



BRANCH NEWS

NEWCASTLE

KEITH LEWIS LIVES ON IN BRANCH MEMORIES

Newcastle Taverners have perpetuated the memory of their founding father and former National Executive Officer, Keith Lewis, by naming their annual Junior Taverner Awards in his honour.

Keith, the prime mover in setting up the Newcastle Branch with former National President John Darling 13 years ago, died last year.

At the Branch's annual dinner in January this year, Newcastle Taverners Chairman, Vic Levi, announced that the two annual Junior Taverner scholarships would now be known as the Keith Lewis Memorial Awards.

The first recipients, announced at the dinner, are two outstanding young cricketers 14-year-old Brodie Neems, of Hamlyn Terrace, on the Central Coast and Josh Geary, 17, of Maitland.

Brodie, who also won the award last year, is a talented left arm bowler who was a member of the undefeated NSW Under 15 team.

Josh is an outstanding batting prospect who this season scored a sensational 200 in the Maitland competition for Northern Suburbs against Eastern Suburbs.

His amazing innings in one afternoon included 25 fours and 8 sixes.

Josh was recently selected in the NSW Combined High Schools Second Eleven to play in the All Schools Competition in Sydney.

The Branch was lucky to have Keith's widow, Baith, and his two sons, David and Steve, to make the presentations at the dinner.

Dave, who spoke of behalf of the three, said his father would have been delighted with the honour bestowed upon him.

He said Keith had always had a great love of the Junior Taverner system and had always been close to the Newcastle Branch.



At the Golf Day: Gordon Boyd with the late Keith Lewis' son Steve and David and grandsons.



Newcastle Branch Taverners XI at Mandalong Oval before the game against NSW Branch.

TAVERNER NAMED IN TEAM OF HALF CENTURY

Newcastle Taverners Branch member, Royce Levi, was named a member of the University of Newcastle Cricket Club's team of the half century early this year.

The former NSW Country wicketkeeper received his honour at the Club's Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations.

Royce played with the Newcastle and NSW University Clubs, Stockton, Petersham and Northern Suburbs (Maitland).

He won a cricket blue at both Universities.

He narrowly missed out on selection in the NSW Sheffield Shield side when Newcastle 'keeper, Doug Ford, succeeded another Novocastrian, Ossie Lambert.

A WHO'S WHO OF SPORTING STARS

The field for the Newcastle Branch's annual Golf Day in January this year read like a Who's Who of representative sportsmen.

It included four Australian internationals and a number of Newcastle representative players.

The internationals were former test cricketers, Rick McCosker and Robert "Dutchy" Holland and former Australian Rugby Union representatives, Ron Harvey and Professor Saxon White, the Newcastle Branch President.

Ron Harvey, the most versatile of the quartet, also played representative cricket for NSW and Newcastle. At Union, he was a class goal-kicking five-eighth.

All four performed well in the golf, taking home trophies from the Ambrose event at the beautiful Newcastle Course at Fern Bay.

Another versatile golfing competitor was John McLaughlin who represented Newcastle at both Rugby League and Cricket.

John, a goal-kicking full-back or winger, played for the Western Suburbs Newcastle Club and was a member of the famous Newcastle team which won the State Cup, defeating the "invincible" St George side and then Parramatta in the final in 1964.

The Eels team in those day boasted Ken and Dick Thornett and Ron Lynch while St George's players included the great Reg Gasnier, Graeme Langlands, Billy Smith and company.

Other former first grade cricketers in the golf field included Ted Atchison, who is the Chairman of the International Sports Centre Trust these days, and former fast bowler Graeme Sutcliffe.

A team of Newcastle medicos, Drs Jeff Tyler, Neil Porter, Merv McCallum and Chris Levi, took out the major golf trophy for the best nett score.

Robert Ogram, the golf day starter, received the President's annual award for most valuable service.

Nearly 100 golfers played and more than 60 people attended the dinner following the golf, making the event a financial success.

The Branch thanks its sponsors Tyrrells', McGuigans', Tamburlaines' and Sobels' Vineyards, Garry Dowling, who offered a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, and Club Professional, Jason Laws.



At the dinner L-R: Josh Geary with his parents, the late Keith Lewis' widow Baith, Ken Clifford, Brodie Neems grandmother and mother, Steve Lewis and David Lewis.



Sue and Doug Duncan about to tee off at the Golf Day.



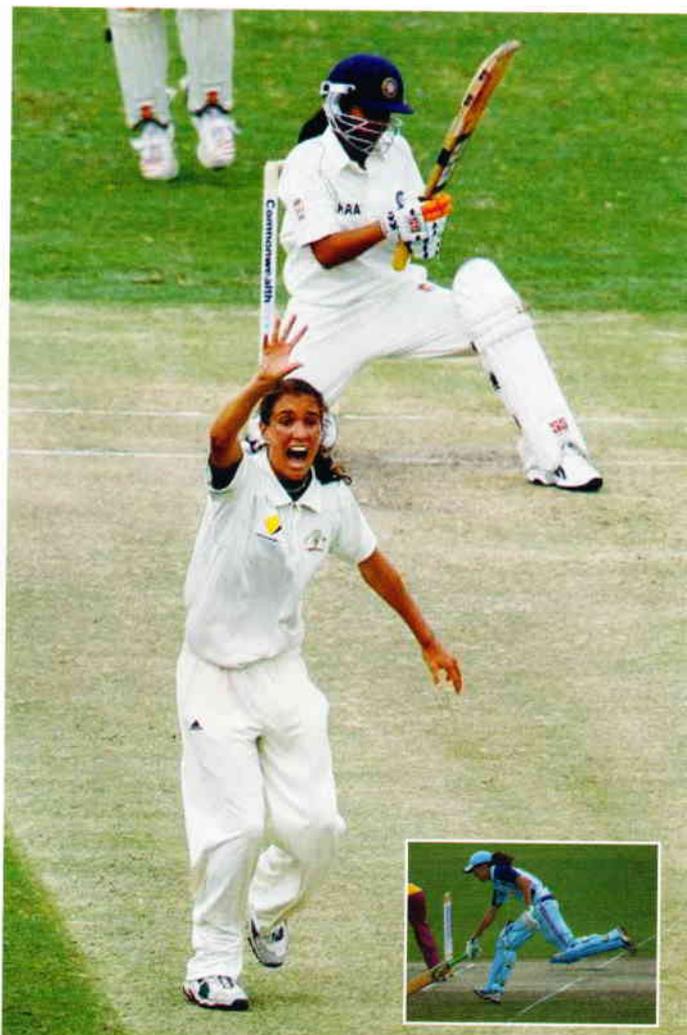
Who's who of cricketers L-R Ted Atchison, Graham Sutcliffe, Rick McCosker, Ron Harvey, Bob Holland and John McLaughlin.



NSW Branch Chairman Richard Lucas gets together with his cricket organiser Angus Klem, Newcastle skipper Bob Holland and Mandalong Oval owner Sterling Hammon.



President Professor Saxon White congratulates the winner of his annual prize Robert Ogram.



GREEN AND GOLD CAP FOR SARAH

BY VIC LEVI

Sarah Andrews, one of the Newcastle Branch's earliest Junior Taverners, won her Australian cap in the women's test match against India at Adelaide in February this year.

And the right arm opening bowler from Fern Bay was in sensational form in her debut, taking two wickets for 30 off nine overs in India's first innings and none for 19 off 17 overs in the second.

She took the wickets of both openers and had a big hand in Australia's comfortable win.

Sarah is following in the footsteps of another Novocastrian, Belinda Clark, who was arguably Australia's finest woman cricketer.

Belinda captained Australia for some years and only retired last year.

Sarah has risen dramatically through the ranks since she started playing junior cricket for Wallsend at the age of 15.

She graduated to Wallsend first grade in the Sydney competition in 1999 when she was awarded the Junior Taverner scholarship.

Sarah attended the Hunter Academy of Sport and the NSW Institute of Sport and was picked in the Australian Under 23 side.

She toured Sri Lanka and New Zealand with that team.

She played in the NSW Open Women's side for five years before being selected for Australia.

Sarah has now set her sights on tours of New Zealand in December and India in February next year.

These tours will be followed by the World Cup which will either be held in Australia or India.