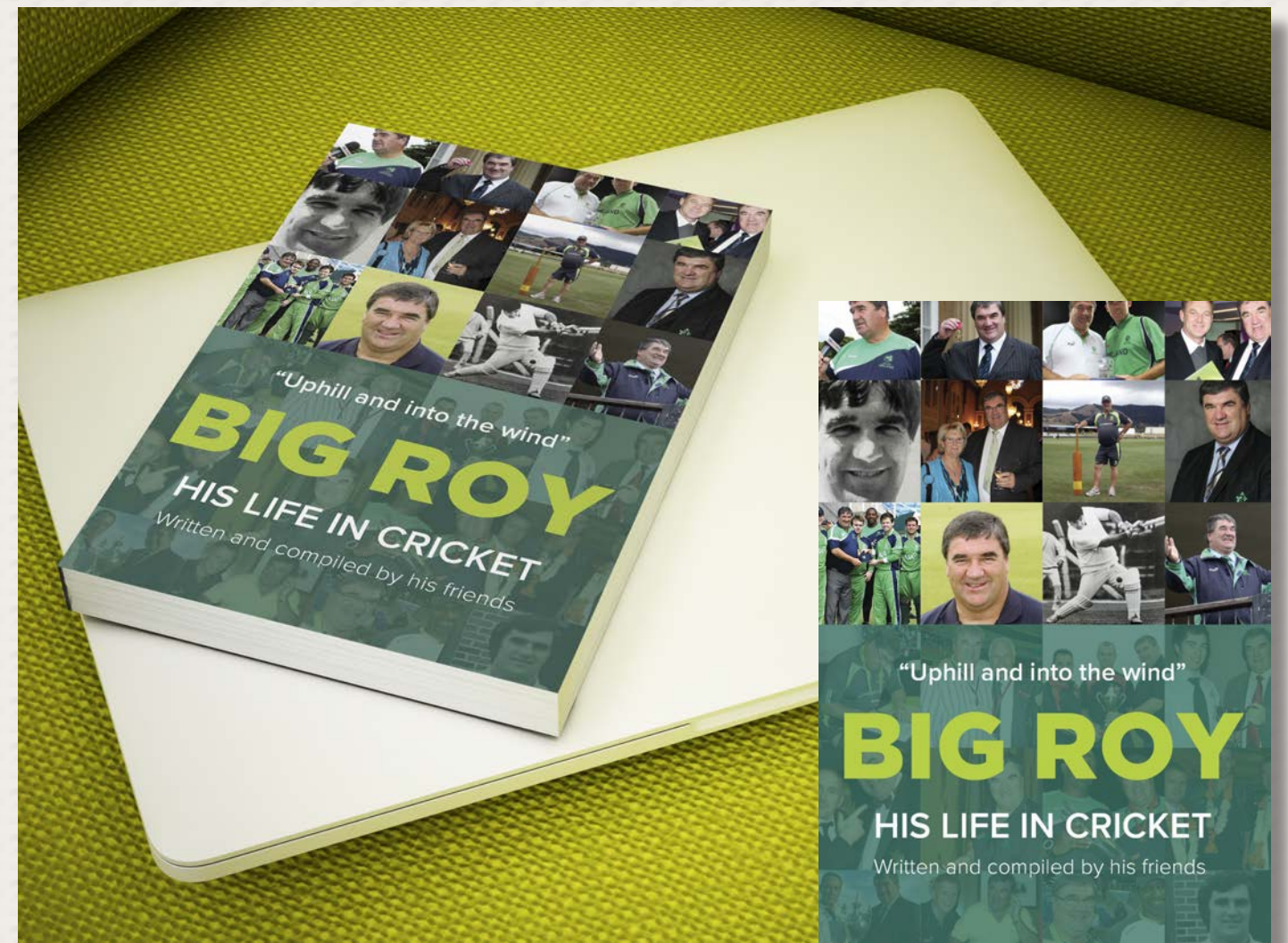
His death was a shocking blow to his family and many friends, and the Cricket Writers of Ireland decided to utilise the lockdown to amass almost 100 tributes to Roy, even more photographs, and publish them as a 120-page paperback book, entitled "Big Roy: His Life in Cricket", subtitled "Uphill and into the wind."

Cricket Ireland, Cricket Leinster and several of Roy's pals asked could they contribute towards the publication and their generosity meant the CWI was able to produce the book and distribute it free of charge.

Among the contributors were former Ireland coaches Adi Birrell and Phil Simmons, Australian manager Steve Barnard and many of Roy's former team-mates and players who played under him.

Cricket Ireland made a special presentation to his family at its awards shortly after his death. During the online ceremony, his great friend Robin Walsh said this: "Roy was an icon, there was no doubt he was one of the greatest figures in Irish cricket – in fact, I could give you an argument why he was the greatest all-round figure in Irish cricket."

Ger Siggins



William Porterfield with manager Roy Torrens and President Robin Walsh

## BIG ROY



Ireland manager Roy Torrens in New Zealand ahead of 2015 World Cup game against West Indies





# RUNS FOR CHANGE

With Covid continuing to restrict our fundraising events, we will be soon launching a new and exciting fundraising campaign, Runs for Change. An initiative that gives cricket fans the chance to raise much needed funds for charity by sponsoring a participating player's runs in international matches and help us raise funds to continue 'giving young people, particularly those with special needs, a sporting chance'.

Not only is this fundraising campaign a great way to support Lord's Taverners Ireland but it also gives some of Ireland's top cricket players another reason to get as many runs on the board as they can! You can sponsor each run a player scores for as little or as much as you like - and you can cap the maximum amount you'd like to donate.

Six brilliant players across the men and women's Irish cricket teams, (Laura Delaney Gaby Lewis, Leah Paul, Paul Sterling, Andrew Balbirnie and Lorcan Tucker), have shown their support and pledged to hit as many runs as they can in support of Lord's Taverners Ireland and Runs for Change.

Full details will announced shortly and we hope that you will show your support Lord's Taverners Ireland and these wonderful players as they strive to raise some much needed funds.

Everyone deserves to have the chance to participate in sport.

#LTlrunsforchange

In 2018 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.

In 2019 we funded a hoist that was required in the family home that has been adapted to cater for Daniels needs and this year we are delighted to have been in a position once again to assist by funding a customised chair for Daniel to offer him additional comfort on a daily basis.



# HUGH BROWNE

Hugh is an incredible young man with a severe intellectual disability who really enjoys cycling. He has learnt to cycle a regular bike but is unable to operate the brakes and this has put major limitations on the range and the safety of his cycling.

Hugh's Dad Eoin met with an occupational therapist and learned of the development of a range of brakes suitable for adapted bikes and trikes. A wireless companion brake was recommended for Hugh that would allow a parent or carer to remotely control the rear brake on Hugh's bike and Lord's Taverners Ireland were delighted to give funding.

Here's hoping the recent mild weather will continue so as Hugh can continue to enjoy his daily cycles before the Winter sets in.



This funding is only possible thanks to you, our members and friends, and we are truly grateful for your continued support!







## The Lord's Taverners Ireland Social Golf Outing 2022

This outing has been extremely popular, and despite being cancelled in 2020 and 2021 we hope to have a date and venue confirmed soon for August 2022.

Full details will be distributed to all members once finalised.



## The Lord's Taverners Ireland Fundraising Christmas Lunch 2022



Following the disappointment of having to cancel our annual Christmas lunch for a second year in a row in 2021 we have secured a date for 2022 in the hope that all restrictions will be lifted by then and we can once again celebrate amongst friends and colleagues whilst raising all important funds to help young people with special needs.

The 2022 Christmas Lunch is scheduled to take place in the InterContinental Dublin, Ballsbridge on Thursday 15th December 2022 at 12.30pm.

As you are aware, in the past, this has been our main fundraising event of the year and thanks to your support we hope to present our 21<sup>st</sup> minibus to a very worthwhile organisation on the day.

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 for more details.



## LORD'S TAVERNERS IRELAND

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

**We will shortly be launching our 2021 Christmas appeal. Details will be sent to all members to ask for your support**



### Minibus Recipients

**2006** - The Blue Dolphins, **2007** - The Daughters of Charity  
**2008** - Rehabcare, **2009** - Enable, **2010** - Belvedere Youth Club  
**2011** - Camphill Communities of Ireland, **2012** - Grosvenor House,  
**2013** - The LauraLynn Foundation, **2014** - The Irish Wheelchair Association,  
**2015** - Rebel Wheelers, **2016** - Scoil Mochua, **2017** - Cheeverstown,  
**2018** - St Michaels School Holy Angels in partnership with RevUp and Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Ireland, **2019** - Kingdom Wheelblasters in partnership with RevUp and Portmarnock Arch Club.

**2020** - The Galway Speeders and North East Thunder Wheelchair Basketball Club

### Sports Wheelchair, Specialised Equipment & Funding Recipients

*The Mid West Spina Bifida Association, The Harry Birrell Trust, The Irish Wheelchair Association Sports Kilkenny, The Galway Speeders, The IRFU Charity Trust, The Rebel Wheelers, Kingdom Wheelblasters, Clonashee Wheelchair Basketball Club, St. John of Gods Islandbridge, specialised equipment and buggies for eleven individuals with disabilities, a chair hoist, two vans for the IWA and continuous funding towards Table Cricket.*

**Visit our website and download our membership form**  
[www.lordstavernersireland.ie](http://www.lordstavernersireland.ie)

**For more details contact**  
**Paula Cross 087-995 3397**  
**or Email [lordstaverners@live.ie](mailto:lordstaverners@live.ie)**



# 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



## ***WE NEED YOUR HELP***

Lord's Taverners Ireland sincerely appreciate all your support to date in attending our functions and continuing your membership and subscription.

We hope to resume fundraising events in 2022 and are currently looking for full or partial sponsors. Should you be in a position to assist or know of someone who would be interested please let us know. We would also be very grateful for any auction or raffle items you would be kind enough to donate.

Please contact Paula Cross on 087 9953397 if you can help in any way.

In the meantime, we hope that you will share details of our upcoming Christmas Appeal with friends and colleagues as all funds raised will help us continue 'giving young people, particularly those with special needs, a sporting chance.

Please contact Paula Cross on 087 9953397 if you can help in any way.

## **OBITUARY**

The officers and committee wish to express their deepest condolences to the families and friends of Cecil Medcalf, Sean Moore, Roy Torrens, Diarmuid Moore, Cyril Irwin, Norman Adams, Eddie Moore and Brian Siggins who sadly passed away since our last edition.