

BRIARS AT GREENLEES LTD



2nd Annual Report and Balance Sheet 2006 – 2007

**Presented to Members at the Club Rooms
Cnr Ian Parade & Wellbank Street, Concord 2137
on Sunday 24th February 2008**

BRIARS AT GREENLEES LTD

Patrons

D A Walker

K Free OAM

President

B Huttly

Board of Directors

| | | | |
|----------|---------|-------------|----------|
| G Barnes | I Blair | T Cribb | B Huttly |
| R Crew | J Price | R Tregeagle | C Hickey |

General Manager

G Taylor

Treasurer

I Blair

Auditor

Harley, Russell & Day

Solicitors

P Mattick LLB

Turner Freeman

Management Committee

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| G Price | Cricket |
| M Dennis | Hockey |
| J Slender | Rugby |
| G McManus | Squash |
| T Cribb | Mens Bowls |
| G Barnes | Women's Bowls |
| T Havrlant | Netball |

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB



Founded 1918

PAST PRESIDENTS

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| J H Stone | 1918-1919 |
| H W Whiddon | 1919-1920 |
| J C Meeks | 1920-1921 |
| H W Whiddon | 1921-1924 |
| E J Siddeley | 1924-1925 |
| E Love | 1925-1926 |
| H W Whiddon | 1926-1928 |
| E J Siddeley | 1928-1929 |
| R W May | 1929-1931 |
| E J Siddeley | 1931-1932 |
| H W Whiddon | 1932-1933 |
| R G Hereford | 1933-1935 |
| J E Holmes | 1935-1936 |
| R W May | 1936-1939 |
| E J Siddeley | 1939-1942 |
| R W May | 1942-1943 |
| H G Whiddon | 1943-1948 |
| E E Watt | 1948-1953 |
| R S Jones | 1953-1957 |
| A J Land | 1957-1960 |
| R J Thomson | 1960-1962 |
| W A Elder | 1962-1965 |
| B U Williams | 1965-1967 |
| H G Whiddon | 1967-1969 |
| H C Ford | 1969-1972 |
| R D Vanderfield | 1972-1973 |
| D A Walker | 1973-1976 |
| C K Dennis | 1976-1980 |
| J H Edmonds | 1980-1983 |
| I G S Blair | 1983-1985 |
| P D Richardson | 1985-1988 |
| R I G Richard | 1988-1991 |
| C R Hickey | 1991-1996 |
| J F Threlfo | 1996-1999 |
| P G Mattick | 1999-2002 |
| M Weber | 2002-2005 |

PAST LIFE MEMBERS

| | |
|------|--|
| 1947 | H W Whiddon E J Siddeley R W May |
| 1958 | R B Clark BEM H G Whiddon |
| 1968 | E G Stockdale |
| 1985 | H C Ford |
| 1993 | P C Murray CBE |
| 1994 | R S Jones AOM |
| 1995 | D V Prowse |
| 2002 | J Balmforth BEM |

PATRONS

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| H W Whiddon | 1935-1956 |
| E J Siddeley | 1956-1965 |
| H G Whiddon | 1969-1972 |
| R B Clark | 1972-1994 |
| H C Ford | 1995-2000 |
| D V Prowse | 2000-2005 |
| D A Walker | 2005 |

LIFE MEMBERS

J Alford
I G S Blair
C K E Dennis
C R Hickey
S Hipwell
W F Hooker
C G Jones
R I G Richard
P D Richardson
J F Threlfo
I R Vanderfield OBE
C D Walker
D A Walker

VICE-PRESIDENTS

R Anstey
J F Crockart
P England
J H Edmonds
G Heggarty
M Howell
G Ireland
C J Jones
K R Kable
H W Lennartz
P Mansford
P G Mattick
R Pontifex
G Price
J Price
A C Reid
G Rolleston
S Schomberg
J Staniforth
R Streeter
D A Way
K E Wearne



GREENLEES PARK BOWLING CLUB

PAST PRESIDENTS

B Fumberger 1988-1990
K Skehan 1991-1992
R Buchanan 1993-1996
R Crew 1997-2000
R Skehan 2001-2002
B Huttly 2003-2005

LIFE MEMBERS

J C Jackson
R Riley OAM
L Coleman
A Fleeton
R Buchanan
K Free OAM
R Skehan
B Huttly

PAST LIFE MEMBERS

C J House
R Wiggins
L Barry
A McLeod
J Arantz
A Lee
N Tozer
H C Wicks
M Davis
J Vale
E Knight

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is with pleasure that I submit my first report as Chairman of the amalgamated club. During the past twelve months, the club has traded well with a profit of \$187,057 (2006 – \$128,149).

Congratulations to all sports for their tremendous efforts this year. I'm sure all Sporting Chairpersons and Secretaries will have editorials for you to read elsewhere in this report. It is pleasing to see nearly all sports patronising the club. Both the member and his or her sport receive benefits by way of cheaper products and services for the individual member, and the sporting sub-club receives a cash grant from the Club Ltd. In the last financial year, approximately \$19,000 was awarded to the sports.

Currently, we are experiencing the legacy of the Government's non-smoking policy and are working to meet this financial challenge.

A new Code of Conduct and dress rules will be implemented in the current Financial Year. Please remember, the facilities of the club are there to be shared by all.

Our new caterers Ro's and Jo's are doing well and can't wait until the old kitchen gets a face lift. Check out the bistro menu for their 2 for the price of 1 meals commencing at the conclusion of the pre-Christmas building works.

Our Greens Contractor, Peter Neary, still produces the best-manicured greens in NSW and probably Australia. This is very apparent because of all the past and future State events scheduled for Greenlees Park.

Our social calendar for the year was very busy and congratulations to Tess for its organisation. Hopefully this year will be even bigger. I urge you to participate in these events that include, Sporting Update Luncheons, Co-Patrons Luncheon, Hockey Parliament House Luncheon, and the list goes on.

Probably the most interesting news is that of the building project. At the time of writing this report, the refurbishment has started and will be finished before Christmas. The scope includes but is not limited to, new ceiling tiles throughout, new carpet, tables and chairs to the bistro, lounge and gaming areas, enlargement of the gaming area, moveable partitions, timber venetian blinds, improved bar and bistro counters, new dimmable lighting and a zoned PA system. Our smoking patrons are also being catered for with outdoor facilities including heating for those winter nights.

A power point presentation by our architects of the staged building works, will be presented to members at the AGM in February. By then, I trust you will be enjoying the benefits of the pre-Christmas works.

The Board wishes to convey its appreciation to our members and guests for your understanding and patience with the dilemmas faced with our aged building, plant and equipment.

To all of the clubs sponsors, we thank you sincerely. Your support to all the various sports is received with gratitude, and I trust you are rewarded accordingly.

To all the staff, thank you very much for all of your hard work.

A big thank you to my fellow Directors, this has been a difficult year but extremely rewarding. This year will be the inaugural year for the election of Directors. All eight positions will be declared vacant and are up for nomination by ballot. I urge you to consider nominating.

To those members whom lost loved ones during the year, I offer my sincere condolences.

To all of our members, it has been my pleasure to be your Chairman and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would be remiss in not mentioning the retirement of two Directors during the year, Mal Weber and Phil McAulay. Both were on the original amalgamation committee and spent a lot of personal time in seeing the amalgamation come to fruition. On behalf of the Board and Members, I would like to thank them for efforts over the past six years.

Brian Huttly – Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT

This report for 2007 will be hard to compare with the 2006 report as the Club is back to 12 month reporting. The 2007 annual accounts are for 12 months whereas the 2006 report was for sixteen months. I am pleased to report that the net profit for the financial year 2007 was \$187,057 (2006 \$128,149). As mentioned by the Chairman, the refurbishment commenced in November but some of the costs have appeared in the previous financial year thus reducing the profit without receiving the gain from the refurbishment.

The recently introduced smoking legislation, which commenced in July 2007, has had a reduction on our poker machine receipts for the last quarter compared to last year. The purchase of eight poker machines in October 2006 increased our revenue substantially for the first nine months but as mentioned earlier the new smoking legislation had an opposite effect on our revenue.

It is envisaged that the refurbishment and capital investments will increase our revenue over the next nine months. Cash flow was satisfactory and the current refurbishment was fully funded internally.

One of the shops at 30a George Street was unoccupied for the last three months of the financial year and it is hoped that this will be tenanted early in the New Year. The old clubrooms were only tenanted for half the financial year so an increase in income will be forthcoming in the next financial year.

Costs are constantly being reviewed and the sports in most cases are revenue neutral.

I would like to thank Glen Taylor, Tess Havrlant and John Windon for their help during the year.

Ian Blair - Treasurer

THE BRIARS FOUNDATION LIMITED

Directors: Colin Dennis (President), Ian Blair, Peter Dunlop, Ken Kable, John Price, Chris Walker, Warwick Williams.

The Statement of Financial Position for The Foundation, to the year ended 30 June 2007, shows net assets of \$239,277 compared with \$213,246 for the 2006 year. As of November 2007, there were thirty-five active members, which is an increase on twenty-one active members from 2006. Three members are deceased.

During the year three grants were made:

1. \$4,150 for goal posts at Rothwell Park
2. \$26,345 towards the installation of lights at Greenlees Park
3. \$150,000 towards the cost of resurfacing the hockey field

Greenlees Park, which adjoins the clubhouse, is now the major training venue for rugby, but required lights to be installed for that purpose. The grant to hockey amounted to approximately 50% of the total cost necessary to resurface the hockey field, and was in the form of a loan, which is being repaid at \$10,000 per month.

Earlier this year negotiations were finalised with the Australian Sports Foundation, which have created an opportunity for donations to be tax deductible. A number of sporting related projects were approved by the ASF as meeting the conditions for tax deductibility, and this outcome has been responsible for the significant increase in membership and donations. All of the fourteen new members have benefited from this arrangement, and a number of existing members took the opportunity to upgrade their membership status through additional donations.

Members have continued to be very creative in the way they have pledged their support. Some have pledged a monthly amount, others an annual donation, a few one-off payments and some bequests. Just to highlight a handful of examples: John Richards (former cricketer) made a one off donation of \$20,000. Chris Walker increased his donations by a further \$20,000. Peter Mansford chose to pledge an amount each month for two years. Kerry Trollope's pledge is for five years, and John Edmonds pledged \$5,000 for the next ten years.

We welcomed our first bowling club member in Peter Unwin and, a special note for George Wright who weighed in with a donation. George joined the club to play rugby and has been a member of The Briars since 1937. It's interesting to see that of the thirty-eight active and former members, some 65% are from the Club's rugby ranks.

Projects still on our list include the planned upgrade and renovation of the dressing rooms at Rothwell Park, and the eventual major changes to the clubrooms, that will include a home for The Briars history and memorabilia.

In May, John Randle stepped down as Treasurer but will continue to provide investment advice. Peter Etches, a young man from Rugby's ranks accepted the Treasurer's position, and it's pleasing to have a new generation member step up. My thanks to the Directors for their support and constructive advice, and to Keith Wearne for the preparation of the company's accounts, and to Gordon Peglar for some timely legal assistance.

Membership list

Ray Ackerman
Ross Anstey
Jim Barrett
Ken Bell
Ian Blair
Andy Clifford
Richard Crookes
Colin Dennis
John Edmonds
Mal Goldsmith
Garnett Green
Bill Hooker
Ken Kable
Steve Keir
Bob Kersey
Peter Mansford
Bill Marshall
Mike Mathews
John Metcalf
John Price
John Randle
Col Rankin
Ian Richard
John Richards
Laurie Routley
John Singleton
Cec Stevens
Kerry Trollope
F.Tsang
Peter Unwin
Roger Vanderfield
Chris Walker
Warwick Williams
Tony Wozniak
George Wright
Doug Prowse (deceased)
Don Walker (deceased)
Don Way (deceased)

Colin Dennis – President

CRICKET CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

RECORD BREAKING! That is one way to describe the season 2006/07 and simply fantastic. For the 5th time is 5 years and for the 10th time in the past 14 seasons we have won the most prestigious trophy, the CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP. No other Club in Shires history can come close to the success and achievements of the mighty Briars and I know there are some very proud players who have been part of much of this success.

As well as this magnificent achievement we were also able to win the 2nd grade premiership for the first time since 2002/2003 and the 3rd grade premiership for the fourth year in succession! Our 1st grade were semi finalists but due to some faulty covers at the oppositions home ground were unable to progress to the Final as they were washed out for the majority of their semi final. A very frustrating way to end the season. The 4th grade were also semi finalists but were defeated by the eventual premiers in a very close semi final. The Under 24 team suffered during the year due to crucial unavailabilities and lost a couple of games that they should have won but missed out on the semi finals for the first time in many years. In the final round before the semis they just lost to the undefeated premiers by just 8 runs which showed how competitive they could be with a full strength side. Finally, our 5th grade also had a very successful season in the 1 day competition format by being Minor Premiers but they lost the Grand Final in a very close game.

To complete our success Rothwell Park, through the efforts of Adam Powell, was voted in the top 3 Shires Ground of the Year again and shows what a great job he did throughout the season. What an achievement by everyone and congratulations to all the players who contributed in some way to our success. Although there was plenty of success on the field it is no doubt a reflection of the efforts of a few members off the field that allows us to continue with the amazing run of outstanding performances and unparalleled success.

In no particular order I would like to thank the following people who have assisted me in some way during the past season. Anthony Clarke has once again been outstanding in his efforts in fees collection, helping organizing cover repairs, and any other job asked of him etc. Jason Harris in his assistants role to help out whenever and wherever needed, Scott Brennan for his up to date seasonal statistics, Paul Price for his assistance (and advice!) behind the scenes and organisation of the Shires Grand Final breakfast at the Club, Nick Rojo for his ongoing involvement with our major sponsor Venus Packaging, Terry Murphy for his assistance in compiling and updating the very detailed Club stats at the year's end and for his attendance at the SCA meeting each month or so in town on our behalf, and to Paul Pannuti for his provision of the afternoon teas at our home grounds each week.

Five people who were required to contribute their time each week were the captains in Ash Squire, David Willis, Jason Harris, Greg Wallace and Tom Watson. I would like to thank and congratulate them for their efforts in organising players, covers, afternoon teas etc for each game.

As mentioned earlier we were fortunate enough to play on the best ground by far in Shires in Rothwell Park due to the efforts of the groundsman. We were also able to play on two other very good wickets in St Lukes Oval and Ron Routley and would like to thank the groundsmen there, particularly Jeff Wheatley and the other ground staff who were able to assist.

The playing of sport nowadays is becoming a very costly exercise and as such it is vital that we seek out sponsors to help fulfill any projects we wish to achieve. The involvement of Venus Packaging for the last 8 or 9 years has coincided with much of the Club's success and on behalf of all the cricketers I would like to thank Ian Venus for his involvement and hope we are able to continue our association for many years to come. We were also supported by a number of other sponsors this year in Double A Paper, MPD Printing, ASAP Physiotherapy, and People Connect. To all these wonderful sponsors we offer our sincere thanks.

Although we play serious cricket and are committed each week there are occasions when we may need a player or two to fill in for a game. This happened regularly during the year and I would like to thank the many players who helped us out in any small way. You know who you are as there are far too many to mention.

Each season the Club competes with Epping for the Turnbull/Richardson Trophy and is awarded to the club that secures the most Club Championship points in the matches between the 2 clubs. For the 16th successive season we won the trophy. Well done boys and thanks to Peter Richardson for attending and supporting this presentation nearly every year.

On behalf of all the cricketers I would also like to thank the staff and management of Briars at Greenlees for their assistance and service to all the cricketers during the season.

Our Annual Presentation evening was held once again at Nudis on the Green and an enjoyable night was had by the 100 or so in attendance. There were quite a few of the 'older' players in attendance including Peter Mansford, Ian Blair, David Walker and his wife Elaine, and Ted Watt and his wife Ruby to name a few. As usual there was the presentation of the various awards.

- 1 First Grade Players Player-Sean McKiernan
- 2 Second Grade Players Player-Wayne Grimson
- 3 Third Grade Players Player-Michael Towells
- 4 Fourth grade Players Player-Ben Taylor
- 5 Fifth Grade Players Player-Nathan Lester
- 6 Under 24's Players Player-Chris Hart
- 7 Masters Players Player-Jeff Matchett
- 8 Ted Watt Trophy for Best New Talent-Ben Taylor
- 9 David Walker Trophy for Services to Cricket-Gerard Price
- 10)

To these award winners we congratulate you and thank Paul Price for his efforts in helping to organise the evening. The Club also sent about 30 players/partners to the SCA Presentation dinner at Darling Harbour to collect our trophies and a great night was had by all.

There were many wonderful individual achievements during the season however I will leave these to be spoken about in the respective team reports. If there is anyone else I have omitted from thanking, I apologise and extend my thanks to you as well.

Gerard Price - Cricket Chairman

Cricket Premierships

| Year | 1st Grade | 2nd Grade | 3rd Grade | 4th Grade | U24s | Club Champions | Turnbull/Richardson |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1980/81 | WON | | WON | | | | |
| 81/82 | | | | | | | |
| 82/83 | | WON | | | | WON | |
| 83/84 | | | | | | | |
| 84/85 | WON | | | | | WON | |
| 85/86 | | | | WON | | | |
| 86/87 | | | | | | | |
| 87/88 | | | | | | | |
| 88/89 | | | | | | | |
| 89/00 | | WON | | WON | | | |
| 1990/91 | | | | | | | |
| 91/92 | | | | | | | |
| 92/93 | | | | | | | WON |
| 93/94 | | WON | WON | | | WON | WON |
| 94/95 | | | | | | | WON |
| 95/96 | | WON | | | | WON | WON |
| 96/97 | | | | | | WON | WON |
| 97/98 | | | | WON | | | WON |
| 98/99 | WON | | WON | | | WON | WON |
| 99/00 | WON | | | WON | WON | WON | WON |
| 2000/01 | | | | WON | | | WON |
| 2001/02 | | | | | | | WON |
| 2002/03 | | WON | | | WON | WON | WON |
| 2003/04 | | | WON | | WON | WON | WON |
| 2004/05 | | | WON | | | WON | WON |
| 2005/06 | WON | | WON | | | WON | WON |
| 2006/07 | | WON | WON | | | WON | WON |
| | 5 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 12 | 15 |

CRICKET FIRST GRADE

Well another season has passed with more Briar success and congratulations to 2nd grade and 3rd grade for this seasons premierships. First grade got off to a flyer as they have for the past few years losing the opening couple of games. As the new captain Ash Squire started to work out how to set fields "Everyone just spread out..." was the common cry. The boys took the field without last year's captain and a couple of main stay players, consisting of that guy Parko who in recent times had a stand named after him. Sean the poet who didn't know it and McKiernan who as the season went on impressed with his match report skills, both missed games due to work commitments. With these players out and the added pressure of being the premiers from the season prior, would always make things tricky.

As the season went on the opening batsman misunderstood the common cliché see the new ball off. As Ash saw the new ball and that was about it. This caused problems in the top order with frequent changes to the top order leaving first grade continually relying on individual performances to win us games rather than solid team efforts. After a few rounds we came up against Epping and Paul Price's mate Fez! And with players like Sean and Anthony Smith missing from the side we where defiantly under the pump, as we needed this game to keep the winning spirit going. Enter Craig Parkinson who had been out due to work commitments returning for his first game of the season, exit Craig Parkinson first ball of the game who made Ash proud following the openers trend for the season so far. Once again individual results won us the game with Ben baby smooth Chapman doing the job with the bat and O'Keeffe and Dannaoui winning us a nail bitter with the ball. Our spirits where lifted when Ash decided he would pick the man lovingly known as the King. B. Sattanathan or Borat! With the help of the king and his prince our season had turned like David Henschell's neck in a Wayne Grimson chicken wing.

We won some tough games throughout the season with wins against Souths, Strathfield and Lane Cove in the rounds. With fine individual performances from Sean McKiernan, Craig Parkinson and Ben Chapman who all scored centuries with the bat throughout the year and with Adam O'Keeffe the pick of the pace bowlers with the ball.

Since the selection of the King, 1st grade had won 8 straight games running into the qualifying final against South Sydney. The match was in the balance with some quality batting in difficult conditions from Sean and Ben Crawley on day one as we finished the day 7 for 150 odd as rain finished the days play early. Day 2 early start, or not, unfortunately South's covers were not up to the task over night as holes in the covers revealed wet patches to a surprised South Sydney outfit. Who proceeded to fix the holes in the covers after they stopped doing their fielding drills on them! Enter the Briars mascot the Kennard's hot air blower, which managed to bake the pitch nice and crisp. And force the umpires into making a decision. The decision was there would be no decision, and they would bring the match referee all the way from Lane Cove for him to say, why have you not started.

The boys fought hard with the ball, a solid effort on a pitch that had dried out and did not offer much assistance on a good length, as we were not able to continue batting due to loss of time. South's made hard work of the run chase as they lost regular wickets to a determined Briars outfit. Unfortunately due to our slow start to the season, a draw was good enough or, as Richard Chee Quee puts it, "win draw" for South Sydney to end Briars hopes for the season in first grade.

I would also like to thank a number of players who filled in this season: S.Achmar, S Castle, P Catalovski, L Andrews, W Grimson, C Hart, R Jalalaty, W Service, D Willis, M Yahya and D Welsh who played three games in first grade and impressed with the bat and ball sure to play more games at this level in the future.

Sean McKiernan - was this year's player's player, he scored 532runs @ 48.36 and was again a pleasure to watch with ball in his hand. Great season mate.

Ash Squire - led the side for the first time this year and managed to get the ball in his hand long enough to not get dropped. Took 30 wickets @ 16 took the shine off the new ball sometimes with the bat.

Ben Chapman - had another consistent season with the bat scored 406 runs @ 36.91 and scored his first hundred in first grade against Warringah a future leader of the club.

Ben Crawley - scored 286 runs @ 26 a great team player and great person to be around. Will miss playing cricket with creepy Crawley.

Hilal Dannaoui - had a frustrating season as he had become used to the green tops in New Zealand from he regular trips there throughout the season. No green tops here mate! Hilly took 17 wickets @ a lot and was lucky to be in the team. Will miss your g up's mate and your battles with Harvs.

Steve Harvey - everyone loves Raymond took 15 wickets @ 26 and was a big loss to the side with a collarbone injury ending his season early, a great team player.

David Henschell - had a tuff year in 1st grade as he was up and down the top two grades, as a regular replacement, made 50 against Strathfield and proved he could play at a first grade level.

Andrew Jalalaty - was selected as the first grade wicket keeper from round one this year had a solid year behind the stumps and showed constant improvement throughout the year. His batting will improve as he realises his ability with the willow.

Anthony Smith - Vanilla vice vice captain was a big help to me this year and helped with the leadership of the team. Had an impressive year once again on the dance floor and until a hip injury hampered him was improving with the bat as the season went on with his new stance he scored 312 runs @ 28.36 with a top score of 92 thanks mate.

Paul Pannuti - made his way into the team with an impressive start to the preseason nets managing to make every batsman look uncomfortable. He took 12 wickets @ 25 and winged! can cook a mean burger though 1 x Nudi burger please and some cold chips.

B Sattanathan – the king scored 180 runs @ 45 with a highest score of 51 and the biggest six off his first ball in first grade I have ever seen. A great team player changed our year with his enthusiasm.

Craig Parkinson - is the character every team dressing room needs. He scored 337 runs @ 37.44 and had best figures of 5 for 81 with the ball and possesses the best strut seen on a cricket field. He was on call to help me with the covers throughout the season. Thanks big guy!

Adam O’Keeffe – deserved his spot this year in first grade and showed it all year with great control and the ability to bowl to a field. An injury against Strathfield ended his season early and was defiantly missed. He took 21 wickets @ 16.67.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the boys I have ever played cricket with and or had a drink with at this wonderful club, and the life long friends I have made being a Briar, as I move on to pursue other experiences. To Gerard Price I thank you very much for the opportunities I have had at the club. You’re ongoing commitment to the club makes it what it is, as a lot of the club’s success comes down to your hard work off field and passion for the club. Only a captain of the club could understand as I found out this passing season.

Ash Squire

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|----------------------|----|----|----|------|----|-----|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| B Chapman | 12 | 13 | 2 | 113* | 2 | 1 | 36.91 | 406 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| B Crawley | 14 | 13 | 2 | 50 | 1 | - | 26.00 | 286 | 3.0 | - | 26 | 0-26 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 7 |
| H Dannaoui | 11 | 6 | 4 | 19 | - | - | 35.00 | 70 | 155.4 | 36 | 440 | 4-52 | - | - | 25.88 | 17 | - |
| S Harvey | 11 | 4 | 3 | 13* | - | - | 31.00 | 31 | 100.0 | 12 | 393 | 3-27 | - | - | 26.20 | 15 | 4 |
| D Henschell | 8 | 8 | - | 54 | 1 | - | 17.00 | 136 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| A Jalalaty | 13 | 11 | 1 | 36 | - | - | 14.70 | 147 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17 |
| S McKiernan | 12 | 13 | 2 | 115 | 4 | 1 | 48.36 | 532 | 78.0 | 26 | 178 | 5-26 | 1 | - | 12.71 | 14 | 4 |
| A O’Keeffe | 10 | 6 | 2 | 17 | - | - | 6.50 | 26 | 99.0 | 21 | 350 | 4-43 | - | - | 16.67 | 21 | 2 |
| P Pannuti | 9 | 4 | - | 28 | - | - | 10.25 | 41 | 102.0 | 23 | 301 | 4-45 | - | - | 25.08 | 12 | 1 |
| C Parkinson | 8 | 9 | - | 139 | 3 | 1 | 37.44 | 337 | 63.2 | 10 | 186 | 5-81 | 1 | - | 20.67 | 9 | 1 |
| B Sattanathan | 7 | 7 | 3 | 51* | 1 | - | 45.00 | 180 | 12.0 | - | 70 | 0-17 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 3 |
| A Smith | 10 | 11 | - | 92 | 2 | - | 28.36 | 312 | 1.0 | - | 6 | 0-6 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 4 |
| A Squire | 14 | 15 | 2 | 62* | 1 | - | 19.31 | 251 | 142.2 | 34 | 480 | 5-33 | 1 | - | 16.00 | 30 | 2 |

Also Batted: S Achmar 1-2, S Castle 1-7, P Catalovski 1-0, W Grimson 2-0, W Service 1-4, D Welsh 3-46, D Willis 1-14, M Yahya 1-6. **Also Bowled:** S Achmar 0-41, S Castle 0-32, P Catalovski 1-34, B Crawley 0-26, W Grimson 0-6, B Sattanathan 0-70, W Service 1-8, A Smith 0-6, D Welsh 1-54, M Yahya 0-18.

CRICKET SECOND GRADE - PREMIERS

Firstly, congratulations to Ash and 1st grade in reaching the semi-finals and proving again that, when on their game, they were a real force in the competition. To Jason Harris and 3rd grade on their sensational success in notching a fourth consecutive win in a final. That is an amazing achievement and you’ve done us proud yet again. To Greg Wallis and the 4th grade, and Tom Watson and the 5th grade, both as minor premiers, it is tremendous to see that Briars is the premier club throughout all grades and I only hope that we all can continue next season to enjoy our cricket and be just as successful.

I would like to extend particular thanks to Gerard Price whose work and commitment within the club is unmatched. For Gerard to be a key player in the 2nd grade final win I think is a fitting reward for his efforts. Also, all of the players that played 2nd grade this season, 26 players in all, did a great job for the team. Several players played just a few games but their contributions were significant and meant a lot towards the team going all the way to winning the final.

Mickey Towells – in 2 games bowled impressively and took 3 wickets.

Adam Evison – played just 2 games, taking 6 wickets, including 3 / 10 in the qualifying final v Souths and made 27 n.o. in a vital 10th wicket partnership of 43 with Sarkis Achmar in that match to give us a chance of winning, which we did by just 21 runs.

Scott Castle – played 8 games and bowled his heart out, as usual, claiming 9 wickets.

Sanjiv Khalkho – played 8 games making 224 runs with a top score of 80 n.o. and took 5 wickets.

Adam Hudson – in 2 games had a top score of 61 v Strathfield.

Paul Pannuti – in 3 games took 9 wickets, with best figures of 4/29 v Epping.

Paul Hall – played 6 games making 126 runs with a top score of 45.

2006 -7 Season in Review

- 1 Minors Premiers - finishing on 73 pts, 1 outright win, 10 wins on 1st innings (including 3 bonus points gained in the one-day fixtures), 2 losses on 1st innings.
- 2 Contribution of 365 points to the club championship, which was the highest contribution of all grades.
- 3 Key wins during the season were against Roseville (Rd 1) where we won outright to put us straight to the top of the table.
- 4 Pennant Hills (Rd 2), we rated as a good bowling attack. We defended our score of 278, winning by just 21 runs in a tight match.
- 5 North West (Rd 8) losing the toss and restricting them to a total of 246 and then reaching their total 4 wickets down and with 28 overs to spare thanks to Wayne Grimson's 110.
- 6 South Sydney in the qualifying final, defending our score of 177 at Rothwell.

Some of our best performers during the season were:

Wayne Grimson - set a 2nd grade Shires batting record by scoring 592 runs @ an average of 42, he made two centuries, one against Souths and a top score of 110 v North West, plus he got a bit more bowling this season and chipped in with 17 wickets.

Paul Simpson – It was great to have him back at Briars and he was a key player in our middle order. He was super consistent, making 543 runs at an average of 45, with a top score of 77.

Dave Henschell - We were fortunate to have his services for 7 matches this season and he made 315 runs at an average of 45. His top score of 96 v Lane Cove was Henschy at his best. Plus, his two run-outs during the finals were inspirational.

Adam Langhans- Really stepped up this season, opened the batting and made 273 runs with a top score of 79 v Epping.

Scott Brennan - When given a chance to bat at no. 4 produced his top score of 68 and with the gloves, picked up 22 catches and made 4 stumpings. Thanks also to Scott for scoring and compiling the season stats.

Greg Stoneham - His first season at the Briars brought a huge amount of experience and enthusiasm to the team. He took 16 wickets with best figures of 4/10.

Peter Catalovski - 27 wickets at an average of 13, stats that speak for themselves. Peter we believe is the first player in Shires cricket to be a finals winner in all grades 4th grade through to 1st grade, plus Under 24's.

Sarkis Achmar - semi-retired, but still played 8 games and bowled at his best, taking 23 wickets at an average of 9.

Derek Welsh - Looks like developing into true allrounder, 16 wickets with best figures of 5 / 38, plus a top score of 39 n.o. in the semi v Lindfield.

David Willis - finished the season with 485 runs @ an average of 32 with top-score of 99 v Macquarie Uni.

Gerard Price - Snuck in to be our leading wicket-taker again, claiming yet another 28 wickets this season @ an average of 15; his best bowling figures were 4 / 23, plus he won the six-hitting competition again, despite being paired up with Grimmo whom he had to carry for much of the season.

2nd Grade Final Review

In what was predictably a very tight match against Warringah, who had knocked us off in Rd 12 at Weldon, we finally got the win we had worked for over several seasons. The match was played under conditions that certainly favoured the bowlers and when we found ourselves struggling at a score of 9/73 it looked as though we may have choked once again. Our last wicket pair of Sarkis Achmar and Gerard Price, batted superbly to add another 50 runs and retrieve the match to a point where we believed we could bowl Warringah out and win. The scorebook clearly shows that Warringah could only manage 53, and what appears an easy win in the end. A couple of points that should be emphasized are that prior to the match we talked about how, in winning a final, there needs to be players that stand up and lead the way. In this particular match, it was Sarkis Achmar who did exactly that. His score of 31 was not only personally the highest score of his career for the club, but in the context of the match, it was monumental. Then with the ball he used the conditions perfectly and claimed 4/13 off 17 overs. So there was little dispute when it was decided to present him with the “Man Of The Match” award – well done, Sarky. The other player that also led us brilliantly was Gerard Price who gave great support with both bat and ball making 22 n.o. and then 2/12 off 13 overs, was crucial.

The second aspect of our game that ensured us the win was our fielding. We went in to the game with the confidence that our batting was definitely as strong as Warringahs’ with 3 batsmen who had averaged over 40 for the season, plus a good all round bowling line-up where all bowlers had taken plenty of wickets during the season at a very economical rate. Our only noticeable weakness that was likely to be shown up over a two-day weekend was our fielding. We certainly weren’t one of the strongest fielding sides in the 2nd grade competition, with more experience than speed, quite a number of us that could best be described as “custard” arms and some that have found that the ground is getting that little bit further from their reach. However, for the big game, we turned in a near faultless effort. No catches went down, only about 2 or 3 runs were conceded in the field and when the pressure was really on for Warringah to score runs, we managed a couple of run-outs.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Grimson who was there for us again providing lunches for the players. Also, thanks to Ken our scorer and Judith our mentor for the finals series. Let’s make 2006-07 another championship season for the Briars!!

David Willis – Captain

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|--------------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| S Achmar | 8 | 6 | 3 | 31 | - | - | 18.33 | 55 | 106.0 | 38 | 217 | 4-13 | - | - | 9.43 | 23 | 3 |
| S Brennan | 16 | 14 | 1 | 68 | 1 | - | 16.62 | 216 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 22 |
| S Castle | 8 | 3 | 1 | 9 | - | - | 4.50 | 9 | 98.0 | 20 | 312 | 2-12 | - | - | 34.67 | 9 | 3 |
| P Catalovski | 11 | 8 | 4 | 9 | - | - | 6.00 | 24 | 148.0 | 43 | 368 | 5-28 | 1 | - | 13.63 | 27 | 4 |
| W Grimson | 13 | 15 | 1 | 110 | 3 | 2 | 42.29 | 592 | 91.0 | 24 | 285 | 4-12 | - | - | 16.76 | 17 | 9 |
| P Hall | 6 | 6 | - | 45 | - | - | 21.00 | 126 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| D Henschell | 7 | 8 | 1 | 96 | 2 | - | 45.00 | 315 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| S Khalko | 8 | 9 | 3 | 80* | 2 | - | 37.33 | 224 | 48.0 | 16 | 159 | 2-23 | - | - | 31.80 | 5 | 2 |
| A Langhans | 13 | 15 | - | 79 | 1 | - | 18.20 | 273 | 5.0 | - | 25 | 0-25 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 2 |
| G Price | 16 | 12 | 4 | 22* | - | - | 12.25 | 98 | 194.2 | 64 | 438 | 4-23 | - | - | 15.64 | 28 | 9 |
| P Simpson | 15 | 16 | 4 | 77 | 4 | - | 45.25 | 543 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| G Stoneham | 16 | 11 | - | 27 | - | - | 10.82 | 119 | 122.1 | 29 | 346 | 4-10 | - | - | 21.62 | 16 | 1 |
| D Welsh | 9 | 6 | 2 | 39* | - | - | 23.75 | 95 | 107.4 | 20 | 312 | 5-38 | 1 | - | 19.50 | 16 | 3 |
| D Willis | 14 | 16 | 1 | 99 | 3 | - | 32.33 | 485 | 17.0 | 4 | 59 | 2-29 | - | - | 14.75 | 4 | 4 |

Also Batted: B Critchley 1-1, A Evison 2-31, B Howle 1-0, A Hudson 2-84, M Letts 1-41, S McKiernan 1-23, M Oxley 1-27, P Pannuti 3-0, B Sattanathan 1-53, W Service 1-15, M Towells 2-15. **Also Bowled:** A Evison 6-40, A Langhans 0-25, S McKiernan 1-3, M Oxley 1-15, B Sattanathan 1-24, W Service 2-14, M Towells 3-60, P Pannuti 9-94.

CRICKET THIRD GRADE - PREMIERS

As per last season success continued again for our 3rd grade side. After obtaining three premierships in a row it was going to be a testing year, but after some injury problems we were able to go through undefeated and again obtain the premiership for the 4th season in succession. A nail biting Grand Final against Lane Cove was a fitting end to what was a remarkable season all-round. As captain I was proud of every player

especially the way they handled themselves and the spirit in which we played the game, we set about not only being the best team but the best ambassadors as well.

I would thank Brett Howle for filling in for me during my time out with injury and as well as Gerard Price for being the main reason we all play for Briars. Without Gerard we would not be the force we are. Congratulations to all the captains on yet another club champs and especially to Dave Willis and the mighty 2nd graders for bringing home the silverware. It has been an honour to captain Burwood Briars especially amongst this playing group. I stand aside as captain with full confidence that the successes will continue. Thanks to all that I have been able to Captain.

Jack Jardim - This season for Jack was by far his best for the club, taking the keeping gloves as well as opening the batting saw Jack a major part of each game. Week by week he continued to improve and was by far our best batsman this season. He has now cemented his place high in the batting order and will without a doubt score many more runs in the future.

Paul Hall - Hally had an up and down season (literally). He spent most weeks chopping between 2nd and 3rds and to go with an injury that saw him miss a few games, it was a bit of an unsettling season for him. Hally is always a big part of any side he plays in and was always a good sounding board for the skipper to use. For as long as Paul wants to play he will be a key batsman in any side.

Jason Harris (Captain) - Started the season very well but an ankle injury saw him miss 6 games in the middle. But, coming back and working hard, was lucky enough to again captain a premiership side. Jason always did what he thought was best for the Club and others and always tried to play the game in the spirit he thought it should be.

Adam Hudson - Adam spent a large part of the year on the sideline, joining the side half way through the year. His experience and hard-hitting was on show all through the finals series. I feel if Adam needs to sort out some injury issues he will be back in higher grades in the future.

Brett Howle - Brett came back to 3rds after a long and successful stint as a player and second grade captain. At all times he was in the game and doing a great job when Jason was out injured. Brett's entertaining opinions and ability to fight hard when we were in difficult positions was a main factor in our premiership success.

Rob Jalalaty - Robby stepped straight in to 3rds and immediately became one of the top batsmen in the comp but yet another injury saw him miss 7 games. But a comeback Century against Lane Cove and the innings of his career in the Grand Final saw Robby get the glory he deserved. Injury free and committed Rob will play at the top level for this club.

Sanjiv Khalko - Sunny started the season late but was a great asset to this line-up. Regularly scoring runs and taking wickets he was rewarded with the Man Of The Match medal in the Grand Final. Always great to listen to one of Sunny's 1 million suggestions on the field. He is a great player and good man as well and will be missed as he tries his luck in Grade.

Michael Towells - Michael turned a slow start to the season into one of the best seen in Briars for a while. Ending the season with over 50 wickets as well as some timely runs in important games, Michael was voted the Players Player of the Year. It is now all up to Mickey on how high he wants to play for this club. Let's hope he doesn't waste his talent and has a long future at the top for this club.

Adam Evison - What a season for Evo. Coming to the club after a long career with another, he became one of the key players in this club. It was wonderful to see him hit the winning runs in the GF and get his first ever premiership. Well done Evo, class season.

George Saleh - Wendell joined the team late in the season and did a great job in the last few rounds and finals. Always gives 200% but is another player dogged with injuries. This was his 1st title with the club and well deserved. If fitness is good George will play higher grades.

Scott Castle - The experience of a genuine opening bowler is what a successful side needs to win the big matches and that is what Scotty is. He was the number one opening bowler in the competition and was the main reason we have won the last two premierships. Always first pick by the skipper if available. This skipper would have Scott Castle in bowling attack.

Special mention must go to Max Stuelken, Michael Letts, Daniel Haikin and Will Hood who were unlucky not to be in the eleven for the finals but through the year all played a part in winning games and will be always seen as part of this premiership squad. Again thank you Gerard Price for the opportunity to Captain such a great Club.

Jason Harris – Captain

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|-------------|----|----|----|------|----|-----|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| S Castle | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3* | - | - | 3.50 | 7 | 91.0 | 15 | 226 | 4-33 | - | - | 13.29 | 17 | - |
| A Clarke | 5 | 3 | 1 | 12 | - | - | 13.50 | 27 | 69.0 | 13 | 236 | 3-47 | - | - | 26.22 | 9 | 2 |
| A Evison | 8 | 6 | 3 | 32 | - | - | 30.33 | 91 | 81.3 | 28 | 183 | 5-30 | 2 | - | 7.32 | 25 | 4 |
| D Haikin | 8 | 2 | 1 | 16 | - | - | 16.00 | 16 | 100.1 | 22 | 285 | 3-22 | - | - | 25.91 | 11 | 6 |
| P Hall | 8 | 9 | - | 36 | - | - | 12.89 | 116 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| J Harris | 11 | 12 | - | 97 | 2 | - | 28.58 | 343 | 4.3 | 1 | 27 | 2-18 | - | - | 13.50 | 2 | 1 |
| B Howle | 15 | 15 | - | 89 | 3 | - | 25.87 | 388 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| A Hudson | 8 | 7 | 3 | 101* | 1 | 1 | 67.50 | 270 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| R Jalalatay | 9 | 9 | - | 101 | 1 | 1 | 30.11 | 271 | 9.0 | - | 39 | 1-24 | - | - | 39.00 | 1 | 6 |
| J Jardim | 15 | 17 | 1 | 67* | 3 | - | 26.31 | 421 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 23 |
| S Khalko | 6 | 6 | 2 | 72* | 2 | - | 50.75 | 203 | 41.0 | 9 | 100 | 2-37 | - | - | 33.33 | 3 | 3 |
| M Letts | 7 | 7 | 1 | 80 | 1 | - | 29.00 | 174 | 85.0 | 19 | 270 | 4-36 | - | - | 27.00 | 10 | 2 |
| M Towells | 14 | 12 | 5 | 50* | 1 | - | 26.43 | 185 | 192.5 | 45 | 520 | 8-28 | 3 | - | 11.06 | 47 | 3 |

Also Batted: S Ackmar 1-3, L Andrews 5-126, J Brown 1-28, P Catalovski 3-62, B Critchley 1-18, W Hood 4-111, R Kaskiewicz 5-87, E Lam 3-8, A Langhans 2-15, A Logan 1-36, C McKeith 2-4, P Pannuti 1-25, P Price 4-54, A Raymond 3-15, G Saleh 3-1, W Service 1-28, P Smith 1-29, M Stuelcken 5-45, C Trewin 1-1, D Trewin 2-10, M Yahya 1-24. **Also Bowled:** S Ackmar 2-32, L Andrews 4-117, J Brown 2-12, P Catalovski 6-84, J Clarke 4-89, J Harris 2-27, R Jalalatay 1-39, A Langhans 2-39, C McKeith 0-12, P Pannuti 3-40, W Service 6-29, P Smith 4-44, B Taylor 3-48, R Tregeagle 2-26, D Trewin 1-34, M Yahya 0-2, A Raymond 5-103, M Stuelcken 6-113.

CRICKET FOURTH GRADE

Everything was poised for success, a mixture of youthful exuberance, very promising newcomers to the club, a handful of comebacks and some seasoned stalwarts. After forming post-Christmas, a succession of victories cemented the team as an obvious contender for the title. Second on the table post the preliminaries. The first play-off washed out favorably. We'll take that. Then the nemesis South Sydney in the semi-final. Winning the toss we batted. Get that. We batted first in a play-off. Tip for all future Briars captains. When you win the toss in a play-off bat first. Then the skipper was fired before he could make them sweat. Young Carl Trewin, playing his first season for Briars, with his Dad Dave, stepped up. Superb cover drives. Resilient defense. A cool head - Carl absorbed the banter. Dealt with the bowlers. Came through when it counted. At the other end Cameron Beames was making them pay. Hoiks square. Diligent grit. Enjoyable flow. It was good to see him thrive. At 1-140 Briars was on top. The middle-order was poised to plunder. Big-shot Chris Hart was eager to dominate as he had done throughout. Marty Oxley and Will Hood had shared centuries and a massive partnership several games earlier and were determined to accumulate even more. Dad Dave Trewin to continue showing his grit. However, it wasn't to be. 220 was never enough. Could Dan Haikin lead the way, breaking through early with his experienced variety? Would brother Jeff Clarke convert his early season form, knotting their openers into wicket upon wicket? Would Marty Oley be the dark horse, easing into his emerging all-rounder role, as his bowling reverses late? Could it be the heart and soul Anthony Clarke, deceiving, defying and diminishing that would crack their backs? Or would new leggie Ben Taylor weave his controlled magic upon the vulnerable and unwilling and increase his admirable season haul? Or could Greg Wallace carve a swathe with his off-spinning deception? In the end it was a collective no. Disappointing. The one that could have been. Congratulations to all. The Briars flag flies proud the deeper it binds.

Greg Wallace – Captain

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|----------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|---------|------|-------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| C Beames | 8 | 8 | 2 | 67 | 1 | - | 38.33 | 230 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 |
| A Clarke | 9 | 4 | - | 5 | - | - | 2.50 | 10 | 101.1 | 29 | 207 | 4-15 | - | - | 10.89 | 19 | 3 |
| J Clarke | 12 | 8 | 5 | 4* | - | - | 3.00 | 9 | 157.0 | 53 | 308 | 2-8 | - | - | 22.00 | 14 | - |
| A Evison | 5 | 6 | 2 | 46 | - | - | 30.00 | 120 | 55.0 | 14 | 136 | 2-9 | - | - | 22.67 | 6 | 1 |
| D Haikin | 6 | 2 | - | 18 | - | - | 12.00 | 24 | 65.0 | 23 | 118 | 3-14 | - | - | 10.73 | 11 | 2 |
| C Hart | 8 | 8 | 2 | 164 | 1 | 1 | 51.83 | 311 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| J Hevey | 6 | 6 | 1 | 67 | 1 | - | 22.00 | 110 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| W Hood | 9 | 7 | 1 | 108 | 1 | 1 | 35.17 | 211 | 7.0 | 1 | 27 | 0-27 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 5 |
| S Hudson | 4 | 3 | 1 | 179 | - | - | 1102.50 | 205 | 48.0 | 11 | 102 | 5-24 | 1 | - | 10.20 | 10 | 2 |
| E Lam | 7 | 7 | - | 41 | - | - | 15.29 | 107 | 2.0 | 1 | 5 | 0-5 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 4 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|---|------|---|---|-------|-----|-------|----|-----|------|---|---|-------|----|---|
| M Oxley | 7 | 6 | 1 | 104* | - | 1 | 34.60 | 173 | 32.0 | 3 | 75 | 2-16 | - | - | 18.75 | 4 | 6 |
| G Saleh | 6 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | 1.00 | 2 | 79.0 | 20 | 137 | 5-14 | 1 | - | 7.61 | 18 | 1 |
| M Smyck | 6 | 2 | 1 | 9 | - | - | 10.00 | 10 | 45.0 | 12 | 121 | 2-12 | - | - | 24.20 | 5 | 2 |
| J Swarts | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15* | - | - | - | 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| M Taberner | 6 | 7 | - | 39 | - | - | 15.71 | 110 | 20.0 | 5 | 74 | 2-34 | - | - | 37.00 | 2 | 3 |
| B Taylor | 13 | 9 | 2 | 22 | - | - | 8.43 | 59 | 163.2 | 31 | 488 | 6-74 | 2 | - | 15.25 | 32 | 4 |
| C Trewin | 9 | 11 | 1 | 65 | 1 | - | 19.90 | 199 | 4.0 | 2 | 8 | 1-8 | - | - | 8.00 | 1 | 3 |
| D Trewin | 10 | 10 | 4 | 35 | - | - | 29.33 | 176 | 25.0 | 2 | 82 | 2-22 | - | - | 27.33 | 3 | 1 |
| G Wallace | 15 | 14 | 1 | 45 | - | - | 23.85 | 310 | 86.0 | 16 | 288 | 4-22 | - | - | 16.00 | 18 | 9 |

Also Batted: B Critchley 4-48, T Dapice 2-55, C Dickeson 1-81, D Haikin 2-24, R Kaskiewicz 1-31, B Patel 2-12, P Price 1-88, B Sattanathan 1-15, W Service 2-87, M Stuelcken 1-14, J Swarts 1-15, S Turnbull 1-1, P Wallace 1-19, B Warburton 1-5, T Watson 1-40. **Also Bowled:** B Critchley 1-17, W Hood 0-27, E Lam 0-5, B Sattanathan 0-28, W Service 5-49, M Stuelcken 0-14, M Taberner 2-74, R Tregagle 2-16, C Trewin 1-8, B Warburton 0-15, S Turnbull 3-51.

CRICKET FIFTH GRADE

I'd like to start by first congratulating Dave Willis and Jason Harris on their Grand Final wins and the club as a whole for securing yet another Club Championship. Thank you all for being here tonight and toasting the six teams which have represented Burwood Briars this year. It was at first hard to go back and remember the 5th grade season mostly due to the fact I do not want to dwell on our Grand Final loss, however many memories and performances spring to mind as positive attributes of our season. The season of 2006-2007 saw a new lease of life for Briars 5th grade with the revamping of the Metropolitan Shield narrowing the teams from 18 to 7 and also for Briars the opportunity of having a player- borrowing program with Wests Cricket 5th grade, which meant three Wests players represented Briars every week.

Player Highlights Included:

- 1 The work of Wests youngsters Sachin Singh and Adam Esposito, who combined for a 100 run partnership in the final, and Michael Croucher, who took 12 wickets at 14.
- 2 Debutant Nathan Williams who was particularly solid post-Christmas with both bat and ball, the continued enthusiasm and renegade talent of Mike Taberner, who made an unbeaten 45 in the qualifying final, and also steadiness of fifth grade stalwart Brett Goman behind the stumps. Also Bharat Patel who in his few games showed he was a class above competition bowling attacks.
- 3 Another debutant and Trinity old boy Toby Crisp, who showed good signs as a middle order batsman and part-time wicket keeper.
- 4 Nathan Lester, in my opinion was the most outstanding contributor of the season with 31 wickets at 13 including two 5-fors. Nathan has the ability to move the ball a long way and performed superbly after being out of the game for several years.
- 5 Brendan 'Dizzy' Warburton maintained his pragmatic line and length this season and the varied dossier of deliveries which on the most part were unplayable. He took 11 wickets at 16.
- 6 Jeremy Bellemore for his tireless efforts for the team and steady hand at the top of the order.
- 7 Nick Beams who took a valuable five-for and assisted well with the captaincy when required.
- 8 Shreyans Shah, Aaron Woods, Jarrod Clark, Mark Smyck, and the man who went walkabout, Stefan Ellis, also made valuable cameos during the season.

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Further highlights of the season included some players from high grades being afforded the opportunity to earn a cap for Burwood Briars, with highlights being Ben Chapman scoring fifth grade's only century for the season, Ed Lam and Slug Hudson making valuable fifties and Mr. Scorebook himself Scotty Brennan taking two wickets in an over at Rothwell. Other game highlights included the thrilling 8- run win against Macquarie Uni, and the solid batting of the qualifying final. Out of the 16 games we had 11 Wins, 4 Losses and 1 No Result, with the majority of the wins coming on the back of our solid fast bowling attack and part-time spin. As the famous coach Vince Lombardi says, "Winning is not a sometime thing; it's an all the time thing. You don't win once in a while; you don't do things right once in a while; you do them right all the time. Winning is a habit. I believe the boys had the habit of winning readily entrenched by the end of the season, yet by game day, failed to deliver.

Grand Final day at Mona Park we would like to forget; only made better by the second and third grade wins the next day. The lack of batting depth and solidarity ultimately was brought to light by South Sydney, and while our performance was not timely, it duly noted to all of us that we are a young team with a lot more to

learn and a lot more to prove. There is something in a good team that really yearns for discipline and the harsh reality of head to head combat, which we hope to do once again.

I sincerely hope the partnership with Wests Cricket continues and that the mainstays of this team continue into next year. The only way we can come back and make up for the mistakes a few weeks ago is to again take on the competition with the same tenacity, consistency and enthusiasm. It is this combination which will keep us all moving forward.

Thanks must go to the team, Nick Beams for assisting with the captaincy at times and Scott Brennan and Adam Hudson for their work in scoring, stats and IT. Your work is invaluable to the club. Further thanks must go to Ian Willis and Neil D'Costa at Wests Cricket for their input and assistance in the Wests-Briars hybrid partnership. Lastly I would like to thank the Club Chairman Gerard Price, despite spending the majority of my Friday afternoons over summer discussing selections, grounds, etc it was always a pleasure to do so and I sincerely believe it both an honour and a privilege to captain any Burwood Briars side. I have tremendously enjoyed the season and hope to be back here in September to do it all over again.

Tom Watson – Captain

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| N Beams | 11 | 7 | 5 | 11 | - | - | 14.50 | 29 | 50.0 | 6 | 207 | 5-21 | 1 | - | 17.25 | 12 | 1 |
| J Bellemore | 12 | 11 | 1 | 33 | - | - | 12.10 | 121 | 2.0 | - | 10 | 0-10 | - | - | 0.00 | - | 2 |
| T Crisp | 6 | 6 | - | 28 | - | - | 14.83 | 89 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| A Croucher | 7 | 6 | - | 9 | - | - | 4.33 | 26 | 40.2 | 9 | 108 | 2-14 | - | - | 15.43 | 7 | 1 |
| A Esposito | 11 | 10 | - | 37 | - | - | 17.20 | 172 | 57.1 | 9 | 266 | 2-8 | - | - | 33.25 | 8 | 2 |
| B Goman | 12 | 12 | 1 | 24 | - | - | 14.18 | 156 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| N Lester | 14 | 9 | 2 | 14 | - | - | 8.57 | 60 | 103.0 | 10 | 373 | 5-20 | 2 | - | 13.32 | 28 | 1 |
| B Patel | 6 | 6 | 1 | 45* | - | - | 22.40 | 112 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| S Shah | 11 | 7 | 3 | 8 | - | - | 5.25 | 21 | 45.0 | 1 | 278 | 2-39 | - | - | 46.33 | 6 | - |
| S Singh | 10 | 10 | - | 36 | - | - | 13.60 | 136 | 26.0 | 4 | 99 | 3-9 | - | - | 11.00 | 9 | - |
| M Taberner | 7 | 7 | 1 | 42* | - | - | 14.33 | 86 | 19.0 | 2 | 69 | 1-18 | - | - | 23.00 | 3 | 1 |
| B Warburton | 10 | 9 | 3 | 25* | - | - | 13.67 | 82 | 54.4 | 13 | 163 | 2-17 | - | - | 16.30 | 10 | 7 |
| T Watson | 14 | 14 | 1 | 52 | 1 | - | 13.92 | 181 | 65.0 | 14 | 187 | 5-9 | 1 | - | 11.00 | 17 | 3 |
| N Williams | 11 | 11 | 1 | 27 | - | - | 11.10 | 111 | 16.1 | 2 | 62 | 4-28 | - | - | 12.40 | 5 | 2 |
| A Woods | 7 | 6 | 2 | 7 | - | - | 3.00 | 12 | 2.3 | - | 9 | 2-9 | - | - | 4.50 | 2 | - |

Also Batted: S Ashley 2-71, G Ashmore 2-19, S Brennan 1-26, L Brown 1-2, A Castecino 2-4, B Chapman 1-112, B Critchley 1-3, K Currie 1-18, A Gartrell 1-40, J Harvey 2-47, A Hudson 1-55, L Irvin Brown 3-60, E Lam 2-50, J Mast 1-24, M Pemberton 1-27, T Salway 1-25, R Shah 1-13, M Smyck 4-93, M Stark 1-38, A Stead 2-16, C Trewin 3-56. **Also Bowled:** S Ashley 2-62, J Bellemore 0-10, S Brennan 2-6, A Castecino 2-57, B Critchley 2-13, K Currie 1-28, A Gartrell 1-25, J Harvey 2-20, L Irvin Browne 0-15, J Mast 1-0, M Pemberton 1-21, T Salway 4-12, R Shah 5-31, M Stark 1-17, M Taberner 3-69, N Williams 5-62, A Woods 2-9.

CRICKET UNDER 24'S

When Gerard asked if I was interested in captaining the Frank Gray side, it took me all of 10 seconds to agree to it. Coming off the highs of last season's Grand Final defeat, there was a bit of optimism in the air, as we managed to get rid of the dead wood that had plagued us in the previous season (mainly due to age restrictions), and were able to keep the nucleus of the boys keen to avenge our grand final loss. Also, after reviewing our draw and the off season recruiting, we were quite confident of another successful season. And boy, were we wrong. If you doubt the significance of Frank Gray, you only have to look at guys such as Chris Hart, Ben Taylor, Cameron Beams and our very own Briar icon, Borat, who all got their start in the 24's competition, before moving on and playing a major role in their grades success. For many of us it has been the first stepping stone in establishing ourselves within the club. The 2006/2007 Frank Gray season probably goes down as the one that got away, as we had the ability to go a lot further, but unfortunately, let ourselves down in the end. As a team, our highlights included taking eventual winners Lane Cove all the way to lose by 8 runs. Their captain said in our after match meeting, that now that we are out, they are confident in finally taking out the title. I suppose this is a testament to the FG culture which has been created at Burwood. We have no egos, we aren't reliant on any individuals, and everyone stepped up at some stage of the season. I could never question the commitment shown by the 11/sometimes 10 guys who took the field. A few season highlights would include Derek Welsh who led with the ball again, the emergence of Chris Hart and Borat who played valuable roles throughout the season, Benny Taylor,

Tom Depice, Smycka and to everyone else who chipped and helped make the season as exciting as it was. A few special mentions to Scottie Brennen for giving up his Sundays to help with warm ups, scoring, organizing drinks, lunches and advice throughout the year. Scottie did a remarkable job and his efforts were appreciated by the entire FG Squad.

On behalf of the boys I would like to thank everyone else who supported us throughout the season. It makes a difference having the support from the rest of the club. I would like to congratulate Ben Taylor for his selection in the combined shires FG side. This proved his quality in his first season in shires and FG Ben made an impact wherever he played and his achievements didn't go unnoticed.

Now I always hear people thanking Gerard for his work and how much time he devotes to the Club. Gerard single handedly winning the 2nd grade final and the list goes on. After hearing this I often wonder if there is another Gerard Price because it surely couldn't be the lazy, frustrated old man that I know. Alas, I must give credit where credit is due. I must thank you for the work which takes part behind the scenes, which I never appreciated until I was working alongside you. Gerard you really are without peer.

An extra special mention to Stewart Turnbull who has been a member of the FG side since anyone could remember. He brings plenty of passion, style and commitment (which makes up for his lack of ability). Thanks Anna for allowing him out on Sundays! Stu, it has been a pleasure and all the best.

Congratulations to everyone on another Club Championship year, in particular. Dave and Jas, congratulations on your successful premierships.

Andrew Jalalaty – Captain

| Name | Mt | In | NO | HS | 50 | 100 | Avg | Runs | Ovrs | Mdn | Runs | Bowl | 5 | 10 | Avg | Wk | Ct |
|----------------------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-------|------|------|-----|------|------|---|----|-------|----|----|
| T Dapice | 5 | 4 | - | 56 | 2 | - | 42.00 | 168 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| C Hart | 5 | 5 | 1 | 93* | 3 | - | 84.00 | 336 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| A Jalalaty | 7 | 6 | 1 | 38 | - | - | 24.00 | 120 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| B Sattanathan | 5 | 5 | 1 | 55 | 2 | - | 39.50 | 158 | 36.2 | 4 | 127 | 3-28 | - | - | 15.88 | 8 | 1 |
| W Service | 2 | 1 | - | 4 | - | - | 4.00 | 4 | 17.4 | 3 | 79 | 5-30 | 1 | - | 13.17 | 6 | - |
| M Smyck | 7 | 5 | 3 | 16* | - | - | 18.50 | 37 | 49.5 | 3 | 242 | 1-16 | - | - | 48.40 | 5 | 2 |
| B Taylor | 7 | 5 | 1 | 11 | - | - | 4.75 | 19 | 45.0 | 7 | 183 | 3-18 | - | - | 18.30 | 10 | 1 |
| S Turnbull | 6 | 6 | - | 12 | - | - | 5.67 | 34 | 36.2 | 1 | 180 | 2-36 | - | - | 30.00 | 6 | 3 |
| D Welsh | 7 | 7 | 1 | 47 | - | - | 18.17 | 109 | 51.5 | 7 | 249 | 4-29 | - | - | 17.79 | 14 | 4 |

Also Batted: C Beames 2-18, J Brown 2-17, B Crawley, 2-4, R Jalalaty 2-11, R Kaskiewicz 2-24, P Smith 1-0, J Swarts 2-7, M Towers 3-8, C Trewin 1-0, B Warburton 3-4, T Watson 3-13. **Also Bowled:** J Brown 3-35, B Crowley 2-16, B Smith 2-44, M Taberner 0-3, B Warburton 4-50.

MASTERS CRICKET

Briars once again fielded a team in the Sydney Masters Cricket Competition in season 2006-07. Our results followed the trend of the past couple of seasons where we seem to have lost more than we have won. Our W-L record was 2 & 7. The team competitiveness and spirit did not wain throughout and any loss needed to be well earned by our opposition. Our bowling was particularly strong last season in restricting our opponents scoring; however the consistent middle order batting collapse was where most of our losses resulted. The annual social match against Wests was held at Pratten Park with Wests securing the David Brooks Trophy from us after our hard fought win the previous season. There were several notable performances last season, Greg Matchett with 40 retired against Macquarie Uni, David Jebb with 2 x 40 retired, and Andy Macky a couple of polished innings. The bowling honours were shared around with everyone contributing at various stages. Paul Alice, Jeff Matchett and Aldo Cantori obtained the most wickets with 12, 11 and 8 respectively.

Congratulations to the skipper Jeff Matchett who was awarded the Players Player Trophy, our most polished performer with 173 runs and 12 wickets for last season.

Our appreciation to Gerard Price and the Shires Committee in providing ongoing support to the team.

Stuart Lind

RUGBY CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Without doubt 2006 was a barn-storming year where the Division 3 competition was left behind in our wake but it wasn't a smooth running season. So preparation for 2007 was to first learn from our mistakes from the season past and plan for a tougher competition in Division 2.

Sponsorship played a major part in us fielding 6 sides competitively this season and without the kind and generous personal support of long time Briar – John Singleton, we would not have been able to run out onto Rothwell Park. Sponsorship is a very important element of amateur sport in today's environment. We all must understand that times have changed, cultures and the requirements of our working society. To you John, the players, wives, girlfriends and members of Briars Rugby, express our sincere thanks for what you have done for us and those of us who run onto the paddock with a Briars jersey extend our grateful allegiance to you.

With our coaching structure finalised at the end of November, training began in the first week of February. Good numbers once again fronted with all of last seasons U19s. It was good to see these young men get together for their second year of Rugby and in addition more new recruits from Trinity Grammar.

Greenlees Park, next to our new clubhouse gave Rugby a new training facility that provided a central location, club amenities and entertainment for after training and post match functions. Special thanks go to Foundation members John Price, Col Dennis and Ian Blair, who facilitated the installation of an ARU quality flood lighting system and Rugby players, Matthew Nichols, Paul McMorran, James Lagiloa, Robbie Pascoe, Tony Watts, Aaron Boyter, Jess McKinnon, Paterson Heenan, Ciaron Burns and Tony Kerle who donated their time in establishing the flood light footings.

As the season progressed Rugby's results did not reflect what was being endured. 11 season ending injuries were accounted for and at round 14, an unfortunate peak injury toll of 31 players was reached. I'm happy to say that the positive points from these statistics is that we had numbers to fill the gaps and still field six full sides. In perspective, the decline in playing numbers across the NSWSRU was quite large this year. A majority of clubs were demoted due to a shortage in player numbers with the most noticeable being Waverley, retiring from Division 1 to Division 3. We were more than able to keep our heads above water!

It is in my opinion that the turmoil surrounding the National Union and poor results by the Waratahs does affect grass roots level as interest for the game starts with us. Apart from Colleagues, we were the only club to field a full time Halligans Cup side compared to last season that had five full time Halligans campaigners.

I was also very pleased to see a number of Briars selected for the NSWSRU Representative side with James King, Brad O'Young and Kerry Constanti playing at Ballymore, defeating Queensland. Congratulations to our fellow Briars for making us proud of their efforts.

On a professional front, our exciting young Briars son, James King will be playing for West Harbour next season and without doubt will make an impact on the Pirates. I wish James all the best on behalf of the Briars Family and I am sure he will receive a roar from the Briars crowd when he runs onto Concord Oval for his first grade game.

Results for Season 2007:

- 1 3rd overall in the 2nd Division Club Championship
- 2 1st Grade, 2nd - Barraclough Cup Competition
- 3 2nd Grade, 5th - Stockdale Cup Competition
- 4 3rd Grade, 5th - Blunt Cup Competition
- 5 4th Grade, 2nd - Richardson Cup Competition
- 6 Colts, 7th - Robertson Cup
- 7 5th Grade – Halligans social competition
- 8 1st Grade lost to Beecroft in the Major semi final and lost to Newport the week after in the final.
- 9 4th Grade went straight through to the Grand Final after beating Hornsby in the Major semi final and lost to Beecroft in the Grand Final 12 to 10

33)

34)

35)

- 1 1st Grade Best & Fairest - Kerry Constanti
- 2 1st Grade Players Player - Kerry Constanti
- 3 2nd Grade Best & Fairest - Peter Etches
- 4 2nd Grade Players Player - Jeremy Lawlor
- 5 3rd Grade Best & Fairest - Matthew Conroy
- 6 3rd Grade Players Player - Tony Kerle
- 7 4th Grade Best & Fairest - Gary Wilmoth
- 8 4th Grade Players Player - Te Rangi Kerr
- 9 5th Grade Best & Fairest - Derek Henderson
- 10 5th Grade Players Player - Jeff Barnsley
- 11 U21 Colts Best & Fairest - Troy Wallace
- 12 U21 Colts Players Player - Shay Quilty
- 13 Rookie of the Year - David Brancatisano
- 14 Most Improved - John Wang
- 15 Clubman of the Year - Damien Johnson

48)

The final individual grade standings represent the end of round results but it must be known that 2nd grade and 3rd grade only just missed out on finishing in the top 4, as in both grades three clubs battled for 3rd and 4th place with only two points separating them. Although it was unfortunate that 2nd and 3rd Grade missed out on finals births, our injury toll remained high and we would not have been able to have fielded a full strength Club.

I feel that this season was a disjointed one in some respects. The early retirement of Club Coach John Picone, the resignation of two committee members mid season, rain affected training sessions, byes, a high injury toll, work commitments making some players unavailable and also mixed feelings about Rugby's attendance at our new club house. However, all of these points in hindsight were manageable and I make no excuses about them.

During the season the Director of Briars Rugby, Chris Walker took me to a Colleagues Old Boys day to see how they operate their Club. In contrast to Briars there were some significant differences that I noted and also considering the training / playing ethics of that of Beecroft, Chris and I agree that the culture of Briars must change if the Club and supporters want a Kentwell Cup birth.

In general, our crowd behaviour is on par with some clubs as the worst in the Union. It only takes a few beer-swilling spectators to get Referees off side and affect their judgement. It also influences the rest of the crowd to follow suit, which is totally unacceptable.

The Rugby committee also needs to expand its scale. Further assistance with treasury, secretary level and ground management must happen or else the unfortunate decision of reducing teams will occur. I will be calling for expressions of interest to fill the additional positions prior to Christmas. I do hope that those of you who value your Club will answer the call. It is now time to lighten the load of the few who are involved.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who have assisted the Briars Rugby Committee and Coaching staff this season, especially Chris Walker and Kevin Ivin's Chiropractic services.

Division 2 has been a learning curve and I do hope that we can progress further in 2008.

John Slender

RUGBY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

If I was a player, which I no longer am or a coach, which I no longer am, I would have felt an enormous sense of frustration and anger at the way the 2007 season evolved.

Despite the challenges of trying to merge the Briars Rugby culture in with a Bowls Club culture, despite the adjustments required around the coaching changes, we had teams, particularly in 1st Grade, which demonstrated clear premierships credentials. However the attrition rate through injuries, which far surpassed any levels I have previously experienced in 50 years of rugby, gradually emasculated all teams from 1sts through 5ths. The teams, which took the field in the final games, were a shadow of the season opening line-ups. Because this is part and parcel of rugby, we just had to cop it and get on without complaint and try to get the job done, but it cost us dearly in the quality of our rugby, with our win/loss record and with our self-respect and dignity.

While we cannot use this as an excuse (and generally to the credit of all players, it is not) we can feel angry, we can feel frustrated and at times it was right to feel humiliated as we were thumped by teams we knew we could have beaten at full strength.

If I was a Briars Rugby player or Briars Rugby coach in 2007, I would feel very strongly that there remains a lot of unfinished business to be confronted and completed in 2008 and driven by my frustration and anger I would be training my arse off to be stronger, quicker, fitter and better by March 2008.

However I'm no longer a player, so my motivations are not what matter – time will tell as to whether enough of our players and coaches feel that there is indeed unfinished business for us to take care of in 2008.

On a different but important note, rugby administration, particularly around finances, needs a quantum improvement and similarly the culture, or lack thereof, of our supporters, possibly aided by over indulgence with the singing syrup, CANNOT be permitted to continue in its present form. For too many years we have maintained a sullied reputation with referees, civilised spectators and Suburban Rugby administration. This WILL be corrected in 2008.

Chris Walker

RUGBY FIRST GRADE

Briars 1st Grade in 2007 was a very successful year both on and off the field. We played in a positive spirit and at times played some very exciting rugby. We finished 2nd on the competition ladder behind a very good Beecroft side who eventually took out the competition.

After the boys finished celebrating a great 2006 we had to get started on 2007 - new division, new teams, new challenges. We worked hard in the off season through Hydies fitness and the other coaches skills drills and it showed in our 1st round as we came out ready to play against Lindfield with a 60-12 victory on home soil and wrapped up our first keg of the season with all grades winning.

We were then shown it was not going to be all sunshine with a tough and close loss to Epping. The boys bounced back with 4 impressive victories in a row with a team that started to build combinations and were looking like contenders. And even with 6 victories from the next 7 games we did it tough with an injury list that was growing by the second. With players like Ronse, Hudson, O'Young, Dowling, Sinai, Rockstar, Bedoes, Brocklehurst, King, Mirsad and Chef all on an unavailable list at some stage with some out for the season, it looked like it was going to be a tough finish to the year. Luckily we had very good back up and 1st graders that raised their game to help the team. I don't know whether the players knew how close we came to not playing finals football with only a 2 point win in the last round to secure our top 2 spot, and finals is what I coach rugby and every player should strive to be a part of.

Finals football in Div 2 was very strong and our results did not stand up to where we expected them to be. You could blame injuries on that but they are part of the game and sometimes you have a good run and sometimes you don't. The boys did themselves proud each time they stepped out onto the field.

We have to look to next year with confidence. We still have a very young squad from Colts through to 1st Grade. We have to take note of the things that happened in 2007 and build on them. I wish everyone the

best who is leaving the Club but remember the Briars Family will be here when you return.

I want to thank Porky for all his efforts this year. Porky does a lot of the behind the scenes work that does not get acknowledged - you're a great man. The Ladies who work in the Caravan - your work is what shows this Club is a Family Rugby Club and I thank you for all the effort you put in each week. Also I want to thank all the Coaches, Committee and Players for making my 1st year at Briars an enjoyable one, and I look forward to a great 2008. Lastly thank you to all the Girlfriends and Wives who let their Men train and play each week because if you don't do that then there is no Briars.

Coach Guddo

RUGBY SECOND GRADE

The Rugby season came about quick this year, the off-season swallowed up like those 10,000 beers the Briars boys consumed in celebrating our domination of 3rd Division. The jubilation of 2006 with a Club Championship and Premierships in 1st & 2nd grade was over. We were faced with a fresh challenge. There, before us stood a 'new Kilimanjaro' – being Second Division.

The new year saw the departure of Club Coach Teki and his minions. Names such as Isi, Lloyd, Gum, Maka and Ben would no longer be seen in our 2nd grade history. These Tongan power houses had gone their separate ways. They were replaced by a lone Fijian, 38 years young and the biggest and best of the Polynesian collection, Sione Vahai. He had remained loyal to the Briars cause.

The season started with confidence, we were very fit and strong, with new blood in our ranks. First round saw us smash Lindfield (eventual Grand finalists) by 45 points. We then racked up consecutive wins against Epping, St Ives, Hornsby, Newport and then drew with Kings Old Boys. We were on a great roll but injuries were starting to take a devastating toll on us and 1st grade. We were leading the competition with Beecroft when we were narrowly beaten 22-18 at their home ground. The circumstances were dubious but that is Rugby, as they say.

More injuries called the name of our gallant warriors, 1st Graders such as Ronsisvalle, Dowling, Taylor, O'Young and Halep fell. The domino effect continued to deplete the lower grades of cohesion and quality players. All considered the boys soldiered on, we soundly beat Blacktown with a makeshift team. New men to 2nd grade rose to the cause. Jeremy Lawlor took the reins like a veteran to the game but he was still a learner. Freak, Pondy, China, McCrae, Notty and Stefan all produced when it was needed. Roni helped us to no end when his old, bent body would let him. Kelly Moore defended like only he could; Beefer finally got his chance and ended the season with more tries than any other back in the club. They were led by their tough, fearless captain Shane Boag. He continued to play each week with a knee injury, we were short on troops and that was what a great Captain does. He puts his body on the line for his team mates.

Round 10 was the turning point. The following weeks to come we had to field a patched up team but still we refused to surrender. Peter Etches, Gary Reynolds, Rob Jones, Brett Sinclair, Luke Sinai, Stan, Chef and Matt Shepherdson continued to hold the banner in the forwards; they were joined by newcomers to 2nd grade such as the Conroy Brothers, Tom Watson, Batesy and Paul McMoran. Their commitment and courage was never questioned, everyone that was given their chance in 2's performed with honour.

The whole season came down to the last round, we must beat Blacktown at home. Teki and his brother Ben faced us, Billy Spliadis and Manuel, last year's comrades were out to spoil our party. We systematically smashed them 32 – 7. But that was not enough; we needed the top side, Beecroft (undefeated all season), to beat a fourth place Lindfield to jump into the semi-finals. The Rugby God's were cruel that day; they sat upon the hill and scorned our quest. I don't know weather Beecroft rested players or Lindfield produced something special, it did not matter. Lindfield won 8-6 and we missed third place by a single point. Once again, the old adage, that's Rugby.

I will admit it was a tough season, injuries, work commitments, players leaving all made for new challenges. However, we were far from disgraced. The eventual winners, Kings Old Boys, were glad to see the back of us after a round 7 draw and a narrow win against us at Centennial Park (we scored four tries in 15min to almost beat them). The best thing to come from the season was the emergence of new talent from the lower grades. They were blooded in tough circumstances and it showed great promise for the future of Briars. Just because we did not make the semi's does not mean we failed. We showed wonderful fortitude and grit in all our games and all the boys did me and the Club proud. It has been a pleasure and an honour

to have been involved with you all again. Bring on 2008, we will be even better.

Grant 'Raw' Hyde -2nd Grade Coach, Club Trainer and Defensive Coach

RUGBY THIRD GRADE

2007 started with a bang, six victories from seven matches, including away wins against Epping, Newport and Beecroft, with the Beecroft game finishing 3-0 our way. The boys were growing in confidence and the stability we had in personnel was great for the combinations to grow and the patterns to emerge. This showed in the way they took to the field. Led by Matt Conroy (Fez), and supported by Rob Pascoe, Benny Solomon and Tony Kerle, we were sitting pretty and the top of the tree. We then had a two week break with rain and came back with a 10-5 away loss to Lindfield; a team that was strong on the day but only managed to win six games all year. In the wash up this was a game that cost us.

The following three games we won against Epping, St Ives and Hornsby, none of whom threatened during the year. The big fish were still to come. And didn't we find out. Consecutive losses to the eventual semi-finalists, Newport, Kings, Beecroft and Blacktown (twice) left us four points shy of the semis and wondering what could have been. Finishing in 5th with a 9-7 win-loss record. Unlike in the movies, the good guys didn't win!

But there were some great things to come out of the season for third grade. The morale was strong and that in part came from the closeness of the players and the strong leadership shown by Fez, Pascoe, Benny and Kerley. The boys continued to turn up to trainings and played hard each time, showing that a level of respect had been formed throughout the team, this will only be a benefit.

We turned a corner after playing Blacktown the first time and started to muscle up at the breakdown, winning more possession and creating slower ball for the opposition, but without a steady five-eight for the back end to the season we struggled to score points.

As we moved through the season the skills improved, which gives hope for next year, and that being our second year in this division, we'll shake down a few teams. So enjoy the break boys, it starts again soon!

Ben Underhill

RUGBY FOURTH GRADE

Season 2007 was overall a successful one for 4th Grade. It was a season built on a foundation of keeping the game simple, maintaining a stable playing group and a great combination of youth and experience. We finished second on the table, won the Major Semi and made it to the Grand Final for the first time in many years. The only down side to the season came on the biggest day of the year where we inexplicably faltered at the last hurdle. Whilst extremely disappointed with the Grand Final result, the fact that we even made it reflects immeasurably on the character, dedication and talent of the playing group as a whole, given the well documented hurdles the club as a whole experienced in 2007.

Special Mentions for their efforts in 2007 must go to:

The Coaches - Mr Terry O'Kane and Mr Bob Walsh, your patience, support and commitment was greatly appreciated and integral to our success. To the coaching team as a whole especially Mr Ben Underhill and Mr Peter Kelly, your understanding and support regarding selections enabled us to maintain a relatively stable playing group throughout the year and assisted us greatly in achieving our goals.

The Team (4th Grade 2007) – Congratulations, whilst not the ending the way they had all hoped, the season was a success nonetheless. The team was an amazing blend of youth, experience and emerging talent. Our team which at different times included such superstars as Gary, Roni, Jeff, Glenn, Pongi, Johnny, Willow, Marty, Guddo, Harvey, Borsak, Spatch, Tigga, Lloyd, Scott, Dave, Jack, Kelly, Mullet, Jason, Kyle, Nick, Rang, Gracie, Animal, Jimmy, Slender, Ferris and many other talented individuals, was a pleasure to be part of and without you all the successes of the season would have meant nothing. Only one question remains and that is, are you hard enough to do it all over again in Season 2008.

The Godfather – Without you the last couple of seasons would not have been the successes that they have, your tireless dedication and exhaustive commitment to the club is nothing short of amazing. The club is truly fortunate to have you as a member and it's Chairman.

Last but by no means least we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest appreciation to Mr Chris Walker and Mr John Singleton. Your support, guidance and assistance in recent seasons have been of immeasurable benefit to the Club. Our sincere hope is that we can in some way repay your ongoing commitment to our Club through the successes we all so dearly covet in season 2008 and beyond.

Season 2008 – If the old adage is correct that you need to have been to one to win one, season 2008 will be a successful one for 4th Grade. If we can keep the core player group together and once again complement it with an injection of new talent we may well be able to exorcise the demons of 2007. Have a great Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you all fresh and fit for Season 2008.

Damien Johnson – Captain

RUGBY UNDER 21'S COLTS

The Colts team was a new concept for this current crop of Briars after the 2006 success winning the club championship. At pre-season the club coaching staff were enthused with the large number of younger men joining the club interested in playing rugby. Many of them pushed some of the more seasoned veterans of the club in the fitness of this pre-season period. With further investigation it was found that many of the players who turned up were in their first or second year of rugby and were only 19 years old. This meant that the players were raw; yet raw and with talent and enthusiasm.

It was with much anticipation that the season came upon us with our first trial game on the Central Coast. Some of the grommets donned their "L plates" and impressed the rest of the club and some of the locals. Who will every forget Buddy going out that night in his rugby boots! The season proper underway and the side made a great debut with a good win against eventual premiers Lindfield. Particularly pleasing was that a number of players played out of position for the benefit of the team. Settling into combinations was a difficult part of the beginning of the season with so many new players. Persistence by the players meant that some unearthing of new talent was found.

David Brantacasano made an excellent impact to the side in his debut season of rugby. He deservedly justified his selection in the higher grades, showing blistering pace and excellent finishing ability. Congratulations on a good season and scoring a hat trick against Oatley. Simon Bryant was unearthed as a player who gives it his all each week. His work in the lineout and around the paddock made opposition teams cringe.

Improvement was a key of each individual. Toby Crisp made excellent improvements in his first year of senior football from the second row and will be all the better for this season. Captain Shay Quilty developed a greater appreciation of front row play and Jack Ginty made valuable contributions at scrum half. Congratulations to Andrew Gregson who eventually made it into first grade a regular on the wing. A great achievement from a guy who was playing flanker in Colts!

Thank you to all players and their efforts over the season. While it will be sad to see Dutchy and Dave Ananin make their way up into grade it is an exciting prospect to think that the majority of this team has another two years together. A Colts premiership is not that far away lads.

Special thanks must also go to the other coaches and the support staff. Your support of these future Briars is much appreciated.

Lachlan White - Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As we look back in 2007 Briars Men's Hockey can be proud of the successes we have had on and off the field. Our congratulations go to the two Premierships that we won in Premier League 2nd Grade and Vets C Division competitions. This is truly a deserved reward for the training, planning, set-plays and execution during the whole season & those cold winter nights!

Below is a summary of the 2007 highlights for all the Men's teams:

- 1 Premiers in Premier League 2nd grade and Vets C Division
- 2 Minor Premiers in 2nd Grade
- 3 3rd in Premier League Club Championship – 5 points behind winners Moorebank
- 4 Finalist in Yates Cup in 2nd Grade where we lost to Sutherland 5-6
- 5 Minor Semi-finalists in 1st and 3rd grades
- 6 Finalists in U/17B and U/17C
- 7 SHA Kevin Flack Best and Fairest PL 2nd Grade as voted by Umpires – nominees were Darren Pike and Nathan Fryer
- 8 Representative Players at State and Australian levels
- 9 NSW State Coach – Ivan Boulton
- 10 Retirement of Australian representative duties - Michael McCann
- 11 Development of our U/17s into grade
59)

As you read throughout the Men's Hockey reports, each coach has given a summary of their team's performance and award winners in 2007. We would like to highlight the following for each grade:

- 1 **1st grade** - 4th position in Premier League 1st Grade after 25 regular competition games; and Minor Semi-Finalists - lost 3-4 to NorWest Strikers (the eventual Premiers).
- 2 **2nd grade** - Yates Cup Finalists – lost to Sutherland 5-6; Minor Premiers 2007; Major Semi-Final – defeated Sutherland 5-3 and defeated UTS 5-3 in the most memorable grand final to become Premiers in 2007. This team was undefeated in the regular season in all competition games in 2007.
- 3 **3rd grade** – Came in 4th position and Minor Semi-Finalists – lost 0-2 to Glebe
- 4 **4th – 8th grades** – Did not make the semi-finals and 7ths missed a semi spot by one point.
- 5 **U/17B** - Finished in second position and played in the Major Semi- Finalist drew 2-2 to Bankstown and then went to the Final, losing to SouthWest Strikers 1-4.
- 6 **U/17C** - Finished in second position and played in the Major Semi- Finalist – lost 0-7 to St. George and then went to the Final – lost to Manly, 2-4.

Representative Honours

Congratulations to our players selected to play in representative teams. These include the following players:

- 1 Australia: Michael McCann
- 2 Australia U/21: Josh Miller, Josh White, Kieran Govers
- 3 NSW AHL: Josh Miller, David Bourke, Kieran Govers, Ivan Boulton (Coach)
- 4 NSW AHL Squad: Ian McGregor
- 5 NSW U/21: Josh White, Josh Miller, Kieran Govers, Dane McIlveen
- 6 NSW U/18: Adam Imer
- 7 NSW Institute of Sport: Josh Miller, Kieran Govers, Josh White and Adam Imer
- 8 Sydney: Ian McGregor, David Bourke
- 9 Illawarra: Josh White, Kieran Govers, Stuart Cayzer
- 10 Sydney Vets U/35: James Fordham
- 11 ACT Vets: Allan Jones
76)

Finally, on the hockey field, in our two local Derby matches, Briars lost the Trevenar-Wark Cup to Glebe and shared the Streeter-Robinson Cup with UTS.

Throughout the year there were many who contributed their time voluntarily in many roles to ensure that Men's Hockey was operational. We wish to thank:

- 1 Those players and those associated with Briars who umpired and did 'ball boy' duties especially for Premier League games;
- 2 All players who attended the social functions including the Trivia Night, the Hockey Luncheon and the Presentation Night;
- 3 John Price for organising the Hockey Luncheon at Parliament House on 22 June 2007 and with all

- Cintra Park field bookings;
- 4 Allen Chu for organising the engraving of all trophies and pewters, his role as Men's Hockey Records Officer, and coordinating all reports for Men's Hockey for the Annual Report;
- 5 All players who helped in the canteen in whatever capacity and as usual, to Allan Jones (AJ) for his dedication in the smooth running our canteen at Cintra with great support from Wal Zol;
- 6 David Slater who was Men's Hockey Chairman but resigned half-way through the season due to work commitments;
- 7 All coaches and team managers;
- 8 Gill Burns, Janet Adam and Emma Smith from the Women's Hockey committee as we partnered on many of the social functions for the year; and
- 9 The Men's Hockey Management Committee – Andrew Borg (Club Captain), Lachlan Boa, Andrew Kilazoglou, Allen Chu, Blake Durance, Greg Dunn, Mike Denniss, David Ryan, Sam Everist and Simon Bergfield.

85)

We all need a rest over the off-season now as we prepare for 2008 season. 'Seasons Greetings' and 'Happy New Year' to all.

Mike Denniss

HOCKEY CLUB COACH REPORT

May I start by stating that as this is my second report as Club Coach I feel I have a better understanding of the dynamics of the club's operation and its people? Although my focus for this report is on the coaching matters within the club I may from time to time make comment on other administration or strategic matters that I consider impact on the growth and future success of the club. If success is measured solely on teams winning premierships then it would have to be said that Briars had an average season. Taking nothing away from the Women's Eighth Grade and Men's Second Grade and Vets premiership and wins! If it were measured on teams that made the finals then we had a better than average year and my congratulations to all teams who achieved this. Of course a measure of club success is the number of teams that make finals and subsequently go on to win a premiership. However other critical success factors include:

- 1 Player development across all grades.
- 2 Success of the junior programmes.
- 3 A united front across all sections of the club.
- 4 Total club environment on and off the field.
- 5 Winning, challenge, fun and personal enjoyment.

90)

We all should be happy with the results of the 2007 season but I put to you that we should not be totally satisfied with the results. Success is a measure of realising potential and I believe that we fell short of realising this potential. I sat at our presentation evening with mixed emotions between a sense of "that was awesome, well done" to "I am sure with better processes and structures we could have achieved more..."

A few of the things I am most impressed with:

- 1 The number of players who made representative teams.
- 2 The number of teams that made the finals.
- 3 The three teams that won premierships.
- 4 The commitment, enthusiasm and effort put in off the field by the administration and management.
- 5 The commitment of coaches to their job.
- 6 The success of another goalkeeper's camps throughout the season. Thanks to Leigh Pasfield for her efforts to organise this each week.
- 7 The senior players getting much more involved with coaching at junior training sessions throughout the season.
- 8 David Ratcliff and the rest of the Junior Committee worked hard all year and you can see the improvement in team results – however I am sure he will agree, there is still along way to go.

98)

A few things I think that if we do better we will reap immediate rewards:

- 1 We all agree that the clubs future rests with our juniors – much more emphasis next year must be on technical development and quality of coaching.

- 2 The formula for our Coaches Education workshops must be revisited to ensure more coaches are motivated to attend and ultimately upskill themselves.
- 3 The Blueprint document must be revisited and adopted by all coaches.
- 4 More interaction between and support for all coaches both at workshops and on the turf situations.
- 5 One centralised administration/committee for the whole club will immediately unite the club. I understand this is a very sensitive topic, but I will go on record and state that I believe huge efficiencies (strategic and operational) will be gained only when the club operates under one management committee.

103)

I enjoyed immensely being part of the Briars Club and thanks to everyone for making Annie and myself feel very welcome as we are settling into this wonderful new life in Australia.

Ivan Boulton

HOCKEY MEN'S FIRST GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|---------------------|
| 24 | 16 | 6 | 2 | 112 | 42 | 50 | 4 th /13 |

Achievements:

- 1 4th position in Premier League 1st Grade after 25 regular competition games
- 2 Minor Semi-Finalists: lost 3-4 to NorWest Strikers
- 3 3rd in Premier League Club Championship – 5 points behind winners Moorebank

Primary Goals set for the season were:

- 1 To achieve more consistency with selections throughout the season by having a 1st/2nd grade and 2nd/3rd grade squads training together.
- 2 Preseason programme to have players physically fit at start of season.
- 3 To make the top four then re assess finals goals
- 4 Commitment to player's technical development

Season Summary

The season started well with a string of very good wins. By the end of the first round we were well placed in 3rd position and a very good vibe within the team. Challenges we had to overcome during the season (in no particular order of merit):

- 1 Unavailability of our top young players at critical times - On National / State duties. - Josh Miller, Josh White, Dane McIlveen, Kieran Govers and Adam Imer.
- 2 Mick McCaan's retirement from national team and decision to stay in Europe.
- 3 Significant injuries to: Matt Johnson, David Bourke, Ben Hurford, Josh Miller, Josh White, Alan Charlton.

113)

In total, 25 players from 1st/2nd squads played first grade throughout the year. With both squads training together there was always a core group of players from second grade challenging a first team position and this kept competition for positions healthy and also ensured that when a player was not available a quality player filled the gap. This year saw two quality international players, Mikki Delas (Spain) and Hjalmar Koedijker (Holland) for part of the season. They both made significant contributions to the team both on and off the field. My thanks and best wishes go to Mikki and Hjalmar. The season offers lessons to be learned going forward to 2008. The team had one of the best defensive records in the competition. The top two teams conceded +/- 35 goals, we conceded 42. The two tops teams scored 140 to 155 goals whereas we only managed around 115. I believe we were at least 20 to 25 goals short. This is a key factor when you consider in most games our possession stats and ability to create scoring opportunities was equal to any team. To finish fourth was disappointing but I think a fair reflection of our season's performance. We are very close to taking the next step to make the grand final and win a premiership but also in some respect very far away.

Areas that will be improved in 2008:

- 1 Fitness (Physical and Mental) was good at start of season, but must be maintained all season.
- 2 Good midfield and defensive structures, but must improve outcomes in attacking circle and attacking set plays.

3 Self belief and mateship is critical. We achieved a lot this year, but more is needed to grow the Briars spirit on and off the field.

116)

In summary, we need to continue to develop our defensive game, and it is absolutely critical that we score more goals from the opportunities created. Al Charlton and Josh Miller shared the captaincy roles. My thanks to both these guys for their leadership and efforts, both lead by example on and off the field. There is no doubt that every player gave what they thought was their best effort each time we put on a Briars shirt. My challenge to all of us is to ask ourselves “Was this enough? What more can we do for our mates and the team...?” My thanks go to each and every one of the 25 players who put on a first team jersey. I have a huge respect and belief in these players and the Briars Hockey Club. We have the opportunity to make 2008 our year on and off the field and I look forward to being part this success.

Finally, my thanks to Allen Chu and John Price for all their hard work behind the scenes to make sure things ran smoothly. Also thanks to Stu Carruthers for his help with coaching and enabling the two teams to work so effectively together.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Alan Charlton
- 2 Player’s Player: David Bourke
- 3 Best and Fairest: David Bourke

Ivan Boulton - 1st Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S SECOND GRADE - PREMIERS

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 24 | 19 | 0 | 5 | 102 | 27 | 62 | 1 st /13 |

(excludes Yates Cup Final match)

Achievements:

- 1 Yates Cup Finalists – lost to Sutherland 5-6
- 2 Minor Premiers 2007
- 3 Major Semi-Final – defeated Sutherland 5-3
- 4 Premiers 2007 – defeated UTS 5-3
- 5 Undefeated in 2007

What a year and what an outstanding performance from a group of Briars! My own expectations were passed half way through the year when we just missed on the Yates Cup. To go the whole of the regular season undefeated was an unbelievable effort by the team. The team played with heart and passion in every game, they were a professional outfit that prepared for each game in the same way and would always take the “underdog” mentality into all games. These guys played their best when the backs were to the wall. So many times a player would lift their individual performance to raise the standard required of the team. So many times a different player was responsible. The Grand Final was a game where we were too timid and patient in the first half. The half time address was focussed only on encouraging the team to believe in themselves and to not finish the game wondering what could have been. This will live with this group for the rest of our lives! Great work guys!

The list of thanks must include Captain Pikey, Sammy Everist, John Price, Allen Chu, Ivan Boulton, Sam Williams (chiropractor), Allan Jones (AJ) and the many supporters who stood by this team throughout the year. I would also like to thank the 1st grade team for their support.

The team:

Mark Ross (“Shed”) – A very good season by the big fella! Best and Fairest for the team and his good form guaranteed the team’s success. Consistent performer which the team leveraged to great success.

Brett Manning (“Manners”) – Solid season in deep defence and used off the bench towards the latter stages of the season. The team’s hard man stood up to all attackers from other teams.

Lewis Mike (“Lewy”) – The “spiritual leader!” This ultimate team player forced his way into the starting eleven and could not be displaced. Made some huge improvements throughout the year and will continue to

improve.

Adam Lawson (“Lawso”) – Played throughout the midfield, mostly at right half, but then could be thrown into the middle to provide a dour defensive tactic. Improved his mobility in 2007 and will keep on improving with an increased leadership role next year.

Blake Durance (“Blakos”) – The team’s Player Player and MVP (Most Valuable Player) award winner. Gave his heart and soul in all matches and at training. A great on-field leader who provided the impetus required in the big games. Not a renowned goal scorer, but figured high in the team lists due to his set play success.

Chris Coombes (“Coombsey”) – Had a stellar year, sold as a rock at left half and also provide some great attacking options. Never say die attitude and a great trainer.

Paul Sharp (“Sharpy”) – Played, as always, with a heap of passion at the right half position. Actually played most of the year in the 1sts, but played well enough in the 2nds to lift the team to some stirring victories.

Darren Pike (“Pikey”) – Played at all ends of the field and scored a heap of goals early in the year to set the team up for the season. Played with plenty of passion and inspired the team in the finals with a broken thumb. Was a telling factor in the Grand Final, lifting the team in the 2nd half to bring home the bacon!

Andrew Borg (“Borgy”) – Had one of his best years for the club (so he tells me!). Played most of the year in the midfield and worked tirelessly to limit the competitor’s best players. Was always running hard at the end of game. The team’s drive and inspiration!

Nathan Fryer (“Fryer”) – One of the best players all year for the team and one who scored goals at crucial times for the team. “Hard as Nails” on the field and his enthusiasm was infectious. Could score from anywhere and did so in the grand final!

Matthew Small (“Matty”) – The “find” of the year. Played so well he maintained his place in the team. Had an ability to turn games with his speed and agility in the midfield and scored some unbelievable goals throughout the year.

Troy Prescott (“Presso”) – Trot was used through the midfield and striker positions in the year and, therefore, provided great flexibility to the team structure. His reach and height was critical in setting up at attacking raids all year.

Derryn Allsopp (“Dazza”) – Probably the biggest improver throughout the year and made a real difference in the finals. He worried other teams with his pace and split teams apart as his confidence grew during the year.

James Fordham (“James”) – James was a great goal scorer for the team, particularly early on in the year. Provide plenty of spark and enthusiasm off the bench in the striker line and worked hard all year to improve in all facets of his game.

Chris Mosley (“Sugar”) – Chris had a great year in the midfield and the striker line until struck down by illness towards the business end of the season. Played his heart out week in, week out and proved he still has the fitness and desire to achieve at this level.

I’d also like to thank the following players who supported the team on occasions: Adam Imer, Jay Rama (“Jay-Bro”), Mark Holman and all of the 1st grade team.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Most Valuable Player: | Blake Durance |
| 2 | Player’s Player: | Blake Durance |
| 3 | Best and Fairest: | Mark Ross |

Stuart Carruthers - 2nd Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S THIRD GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 18 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 44 | 48 | 30 | 4 th /10 |

Achievements:

- 1 4th position after 18 games
- 2 Semi-Finalist: Minor Semi-Final – lost to Glebe, 0-2

Defence - Defence was the key to our improvement this year. We had a better structured and tougher defence with the addition of Michael Frost (“Frosty”), 3rd grade’s Most Valuable Player for 2008. When Captain Frost was unavailable or injured we leaked goals. I am sure he will be the corner stone of the 3rd grade defence in the coming years. Also steeling it up at the back, in the net we had Mark Holman (“Wholemeal”) who stepped up this year and is improving his skills year on year. Wholemeal will be another key part of Briars for the next decade or more – ah to be young again. Partnering Frosty at the back during the year we had Murray Green (“Muz”), who I lured back to the pitch for the first time in 8 years. Despite needing some anger management classes in a couple of games, Muz always gave 110% on the field and I am sure will be back for more in 2008. Brett Manning, part of the premiership winning 2’s also made some key appearances at the back for us this year and he like Muz always gives it his best.

Midfield - The engine room of any hockey team and the 3rd grade engine could be described as somewhat vintage muscle car than new age sports car in 2007. In the middle of the paddock we had **Ian Reynolds** (“Reno”) 37 years young and winner of this year’s 3rd Grade Player’s Player. “The rudder”, as Tom Persson (TP) – a previous Briar’s 1st Grade coach, once described him, Reno is still a tackling machine even if the legs don’t move as quickly as they once did and it was a pleasure to still be playing with someone I played my first game of hockey with in U/15’s many years ago. Partnering Reno in the engine room on the left half was **Glen Bullock** (“Bulldog”). Bulldog is as his name would indicate tough, tenacious, loyal and can bite (explode) when you are least expecting. Dog struggled a bit with niggling injuries and fitness at times during the year but is another person with lots of talent. At left inner we had the illusive **Scott Fernando** (“Scotty”). Unable to train all year due to work, Scotty was a great addition to the team and was within about half a point of getting players player award. Scott, time permitting, will be playing higher grades at Briars for many years to come.

On the right hand side were two guys who shared right half and right inner and also shared this seasons Best and Fairest award. Ben Garland and Phil Card were both instrumental to 3rd grade’s improved performance in 2007. Phil was a rock all year and Benny will realise his potential if he starts to believe in his ability which includes scoring goals.

Strikers - The show ponies, the money men, the lads on the big bucks who need to deliver the goals. This year we had a few people rotating through striker, but in the end as a group we simply did not deliver enough goals to win the premiership. Mental note– key focus for improvement in 2007. **Luke Hough**, the big boy from Bathurst in his first year at Briars. As with most first seasons at a club Luke had his ups and downs getting to know his fellow players. A highlight was his hat trick in gale force wind and rain at 8pm at night – if only we had weather like that every week! Next year Luke will have to consistently deliver more goals to ensure he maintains his spot. **James Fordham** - the man with no nickname. For now we will call him “wolverine”, or more importantly **Clubman of the Year** winning the coveted **A.J. Robinson Trophy for 2007**. Arguably he is the luckiest and unluckiest person of the year. James won a premiership medal with 2nd grade, but was also knocked out in the 3rd grade semi final warm up after stopping a rebounding ball with his head. More goals in 3s would have helped the cause but I am a hard task master. **Derryn Allsop**, the “DazMan” also a 2nd grade premiership winner in 2007 but also a valuable member of 3rds. The only way is up is really the best phrase to encapsulate Daz’s hockey future. He has the natural ability to be anything he chooses and I hope for Briar’s sake, it is a kick arse goal scoring legend.

Taking on the unfamiliar role of coach was a challenge in itself – trust me. I can only thank all of the people who helped me during the year and realised that running a weekend bench from the field is next to impossible. On a personal note, 18 goals in 18 games and I was at least making the score sheet a despite the aging bones. As Arnie so famously said – “I’ll be back”.

Utility Players - There is a range of guys as is the nature of 3rd grade who also played quite a few games in various roles this season and should all consider themselves part of the squad that is required to play an entire season of hockey. Max Maxon (“Maxine”) has potential to burn and played in a range of positions for 3s never letting the team down. Bottom line, Max is now at the age where he needs to work out what position he wants to play and then develop all the skills required to excel at it. Hopefully Max will have a long and successful career at Briars. Nigel Francisco like many other people contributed this year and was in the right place at the right time to pocket a couple of goals that are the reason we made the semis. Nigel is in fact the son of Ricky an old Briars coach who happened to coach both Reno and myself many years ago. Nigel, like the other forwards, needs to ensure they score goals consistently which I am sure he will do the longer he plays with the team. Ian Hristoforidis, very long name but another young Briar with a bright

future. Ian played any role that was thrown at him, he has a lot of ticker and with some increased coaching and focus on his skills and positional play he will be a top Briar for the next two decades. Nate Napper, another young man played any role that was thrown at him. Nate is super fit and with some coaching his game will improve out of sight.

Also thanks to: **Nate Ball** for both his coaching help at training and game day as well as other guys who had a run this year – **Steve Graham (the Chief), Dave Ratcliffe, Simon Lewis, Lewis Mike, Nick Candido, Jake Imer and James Hallet.**

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Michael Frost
- 2 Player's Player: Ian Reynolds
- 3 Best and Fairest: Ben Garland and Phil Card

So to end, I would just like to cliché up the season: Firstly I would like to thank Sydney Hockey for putting on the competition, the club, our sponsors – Carlton United and Lion Nathan, our supporters who were there week in week out (including jambo), my agent – thanks for negotiating such a good contract. Thanks to the lads – you guys are tops. The 110% you put in week in week out was great and when we played our cards right we came up trumps more than once and we all know hockey was the winner this season in 3rd grade - not Manly. And finally just remember a few of the things that guided our season - “no fate but what we make”, “do or do not, will or will not - there is no try” and “whether you think you can or think you can't, you are probably right”. See you all next year to do it all again.

Greg Dunn (“Dunny”) - 3rd Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S FOURTH GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 18 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 31 | 42 | 14 | 8 th /10 |

2007 was a difficult and frustrating year for 4th grade, due to the fact some had hardly played together, being a mix of younger and new players, and experienced players who have played for the club over previous years. The good thing is that we have a good base of players to work with for next year. This year we were very competitive in all of our games. Unfortunately we had times, in most of our games, where we switched off and allowed the opposition to score goals, which either cost us a victory or resulted in a loss, more often than not against teams that we should have beaten. Also due to injuries, player unavailability in other grades as well as ours, we were not able to settle on a stable playing group. Other areas where we can improve to enable us to compete for a full 70 minutes are marking of players, ball control, decision making and patience with the ball. Whilst we had good numbers at training, this is one area where we need to improve. Not only can we use this as a time to work on skills/set pieces but also as a time to work on our fitness. The players also need to take responsibility for being fit as this was another reason why we dropped off in our games because we didn't have the fitness levels that we should have.

Congratulations to our younger players on making the step up from playing juniors/lower grades and being able to compete with guys who have been playing for a good number of years. Well done guys!!! We want to see you back next year. Thanks to Gary O'Sullivan, Alan O'Connell and Nathan Ball for your help in the running of the team. It certainly made it a lot easier. I would also like to thank the players who filled in for us when we were short of players. Thanks Guys. If we can greater involvement next year from our senior players we can bring the junior players we have coming through on a lot quicker in terms of skills, understanding the game.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Richard Nutt
 - 2 Player's Player: Ian Hristoforidis
 - 3 Best and Fairest: Nathan Napper
- 135)

Finally I would like to thank Allan Jones and Wal Zol for all of their efforts in keeping the canteen and Cintra Park operational.

Lachlan Boa - 4th Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S FIFTH GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|----------|
| 18 | 2 | 13 | 3 | 26 | 58 | 9 | 9 /10 |

This side had some older players and quite a few Under 17's which was good it just took us most of the season to start playing the style that we wanted. The younger players most of them in the future should be playing in 1's or 2's with some help from the higher players and coaches. The season was disappointing with the potential that we knew we had but just didn't come to until late in the season. Better luck next year guys, it was a pleasure coaching you all. Might see you next season.

Team Captain and Fullback: Andy Cain: One of the most important players in our team when he was playing he made it extremely for the opposition to score but he gave away a few penalty- corners. He helped organise the team and the structure on the field as well, a pleasure to have worked with.

Goal Keeper: Mark Rodgers: When he was focused on the game he was very hard to beat but they were shall we say not as much as we needed, very good keeper with a lot of talent which we need to help grow.

Fullback: Michael Hayes: The team missed him when he left two-thirds through the season due to work, he was a very strong fullback and travelled over a lot of the field during a game, stopping a lot of chance by the opposition.

Fullback: Dave Rodgers: Only started playing with the side half way through due to numbers being low but straight away made an impression very good fullback and could just about play anywhere on the field with a bit of instructions.

Half: Jamie Gallagher: One of the best players I have seen for a long time with the experience that he has, reads play very well and the opposition had a hard time getting past him. A player that should be helped to grow and improve on the talent that he has already.

Half: Michael Hayes: Good half very strong on the ball and help the play move from one side to the other very quickly, helped the younger guys understand the game and told them what to do when was needed.

Half: Tim Leo: Played a few positions. A quiet player that just gets in and plays his game needs some more exposure to Men's hockey but is coming along.

Centre Half: Nick Carter: Played Centre-Half until he went overseas. Played a more forward half, which was good in attack but not so good in defence, very strong on and off the ball has great communication with player around him.

Centre Half: Taylor Di Val: Another player in the side with a lot of potential but gets bored very quickly. Started the season in the forwards and was doing OK, but we moved him into the half spot after Nick went overseas and this was the best thing that we did. He was beating some of the old NSW and Australian players that we were playing against some time quiet easily. Needs to be in the action.

Inner: Steve Strain: He could run all day and never stop. One minute he was in our circle the next he was helping in their circle very high work ethic and is strong on and off the ball.

Inner: Matty Pullen: Started playing part the way through the season and missed a few games due to work. Steve has a very high work ethic and moves around the field a lot, and can score goals as well. Pity that he couldn't have played more games.

Inner: Steve Begnell: Like the other two, Steve had a high work ethic, good defence and attack, helped the younger players as well when they needed to know what to do in the forwards.

Forward: Dion James: One of the teams many forwards. Had a good season just missed the opportunities that came to him. Helped the younger players in the circle a lot.

Forward: Pat Ryan: A player that has a lot of potential but gets "White line fever". He doesn't take the right option or listen to calls. The potential is there for a good forward, just needs some help with options.

Forward: Nick Candido: Played as a forward and an inner, has potential as well. Feeds the ball to the other strikers well and moves to get the ball if the keeper saves it. A good all round forward.

Forward: Corey Allsop: A player that can score a goal from nothing - so many times he scored and we didn't know how. A very good forward just control your temper.

Forward: Daniel Dillmenhous: A player that has some potential that just needs to be worked on. He is another good forward just needs to work on the few skill things and he would be very good.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

1 Most Valuable Player: Jamie Gallagher

- 2 Player's Player: David Rogers
 3 Best and Fairest: Taylor Di Val

Jeff Bennett - 5th Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S SIXTH GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|----------|
| 16 | 4 | 10 | 2 | 37 | 37 | 14 | 7/9 |

The start of the 2007 season was promising, with a large squad, few injuries and a few new faces. All shaped up for what was looking like a great season ahead. Unfortunately our team was changing week to week for the first 8 rounds and we found it difficult to gel and set combinations which resulted in a poor start. The squad dug deep and aside from the occasional Vets midweek game, showed up to most training sessions all season to learn and improve. I think the half line was the best 6th grade could hope for. The combination of Killa, Shazza and Dippa (yes, your name had to end in an "a" to be our halves this year) provided mature, experienced and highly skills midfielders. The tail end of the season showed us all what this team were capable of; which saw us lose 2-1 against the top of the ladder team, draw with the 2nd of the ladder team, smash Moorebank 8-1 and finish 6-0 against UNSW. The team with that late run know next year will be there for the taking if they can remain healthy and reasonably fit and the core of the team remains for 2008.

I expect big things for these boys in 2008 and remain ever confident of their prospects. Having played in, and coached – approx four men's grades, this 6th grade core really depicts BRIARS. They always hang around to socialise after a game, and always watch another grade and cheer the Briars team playing after them. The club can learn a lot from these loyal and passionate guys. It has been a real pleasure to coach these boys this year.

On behalf of the team, I thank AJ and WAL for running the canteen so efficiently and stocking the fridges with (in my opinion) the best international beer selection I've ever seen at a canteen. I would also like to thank Mike Denniss for managing 6th grade and helping out with match cards, players player stats etc. I know he has had a lot on his plate with Briars this year, and his help with my team this year was very much appreciated. Also thanks to our fearless Captain Ian Brown for organising volunteers for the canteen when it was our turn.

Joel Osmond: What can you say about this guy? Reliable and consistently good! He is our rock and makes awesome saves week in week out.

Mike Denniss: I would say this year was perhaps Mike's best year based on performance and fitness. The "one-handed bandit" did very well and proved an asset to our defence this year. Well done. Can his body hold out another year?

Jeremy Weber: Our young apprentice FB. From the 2nd week, he shined. He is quick, fit and learns fast; a young man who can absorb instruction and put it into practice instantly. Watch for him to move up the grades as his ability grows over the coming years.

Adam Schasser (Shazza): Came into first game being hit in the face with a loose stick requiring stitches. As the tough nut he really is – he is back the next week with a vengeance and proved a solid centre half who received players accolades week after week – and well deserved.

Brent Diprose (Dippa): Part of my awesome midfield, Dippa always puts 100% in and the team always demand a rock solid performance from him – and he never wavered. Dippa is an icon of the 6th grade team and I cannot see him moving from 6s anytime soon.

Andrew Kilazoglou (Killa): Due to shin splints, we inherited Killa who week after week put in a HUGE effort. Also the recipient of many player accolades and points, Killa was a welcome asset this year and the team know he won't be around next year due to him being available for higher grades.

Ian Brown: Ian was selected captain and always kept a calm disciplined team together on the field. The quiet achiever, Ian improved this year and put away some great goals and cemented his worth in the side.

Hidde Van Erven Dorens: Sadly we lost Hidde much of the season to an overseas jaunt. Hidde always brings enthusiasm and hard work ethic to the side. Probably the only player to run his heart out and put his

hand up to be replaced for 10 mins to get his breath back. He has talent and when the fitness improves, he is certainly capable to more and higher grade hockey.

Jeff Bennett: Our courageous centre forward who received great news on his health this year. Jeff worked hard, ran hard and scored some ripper goals. We hope he remains next year to continue building a solid forward line with 6's.

Dave Cahill: Mr consistent. For me, he played very well every week from week 1 to the last game. David showed us what he is capable of this year and sadly due to an 18month+ trip to London next month, we lose him for a couple of years. David showed commitment to training all year and helped out much of the year by doubling up in 5s. I hope he returns to us in a couple of years.

Jesse Borthwick: What a year for this guy. Jesse was most improved this year impressing me week after week with his game, skill and in the end, show great calm by keeping cool under difficult circumstances. Can this man improve any further? A true asset to our forward line and the team.

Ben Jackson: A man who was only meant to play part of the season due to work commitments ended up playing all year. Ben was a great utility player who could play forward, half or full back. Ben is welcome to any side when you can put him anywhere and expect him to perform.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Jeremy Weber
- 2 Player's Player: Adam Schasser
- 3 Best and Fairest: Andrew Kilazoglou

James Fordham - 6th Grade Coach

HOCKEY MEN'S SEVENTH GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|---------------------|
| 15 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 32 | 34 | 23 | 5 th /11 |

This season was a little disappointing in that we lost or drew games that we should have won. Dropping points like this resulted in the team missing the semis by one point. On the positive side, the team has made the top-five for three seasons running (semis last year, GF the year before) and a good team spirit has been established.

David Osmond: Ozzie is one of the vets and an excellent goalkeeper. Talked him back into playing weekend games again at the end of the season.

David Paul: A good fullback from the old school, goes in hard for the ball

Ben Scully: The other side of the fullback combination. Reads the game very well and takes no prisoners.

Trevor Bissaker: Very capable at center-half.

Geoff Atkins: Very dependable halfback who can more than hold his own against wingers half his age.

Alan Jones: Plays high and worries the opposition with his un-orthodox style of play.

Sergio Calcarao: Skilful player at either half or forward.

Harj Sandhu: Re-joined the team in the 2nd round. A very good striker.

Steven Lindsay: A handy inside forward.

Viv Paul: Young and fast with good ball skills for a late starter in the game.

Garth Field: Equally good at striker or wing.

Simon Bergfield: Chief organizer and volunteer goal-keeper for most of the season.

Thanks also to the guys who played throughout the season: Joe Ferrer, Leon Hollaway, Daryl Baihn, Peter Duignan and various other players.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Geoff Atkins
- 2 Player's Player: Vivian Paul
- 3 Best and Fairest: David Paul and Sergio Calcarao

HOCKEY MEN'S EIGHTH GRADE

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|----------------------|
| 15 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 42 | 8 | 10 th /11 |

The team played with good spirit and were competitive enough to pressure teams but experienced a number of narrow losses. Numbers were a problem on occasion but they battled through.

Simon Bergfield: Volunteered for goal-keeper and was starting to get it right by the end of the season.

Chris Baldwin: Good fullback from the old school, goes in hard for the ball

Joe Ferrer: A steady hand at full-back.

Peter Duignan: Pushed into centre-half but excelled.

Adam Palmer: Solid at full-back or half.

Daryl Baihn: Unorthodox but effective inside forward

Leon Holloway: Tricky inside forward

Carlos Pangilinan: Improving player who performed well in a number of positions.

Gladwyn Patiag: Played a handful of games and was solid at half.

Michael Read: Returned to the game after long absence. Remembered enough to put in a couple of goals.

Thanks also to the guys who played throughout the season: Various 7th graders and U17s and assorted other ring-ins.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Joe Ferrer
- 2 Player's Player: Peter Duignan
- 3 Best and Fairest: Peter Duignan

HOCKEY MEN'S U/17B

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|--------------------|
| 13 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 23 | 26 | 23 | 2 nd /6 |

Season Achievements:

- 1 Finished in second position after the regular season
- 2 Major Semi Final drew 2-2 with Bankstown
- 3 Preliminary Final lost 1-4 to South West Strikers
150)

Our 2007 season started slowly with two losses out of the first three home and away games. From that point on the team lost only two of their next ten home and away games to finish in second position, and can take some heart from the fact that only the two teams to record wins against us were the teams that made the grand final. The team was captained by Patrick Ryan who was very well supported by his deputy Daniel Strout, and with a basic squad of 12 players, including only six backing up from 2006, getting the dynamics of the team right took some time. When the final positional line up was arrived at in round 5 the team started to perform, playing some high quality and exciting hockey at times. Changing the formation of the team from the traditional set-up to a "diamond" system with two centre halves helped to create openings and goal scoring opportunities. Persistent goal scoring drills at training allowed us to put away those crucial chances.

Jamie Gallagher was at his usual best in defence making the odd long "suicide" run up the field and taking

on the other defences with gusto. Josh ‘The Face’ Finnegan, was steady, reliable and covered admirably with Daniel Strout who both created attacking opportunities through some smart passing and great cover defence. Gilbert Fuller was always safe in goals, producing many match winning saves. Taylor Dival settled into the deep centre half role and controlled the centre of the park, well in conjunction with his high centre half partner Patrick Ryan. Joshua Jung, James Ryan and Chris Schmitt were sound as the wide midfielders and provided plenty of space and opportunities for Taylor and Patrick to spread the ball. It was a great moment to see these boys starting to produce passing combinations. When they did this, there was no team that could stop them. Our front three of Jake Imer, Nic Candido and Tim Lihou made the most of the ball provided, and only if the radar had been working better in the semi final and who knows what might have happened.

Thanks need to go to Ben Tudman and Hugo Drummond from the 17C’s who provided much needed assistance towards the end of the season, and also to the other 17C players – Mark Rodgers, Richard Sahajdak, Matthew Hetherington and Elison Bates who filled in at various times. Thanks also to Dane MacIlveen who assisted in the coaching and showed the boys some new and exciting skills. A big thank you to David Ryan, the team manager. Without his behind the scenes work ensuring player availability, rescheduling games and liaising with the rest of the club, I don’t think at times we would’ve had a team on the pitch. His work allowed me to focus more on the on-field coaching and for this I am extremely grateful.

At the start of the season the team set a goal to finish in the top four. We achieved this goal, but were disappointed to have bowed out before the grand final. The boys should be proud of their season and as the saying goes... there’s always next year!

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Joshua Finnegan
- 2 Player’s Player: Taylor Di Val
- 3 Best and Fairest: Jamie Gallagher

Andrew Kilazoglou - Coach

HOCKEY MEN’S U/17C

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|---------------------|
| 13 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 23 | 23 | 2 nd / 6 |

Achievements:

- 1 Finished in second position after the home and away rounds
- 2 Major Semi Final lost 0-7 to St George Randwick
- 3 Preliminary Final lost 2-4 to Manly

156)

The season started with myself taking over the coaching position two games into the season. The first match under my influence was against St George Randwick that was setting the benchmark completing the season without losing a match. After making some position changes to our line up, moving Ben Tudman and Chris Schmitt to the centre half role and using Elison Bates and Shane Ly in the Inside Forward positions. We started to gel and won the next four games on the trot, only to succumb to another St George win.

Our team was also struck by injury when Captain Elison Bates suffered a dislocated shoulder in a friendly match against a touring team and was ruled out for the season. At this time we also had our fullback Andrew Maxwell overseas. The team showed their depth with many players playing a position they never had. We also had the luxury of having two goal keepers, Mark Rodgers and Matthew Hetherington also showing that they are great field players.

The turning point in the season was in Round 10 against Manly when players started to step up, such as our wingers Ben Lawrence-Chenu and Will Lyon started scoring goals and causing havoc around the attacking circle. At this point the whole team showed improvement. The standout was David Kilford who had come from out of sight to become our first-class left half. The team hit form at the perfect time just before the semi finals and had a great season also beating Sutho 3 out of the 3 times we faced them, a feat in anyone’s

book. Regrettably we couldn't keep our cool in our major semi final against our rivals St George and got served with a 7 nil thrashing. Fortunately we had a second chance to make the Grand Final. All we had to do was beat Manly in the preliminary final. The boys arrived pumped and ready to go and for the majority of the game we played champagne hockey. Manly capitalised on the times that we had fallen asleep.

I would like to thank the boys for a very enjoyable season, and hope to see all the boys next year playing in their U17's again or playing Men's Hockey. Also a special thanks to the people who helped the team through the season: David Ryan, Ann Sahajdak and Karen Maxwell who all helped out with the management of the team.

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Ben Tudman
- 2 Player's Player: Hugo Drummond
- 3 Best and Fairest: Will Lyon

Steven "Chief" Graham - Coach

HOCKEY VETS

| Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals For | Goals Against | Points | Position |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 14 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 26 | 32 | 9 | 11 |

Achievements:

- 1 'C' Division Premiers Congratulations to the Vets for becoming 'C' Division Premiers. (160)

We started the season well with only two losses in the first six games. Difficult times lay ahead mid season with only drawing one game out of the next seven. Despite this, team spirit remained high with the ritual end of match discussion over a few quiet drinks. As the season was coming to an end, the realisation of having to at least draw our last game against a far stronger team to make the "C" division finals certainly put the pressure on us, and as a team we performed resulting in a 3 all draw. We kept this form through the finals and ultimately beating Ryde in an extra time "golden goal" grand final, ending the season on a high.

I would like to thank the team for their commitment and all those who supported us for an enjoyable season: Adam Schasser, Mike Denniss, Brent Diprose, Clay Scanlon, Dave Osmond, Peter Cremen, Dave Paul, Michael Imer, Alan Jones, Geoff Atkins, Simon Bergfield, Ian Brown, Nick Carter, Dave Slater

Congratulations to the team award winners for 2007:

- 1 Most Valuable Player: Mike Denniss
- 2 Player's Player: Peter Cremen
- 3 Best and Fairest: Simon Bergfield

I look forward to catching up with you all in the pre-season next year.

Adam Schasser - Vets Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Briars Women's Hockey has experienced a mixed 2007 season. We again fielded 8 teams with 4 participating in the Sydney Women's Hockey League (ML) and 4 entered in the Eastern Districts Women's Hockey competition (ED). The highlight of our season is the results achieved by our 8th grade team who played in the ED 5th grade competition. The girls, coached by David Ratcliffe, returned from an injury filled 2006 season to show their strength and commitment, as well as their Briars spirit. The girls claimed the minor premiership, the only trophy that had eluded them over the previous few years, and took out the premiership after beating Sutherland in the grand final 1-0.

Other positive results from the 2007 season include our 1st (ML1), 5th (ED3) and 6th (ML6) grade teams finishing 3rd in their competitions as well as a number of our players being selected for representative duties. Alison Bruce and Sam Gale were selected to play for the Australian Junior Squad while Ashley Cocking was selected to join the Australian Institute of Sport's Emerging Athlete Squad. A number of

players were also selected to represent their state including Ebony Barber (NSW AHL, NSW U21s), Jess Esslemont (NSW AHL), Kasey Cocking (NSW AHL), Sam Gale (NSW AHL), Alison Bruce (NSW AHL), Alysha Borg (NT AHL), Ashley Cocking (NSW U18s) and Rebecca Landers (NSW U18s, NSW U16s). Ashley Cocking was named the Player of the Tournament for the U18 National Championships and Alysha Borg from 1st Grade was also nominated for the Loretta Dorman medal for the Best Player in the ML competition.

The Women's Committee continue to operate as a well-oiled machine and thanks must go to the following committee members for their time, support, effort and spirit throughout this season. In particular, thank you to Jo Sikkens for her patience and dedication to her role as Treasurer and the implementation of our EFT system.

- 163) Gill Burns President
- 164) Kylie Norris Vice President
- 165) Emma Smith Club Captain, Uniforms and Equipment
- 166) Jo Sikkens Treasurer
- 167) Janet Adams Secretary / Communications
- 168) Cath Harland ED Representative
- 169) Nicola Firth SWHL Representative
- 170) David Ratcliffe Coaches Co-Ordinator, Selections
- 171) Penny Mullins Umpires Co-Ordinator
- 172) Leigh Pasfield Goalkeeper Co-Ordinator
- 173) Brenda Doran Committee Member
- 174) Beth Edwards Committee Member
- 175) Mel French Committee Member
- 176) Cindy Goodridge Committee Member
- 177) Julie Prolov Committee Member
- 178) Alana Tagg Committee Member
- 179) Hayley Wong Committee Member

Women's Hockey continues to be a successful and thriving sport within the Briars @ Greenlees Sporting Club. We would not be able to enjoy such success without the help of our sponsors. We wish to thank Shaw Stockbroking and Firths Compensation Lawyers for continuing their sponsorship of our club and the valuable contributions they have made.

Women's Hockey has many supporters who work tirelessly and often without notice, to ensure our club remains successful in the Sydney region. We would like to thank Allan Jones (AJ), Gary Fuller, Wal Zol and Penny Mullins for undertaking their duties each week despite wind, rain and heat. We would also like to thank Mens Hockey, in particular Ivan Boulton, Mike Denniss and Allen Chu, for their assistance and all the Greenlees staff for their support and patience throughout the season.

Thank you to our coaches and managers who contribute many hours to the club in addition to their own playing commitments in most cases and who continue to support and advise our players to be the best they can be. Thank you to all the girls who played for Briars this season and continued to show how strong the Briars spirit is. We look forward to seeing you back next season.

Gill Burns, Emma Smith and Janet Adams.

HOCKEY WOMEN'S FIRST GRADE – ML1

Coach: Ian McGregor Manager: Gill Burns

2007 has been an incredible season to say the least for the 1st grade girls. With about half the side joining the team for the first time, the team gelled together quite quickly, and despite missing some key players from last season, were able to form well and put some good wins together early in the season. However, this season as Gill can attest, has been a season of significant disruption for the team, on regular occasions losing 3 or 4 players a match due to injury, sickness, or due to representative and travel commitments. This resulted in a lot of 2nd grade girls being required to step up and play 1st grade on a regular occasion, which they did very well. The ML1 competition was an extremely close competition in 2007 shown by the fact

that in the final week of round games, 7 clubs had a chance of making the semi-finals with 3rd place to 7th place being separated by only 1 or 2 points! The girls stepped up when it counted and in the final month moved from 7th to 4th to take a well deserved place in the semi-finals. A brilliant semi-final, being victorious over Baulkham Hills saw the girls move into the top 3. This provided real insight into how well the girls could play, and with such form, they could beat any team in the competition. The girls ultimately finished 3rd overall for the season – I am extremely proud of the character the girls showed, and the fighting spirit that was evident right to the end.

Kasey Cocking (Captain – CH) An outstanding Captain and player, a gifted leader which made it considerably easier to coach. She was very attentive to what was required of her and worked hard all year. Kasey has a lot of potential to go along way in her hockey career.

Ebony Barber (CF) – Ebony possesses some of the most brilliant 1 on 1 elimination skills of any hockey player in Australia, and her ability to get a quick shot at goal was invaluable for the side. Her work effort was at a high level and despite her need to take a time out in most games, her presence lifted the team's standard considerably.

Alysha Borg (FB) – An outstanding young player who I anticipate will go along way in her hockey career. One of the most gifted one on one tacklers in the competition. Her keenness to learn and to master all the aspects of hockey has contributed to her being so successful this season winning the teams player's player award, and in being selected as a finalist for the Sydney Women's Hockey awards night.

Hannah Carrigan (LI) – Coming back into the Sydney competition from Orange, Hannah proved to be an extremely hard worker on the field. She worked tirelessly, whether suffering from illness, or even when receiving a hockey stick to the face – she continued to battle on for the side. Some brilliant character traits were revealed in Hannah this season including her commitment, courage and humility. An outstanding inside forward whose work off the ball and her smart hockey mind allowed us many more victories than we may have had otherwise.

Ashley Cocking (RI) – Her ability to eliminate players in tight spaces has been very impressive this season and has proved invaluable as we came to the finals, being responsible for setting many of the goals up for our team. Her deceptive left to right drag was a snare to the opposition teams all season!

Shelby Cocking (RW) – A real confidence player who improved dramatically throughout the year. Being the youngest girl in the side, she started the season quietly but really became a major part of our attack during the finals. Shelby has brilliant stick skills and like her sisters, I anticipate will have a very successful hockey career.

Sarah Marie Denta (RH) – Our Danish connection. A wonderfully skilful player who was originally placed in 3rd grade! Once she was discovered being hidden by Ratty for 3rd grades benefit, she was quickly recruited and became a crucial part of the 1st grade side. As right half, she linked in incredibly well with both the Inside right and Centre Half. Sarah was a very valuable asset to our team before she had to leave and head back to Denmark.

Jess Esslemont (LI) – A very good attacking forward who served the team well at Inside forward. Heading off for her overseas adventures, it was clear to see the impact she had to our team. She became very skilled at changing direction at pace, and put some crucial goals in during some close games. Jess is a player who is keen to always be learning and improving her hockey skills – an attitude which will see her be very successful in coming years.

Annie Hope (LH) – A strong and courageous player – playing the majority of the season doubling up in both the Sydney and the Orange competitions. Annie would often arrive to games with injuries that had occurred from the previous game, and would continue to play despite the clear pain she was in. A brilliantly consistent lifter of the ball, which often proved effective for our penalty corners – a natural leader and a pleasure to coach.

Mel Hope (RH) – A tremendously strong player on the ball, and one who had a sound ability to trap lifted transfer passes from her sister. Mel was a significant help to the side, playing with us for nearly two thirds of the season and covering for us also when players were away. Thanks Mel.

Rebecca Landers (GK) – The saviour in the goals – Bec has improved considerably over the past season, and her improvement in her footwork led to creating a much better defensive record for the side. Her ability to save the lifted shots with her stick and gloves is up there with the best goal keepers in NSW, and I am incredibly grateful to have had Bec in goals this season. If Bec continues with her positive attitude and perseveres, I can see her representing the Hockeyroos in future years.

Belinda Lewis (Striker) – Bel played a number of roles for us this season. Starting at fullback and not feeling comfortable there, she quickly found herself playing as a striker for the second half of the season. Belinda's leading and work off the ball led to numerous attacking opportunities for the side.

Kirsten Potts (LW) – One of our younger players who did her job effectively week in, week out as a handy left wing for the side. Her positioning, as well as receiving and passing ability has improved considerably throughout this season, culminating in being perfectly positioned to score a goal in the final against Western Districts. Her close resemblance to her sister Makaela meant that it took nearly half the season to distinguish between the Potts girls! Well done Kirsten.

Makaela Potts (FB) – Makaela started quietly at the beginning of the season, and with a lot of aggression in her style of play, really hit her straps when moved to fullback early into the season. Her strength on the ball, her value she placed in possessing the ball, and her ability to eliminate a player with deception was of significant benefit to the side. Makaela was awarded a College scholarship in the United States towards the end of the season, and her absence made it clear the tremendous impact she had on the team.

Phoebe Robins (RW) – Phoebe also proved herself as an effective striker, and was consistent in her attendance to training sessions and was always keen to be improving her technique and developing various aspects of her game. She would also faithfully give us one dive or fall each week, which was evident of the effort she put in up front.

And a big thanks to the following girls from 2nd grade that also helped out a number of times during the year. As you can see we used a massive 28 players in the 1st grade side. Every one of these girls played well when needed in the top grade. They also improved throughout the year, thanks to the work done by James Robertson (2nd grade coach).

Tina Done – An incredible player, who finished off playing the finals in 1st grade. Tina is a smart and consistent hockey player, and is very strong on the ball. A key asset to the team playing right half in the final weeks of the season.

Mel French – Miss Reliability was a great benefit with excellent positional play.

Anna McGeoch – Played a helpful role as forward and held her position well.

Julie Prolov – Was beneficial to the team on a number of occasions playing both right half and full back in some tightly contested games. A skilful hockey player with a seriously powerful hit to match!

Ellyce Loudon – Ellyce is a good, low tackler. She often made crucial tackles in the last line of defence preventing the opposition entering our circle.

Kylie Norris – A lively character who I was very glad could help us out in the backs.

Cindy Goodridge – Performed brilliantly as a fullback for 1st grade in the finals. Her knowledge and tackling ability showed that she could easily handle 1st grade games.

Hannah Stanley – A brilliantly versatile player, who covered as a half and even as a striker during the finals. A player who responds well to instruction and was brilliantly positioned to score a goal in the semi-final against Baulkham Hills.

Hayley De La Motte – A great help to our side, and Haley has plenty of potential. She has excellent movement on and off the ball and created many opportunities with her leading.

Sam Gale – Helped with against St George towards the end of the season. Her impact and hard work in the forward line was clearly noticeable. Thanks Sam.

Hannah White – played well for us as forward and had excellent positional play.

Leigh Pasfield – Covered on numerous occasions whilst Bec was on representative duties all over the world. Her keenness to help and her tremendous passion for goal keeping and seeing other goal keepers reach their potential is a great asset for the club.

Katrina Badiola – Covering on a few occasions, with good footwork, she did a brilliant job in goals and really stepped up making a big move from 3rd to 1st grade.

Ian McGregor - Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S SECOND GRADE – ML2

Coach: James Robertson Manager: Cindy Goodridge

In 2007 ML2 proved that they were no longer a bottom of the table team by finishing the season just outside of finals for the second year running. Whilst it was disappointing not to go one step further than last year, 2007 displayed the strength of women's hockey at Briars. Throughout the season both first and second grade squads suffered more than their fair share of injuries and many players from these squads were also absent for extended periods due to representative duties. To cover these absences, 9 third and 2 fourth grade players stepped up to second grade and 10 second grade players played first grade throughout the season. What was impressive was that the teams didn't look any weaker as players quickly integrated into their temporary sides and were often instrumental in the team achieving crucial results.

Leigh Pasfield kept goals for ML2 throughout the season and even though she was often playing her third game for the weekend by the time Sunday night rolled around she proved to be reliable as the last line of defence. The back line of Cindy Goodridge and Kylie Norris performed with excellence week after week. Not only did they both have the knack of making the crucial tackle at the right time, their talking throughout the game was invaluable. Across the half line Hannah Stanley, Julie Prolov, Ellyce Loudon and Tina Done worked tirelessly to provide a solid defence and then dynamic attack as they drove the ball up field after pouncing on turn over opportunities. Sonya Finlayson, Anna McGeoch and Jessica Mesic ran hard all season in the inner roles and linked the halves with the forwards which lead to dangerous attacking plays. This season saw all players develop their toughness on the ball, precise passing and individual stick skills. Hayley De La Motte, Penny Cooper, Mel French and Laura Murphy provided the fire power for ML2 and goals were shared evenly between the strikers. Wide sweeping attacking plays were used to great effect and all of the forwards ability to trap hard hit balls at various heights on both the fore and back stick lead to aggressive breakaway plays.

The team were appreciative of Stephanie Black, Naomi Scouller, Grace Fowler, Hannah White, Sarah Maria Denta, Leah Murphy, Alice Wilson, Judith Smith, Cath Harland, Carly McFarlane and Anna French who all played their very best each time they stepped up to second grade. All these players are strongly encouraged to try for higher grade selection next year.

The 2007 award winners for ML2 were:

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Players Player | Tina Done |
| 2 | Best and Fairest | Cindy Goodridge |
| 3 | Most Consistent | Ellyce Loudon |

166)

Overall it has been an enjoyable season with two positive results. Firstly, ML2 developed a skilful and effective style of hockey that has set a good base for next season and secondly the future of Briars Women's Hockey is looking strong with plenty of exciting talent coming up through the ranks. Looking forward to 2008, Penny Cooper will not be returning next year as she is off to live in Canada, Sonya Finlayson is looking forward to the birth of twins in the New Year and it is expected that several players will be playing full time first grade. For those that are returning to ML2 the mission is clear, take the team to its first ever finals series.

James Robertson – Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S THIRD GRADE – ED1

Coach: David Ratcliffe Manager: Emma Smith

This year posed an interesting challenge as the team was named in Eastern Districts 1st grade. With some new faces in the team and a long pre-season the girls looked set to hold their own in a very tough and competitive division. Unfortunately the girls were up against an ML1 standard of opposition. Nerves were high in the first game but the girls managed to get a 1-0 win. But from there the competition overwhelmed us with the first half of the season seeing many of the games slip away with heavy losses. But the girls kept training hard and by tail end of the season we managed to hold our own against some of the best sides, only losing by an inch in most games with many of the opposition coaches congratulating the team on how far they had come since the beginning of the season.

Janet Adams – always a self professed forward, found herself in the half line under dire circumstances and remained there for the season making a vast improvement game by game.

Katrina Badiola – the goalkeeper; this young lady was so enthusiastic and out to impress this year, we even had her training with the men's teams on many occasions. Coming along in leaps and bounds the future holds many an opportunity for this aspiring player.

Stephanie Black – one of the new players to our team. We didn't let the fact that she came from Glebe stop us from using her skill and talent on the field. Her ability can only see her improve in the seasons to come. We look forward to seeing her back on the paddock in 2008.

Hayley De La Motte – the young maverick. Playing multiple games every weekend it was incredible the way she still had so much agility and ability in every game. This player will be a future Briars star for years to come.

Grace Fowler – having stepped up from ED3 last year Grace took some time to find her feet on the field but she never gave up, training every week and always giving 100% to training, games and her team mates, she finally became one of the toughest and skilful players in the team.

Madeline Hall – while not in the original starting line for 2007, Maddy quickly impressed and was promoted to starting team for ED1. With her speed and skill she was always impressive. While it was not officially awarded her goal in our final game was a great way to end the season.

Cath Harland – inspiring captain; if age didn't play a factor I believe this lady would continue to play this game at this level for the rest of her life. The foundation of the team, she was always reliable and helped the new and younger members of the team step up when needed.

Kim Moodie – always out to impress, Kim was again continuously reliable and strong on the field. While she was one of the quieter people off the field, she was a vicious competitor once she stepped over that white line.

Leah Murphy – a new comer to Briars in 2007, Leah fitted in nicely. A strong level head in the back line helped drive the team forward at every possible occasion. Always competitive and reliable Leah was a positive addition to the team.

Naomi Scouller – the thug; every team needs one and she was ours. She always let the opposition know that we weren't to be messed with and always held her ground. A versatile player she played wherever she was put and was always reliable to follow orders.

Judith Smith – Another new comer to Briars in 2007, Judith was a welcome addition to the team. Her ability to play wherever she was put allowed her strength to be used wherever needed. A strong player and a good team player we look forward to her return in 2008.

Hannah White – aka Melon; never lets the team down or disappointed with her performance. Melon always turned up to training and games ready to put in 150%. If only she could get off her back stick! We will miss Melon in 2008 as she goes overseas but look forward to her return in 2009.

Alice Wilson – She looks so young and quiet from the outside but put her on a hockey field and give her a stick and you have a hell of a back. Always so strong in defence she was our secret weapon that always unleashed at the right time.

Amy Wilson – this girl has the most courage under fire you will see on a field. Always following orders and putting her body, and whatever else she could, on the line to try and score or save a goal. Keep up that running though and we will see you back in ED1 next season.

To all the girls in the team thank you for a great season. You have all made leaps and bounds in your on field skills as well as becoming a strong and capable team. I hope you all stay together as your potential as a team is limitless and would make any coach proud as you have all made me. Thank you also to the following people who filled in many a time over the season; Shannon Barlow, Charlotte Allan, Mary-Anne Burke, Sonya Finlayson, Cindy Goodridge, Kylie Norris, Julie Prolov, Leigh Pasfield, Greta Davis and Sophie Green. Finally thank you to all the supporters who braved the cold of Little Bay each Saturday night, it was much appreciated. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2008.

David Ratcliffe - Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S FOURTH GRADE – ML4

Coach: Brett Manning Manager: Alana Tagg

It has been a season that had a lot of potential but couldn't quite get over the line. With half the team being new it took time to get the correct combinations and players working together to make things work. Losing and drawing games that could have been won saw our position on the ladder slide, and with that went the enthusiasm. With 4 players leaving throughout the season, injuries and unavailability's taking its toll as well. We went from pushing to make the semis to pushing to not being relegated after having points taken off us late in the season. Team building, dedication and commitment next year should see this team of girls do extremely well next year. Let's use this year as a year to build on and to learn from. Good luck for the future.

Thanks to Alana for her help throughout the season as the team manager and captain. Thanks to the girls for the season: Alana Tagg, Katrina Badiola, Sarah Sullivan, Flavia Neyertz, Kate Sullivan, Kerrie-Ann Gudmunson, Jo Wells, Rachel Stephenson, Carly McFarlane, Kylie Mosley, Anna French, Samantha Horlyck, Mini Richards, and Shehara De Soya. Also thanks to all the girls who help us out when we were

short of players: Josie Nicol, Hayley Wong, Tiffanie Blandford, Georgie Nicol, Lianne Carter, Jenny Hardwicke, Charlotte Allan, Jo Bradshaw, Nicola Firth and Julie Hetherington.

Brett Manning - Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S FIFTH GRADE – ED3

Coach: Cath Harland and Cindy Goodridge Manager: Janet Adams

The 2007 season was a rewarding and challenging year. The team produced some excellent hockey throughout the season, however consistency proved to be an issue through the middle of the year. Availability of players from week to week caused a few difficulties and major headaches for Janet (team manager). Even though the team had 16 registered players we didn't see everyone together until the Finals series, which in its self made substituting players a challenge. Overall the team started to gel together extremely well towards the end of the season, displaying some very skilful and purposeful hockey. Basically we dominated all opponents in the midfield and set up excellent scoring opportunities, however we rarely converted our chances. Under the guidance of Co-coach Cindy Goodridge there was a definite improvement in our player's skill level from the beginning of the season. Even with a few ups and downs Briars 5 successfully moved through the Semi finals, eliminating UNSW. Feeling fairly confident we started well against St George in the Final, and once again controlling the midfield. Numerous opportunities came our way, but unfortunately we couldn't finish off Saints. Briars 5 missed making the Grand Final by one goal.

The season would not have been as successful without the amazing dedication of Gill Burns, Janet Adams and Emma Smith. Thank you to all the other members of the Women's Committee and to AJ for keeping things up and running. The team and myself greatly appreciate the support and effort made by Cindy Goodridge (Co-coach) and Janet Adams (Team Manager) throughout the season. Also thanks to all the players from other teams who were called on to replace unavailable players, particularly Jo Sikkens who featured several times. Hopefully we will see everyone return next season and build on the 2007 results.

Caitlin Stone: enjoys her hockey and her skills strengthened throughout the season

Maddie Hall: contributed thoughtful reflections and produced a never give up attitude in 2 games per week

Ruby Ainsworth: speed to burn and scored some spectacular goals throughout the season

Alisha Wormald: answered the challenge of learning a new position

Anna Remond: keen to learn and gave a 100%

Greta Davis: quiet achiever, absolute workaholic who went from strength to strength

Shannon Barlow: ever ready, would give anything a go; our Best and Fairest winner

Jodie Lam: added great determination to the team, the human bullseye!

Sophie Green: improvement throughout the season and was rewarded by Most Improved Player

Alice Pearlman: threaded her way through the best the opposition had to offer

Sally Clarke: encouraged team members to get involved, provided great support in the defence

Soraya Campagna: developed in confidence throughout the season, great potential

Sue Bush: the "Rock" and captain of the team; players watched in amazement

Mary-Anne Burke: standout skill and provided a calming effect on the team; winner of Players Player

Jess Robinson: an experienced team member, greatly added to team structure on the field

Steph Do Carmo: an unlucky season with injury, greatly added to our defensive line up

Cath Harland - Co-Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S SIXTH GRADE – ML6

Coach: Steve Begnall Manager: Jo Sikkens

The team started this year with a degree of uncertainty. Three weeks before the season started they did not

have a coach. I was called in to assist and rapidly developed a rapport with the girls. In the ensuing weeks we felt the brunt of last minute selection changes among the grades and each week we coped with an ever changing team. Fortunately, we had a solid base of old ML6 girls to work around. We held our place mid-table early in the season and when the team selections settled down, so did we, advancing to be comfortably within the top four teams and remained there to the end of the season. We had some great results during the season which came from pure “gutsy” performances from all those on the field. Our best performances came from an overall team effort. The stars know who they are, but they are so much better when they share the glory around!!! In the last round I decided to experiment with positions, knowing that we could not miss out on a semi-final berth. I was not overly concerned about losing to Wests and possibly losing the No2 spot on the table. To win the premiership we could beat Ryde once...let it be the Grand Final! Unfortunately, things did not work out as planned. In the minor semi-final we had our chances. It was a good, hard game. We had two penalty stroke opportunities missed and lost 1-0. In short, it was not our day!

All in all, a good season for the girls. We had great team spirit. Every game the girls gave their best and I am sure they are all looking forward to getting off to a good start next year and going all the way!!!

Kylie Beckhouse – Kylie always gave 110%. She played inner this year having previously played in the mid-field all her life, and she was one of the main contributing factors to the success of this team being constantly involved in goal scoring opportunities.

Tiff Blandford – Goal scorer extraordinaire. Leading goal scorer in all of ML6 with 16 goals. Tiff started the season a little “unruly” in the circle but quickly developed a sensitive touch that proved demoralising to the opponents.

Yook Liew Chu – Chu worked well down the left side all year and always gave it her all. Her cheerful face and positive attitude was an asset to the team.

Michelle Clarke – Michelle has played several years for ML6. She is continuing to develop her skills as a winger.

Lisa Coulson – Lisa was new to our team this year. She developed well as a reliable left half who stuck to her position well.

Nicola Firth – A late addition to our team and a valuable acquisition. Nicola talked up the game from the centre and more often than not, generated the enthusiasm that lifted the team’s performance to the winning level.

Krysten Fowler – Krysten was a reliable, multi-tasking player. She is a dependable half who slotted into a Full-back role as required.

Lisa Hando - Another late addition to our team but a great asset to our forward line with her ball skills and strike power, not to mention the cheerful, positive attitude she brought to the team.

Lianne Montouri (now Carter) – Our goalie. Lianne’s confidence grew as the season progressed. She benefited from the goalie training provided by Briars and our results reflected this.

Hetal Patel – Hetal was a quiet achiever. She played whatever position was asked of her and always gave her best.

Marg Sanders – The rock. Marg is a seasoned performer and was the “mouth” in our defence.. Marg celebrated her 60th birthday this year, very quietly. Both of her daughters are Australian representatives and you can see where they get their talent from!

Indi Sarchi – Indi has always worked hard at training, improving her skills. Injury prevented her from completing the season and we wish her a speedy recovery and a return to hockey in 2008.

Jo Sikkens – The “old girl”... (but not as old as Marg!!!) Jo “has been” an emphatic goal scorer in recent years but has developed into the feeder of goals to the emphatic goal scorer of today....Tiff! I think there is still a few more years in the old girl!!

Kat Willebrands – Kat has been with ML6 for few years. She is a dependable full-back in open play; always solid in tackles.

Steve Bognall - Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN’S SEVENTH GRADE – ED4

Coach: Darren Pike

Manager: Mel French

The Briars Women's 7's (ED4) started with the potential to have a successful year having only lost a few players throughout the off-season. This meant that after last year's semi finals appearance, the team was looking at a top 2 position. Unfortunately, the results didn't happen that way and the girls were unable to make the top 4. However, this year the women's 7 team proved to be successful in a lot of different ways. The girls showed they could patiently control a game by possessing the ball and work the opposition into a weak position. What cost us this year was our inability to finish off our attacking raids. The girls proved they could find the back of the net in training, so to me this was not a skill they lacked, it was just a matter of transferring this skill into a game situation. I have had the privilege over the last 3 years to see this side transform from being a regular Sunday hackers team to a side of smart talented players who now possess game play knowledge that would help them succeed in most grades. As I commented on last year, this team are an enjoyable team to coach as they all display commitment and discipline, and it is because of that I would like to thank them for their support.

Jo Sikkens – Jo played in the net this year and was a tremendous saviour in a lot of games. Jo showed a lot of enthusiasm and improvement from the time she started with us to the last game. Thank you Jo.

Natalie Shiel – Nat was one of our consistent performers this year - forever frustrating the opposition attack by halting their raids down our left side. In attack Nat always moved into space so the ball could be transferred around the back. Well done Nat.

Hayley Wong – Hayls continued to be a solid in the sweeping role. With the confidence to play a lot higher this year the opposition always struggled to get out of their defending half. By playing higher Hayley was also able to assist the centre half in attack. Nice work Hayls.

Georgie Nicol – Georgie was moved back into the defence this year to cover the loss of the Chu sisters. This move turned out to be a success as Georgie read the game well and was the start of a lot of our attacking plays. For this she won our most valuable player award. Well done Georgie.

Belinda Merrick – Bel's progression in attack saw her start to move up in the forwards. With good control and strength on the ball, Bel become a valuable member in our attacking line and produced numerous opportunities. Good season Bel.

Brenda Doran – Brenda's improvement this year was again at a high. With Brenda's fiery aggression she would never take a step back in turn intimidating her opponents. Nice job Brenda.

Alana Tagg – Alana come into our team permanently this year to replace Kate in the centre half role. Right from the start Alana proved to be a big asset with her high work rate and strength around the middle. Alana is a player who never lets her opponent beat her more than once. Good work Alana

Josie Nicol – Josie also moved into the backline to promote overlapping in attack from defence. This proved to be a winner as Josie was forever receiving the ball in space and creating a lot of opportunities. This year Josie put her hand up and showed that she will be a force to reckon with in future years with the Briars. Well deserved on winning the best and fairest award Josie.

Jo Bradshaw – Jo took over the captaincy this year and led the team by example. Jo continued to be a nuisance to the opposition left side. Her ability to control the ball at speed proved to be indispensable when transferring from defence to attack. Good job Jo.

Diarne Zographou – Di was one of the new members to the team. Her determination on the field in both attack and defense was invaluable to the team. Well done Di.

Jenny Cheung – Jenny has this amazing control over the ball at high speed which when applied would leave a defender helpless. Jenny was a player that would play anywhere you asked and would succeed at it. Good work Jenny.

Sophie Cameron – Sophie came out of her shell late in the season and proved herself to be a valuable player up front. Sophie showed good one on one skills and I look forward to seeing her continue to improve in future years. Top job Soph.

Jenny McKellar – Jenny again showed us she was one of the leaders of the team. Week in, week out Jenny was one of the standouts and for that she was voted the Players player of the year. Jenny's all round knowledge of the game made her able to play anywhere on the field. Thank you for a great season Jenny

Alicia Nucifora – Alicia again showed a great deal of improvement this season, and finished one of our highest goal scorers. Alicia was committed to the side and always gave her everything. Well done Alicia.

On behalf of the girls and myself I would like to specially thank Mel French who for the 3rd year looked after the managerial role. This was much appreciated, as Mel had to give up her all Sunday mornings to come make sure all is ok. I would also like to thank Blake Durance who assisted me in coaching this year and was a tremendous help. He has a great ability to read the game and process what to do to next. Blake would be a huge asset to any team and I hope Briars pick him up for the long term, as I wouldn't like to be

coaching against this mastermind in the future. Ivan Boulton, Allan Jones and all the girls who filled in for us this year also deserve a special mention.

Darren Pike - Coach

HOCKEY WOMEN'S EIGHTH GRADE – ED5 - PREMIERS

Coach: David Ratcliffe Manager: Emma Smith



Women's Hockey Eighth Grade - ED5

Back row: Julia Gould, Janet Adams, Charlotte Allen, Lee Anne Best, Rowena Stewart, Aparna Satchithananda, Caryn Maxwell, Monica Dawson, David Ratcliffe. **Mid row:** Beth Edwards, Yolanda De Winter (GK), Janet Candido. **Front row:** Zoe Hart, Michaela Vincent, Emma Smith. **Ground:** Chris Hart.

What a season. After coming off the back of an injury filled, disappointing 2006 season, the team returned with some new faces ready to face whatever challenges lay ahead. ED5 set themselves the goal of winning the only trophy that had so far eluded them, the minor premiership. The season started well with some goods wins, but the second half of the season saw some struggles and lucky wins. With the competition being tight the girls faced up against Sutherland, who were on equal points going into the final round, in the match for the minor premiership. The game remained scoreless through the first half with both teams having their chances. But the Briars determination in the second half saw Sutherland give up a penalty stroke with 10minutes to go. Taken by the captain Caryn Maxwell who quickly took the score to 1-0, Sutherland had their backs to the wall as the Briars girls then kept them in their own half till the final hooter; the Minor Premiership was theirs. We knew the run home to the grand final was going to be hard as we would be facing Sutherland, the only team who had really challenged us throughout the season. The result of hard work and determination throughout the season paid off with the Briars sneaking past Sutherland in the semis 3-2, only to then meet them again in the Grand Final. Against one of the largest, intimidating Sutherland crowds Kyeemagh had seen, the girls kept their composure keep Sutherland scoreless through the first half. Sticking to their to their game plan, the girls finally got their chance when a great short corner set up saw Caryn Maxwell make a deceptive pass off to Emma Smith who then threaded the needle with a great ball through to Beth Edwards who buried it in the backboard which put Briars 1-0

up with 15 minutes to go. Sutherland were shell-shocked but the Briars girls didn't drop off, working as one unit they defended hard for what seemed like an eternity, which finally gave them the victory in the Grand Final for 2007.

Janet Adams – With all the injuries of last session the team needed a multi-skilled player who could fill in where needed and Janet was that player always giving 100% in every game, who could ask for a better reserve!

Charlotte Allan – coming off an injury filled 2006 Charlotte's determination saw her return to the field a new player. With a different approach to her game she quickly stepped up as one of the dominate players on the pitch proving it in the grand final by winning the best on ground for the game.

Lee-Anne Best- If I have said it before I'll say it again this lady is an inspiration and one tough competitor showing the young girls how it's done. Leading from the back she has proven to be one of the strongest fullbacks in the league.

Janet Candido- This lady has done it all, as the mother of three Briars juniors she proved she could do it all - not only out score her son but play in goals and keep a clean sheet. Janet's first season was a cracker and we look forwards to seeing her in 2008.

Avril Cronk- A new comer to Briars she quickly showed her worth on the pitch and hope to see you back next year.

Monica Dawson - Monica goes from strength to strength with every game. Her versatility allows her to play both upfront and at the back. Her never give up attitude proved she is a strong competitor.

Bethanie Edwards – What can I say, from paint covered trackies to centre half; a dominate player, she never lets anyone down and stands tall behind her team mates encouraging them to all that they can be.

Julia Gould – The surprise package, you never know how Julia will play until the first time she touches the ball but more often than not she is the one that will step up to the challenge and complete it with flying colours scoring goals when all has seemed lost.

Zoe Hart – This girl has improved out of sight this year, her courage and determination has set her as one of Briars up and comers. We look forward to seeing what she's got in 2008 because the possibilities for Zoe are endless.

Julie Hetherington – The Wall. Julie has made a great improvement on her keeping skills this year, keeping out certain game winning goals to give us the edge to push forward and win.

Caryn Maxwell - Captain reliable; always pushing herself and those around her to become better. Her level headedness and knowledge of the game proved vital in tough situations always showing the younger girls how to do it.

Aparna Satchithananda - The quiet achiever this lady's skills have improved rapidly through this season. She thought that she wasn't playing her best but what she didn't realise was that her game was growing from a one job role to a key player in the front line with the task of assisting her team mates in getting over the line, proving that not only can she score goals but set them up too.

Emma Smith – This year Emma set her team mates before herself, always trying to set them up for a goal or two. A fierce competitor never letting any team get to her, ripping up their back line with her skill and strength, she led from the front putting what ever it took to see that ball in the back of the net.

Rowena Stewart - A returning soldier for Briars, Rowena quickly proved she had not lost a thing sliding back into the team like she never left. If there was a fair play award she would win it every game always using skill before brutality and cementing her place back in the half line as one of the strongest right half's in the league.

Michaela Vincent – This was Michaela's first season in women's and she proved size doesn't matter. A little loose with her tackling at the start of the year she quickly corrected this which made Michaela one of the hardest players to pass, which was matched with her natural aggression making her a very strong fullback indeed.

Thanks must go to Yolanda De Winter who was our stand-in goalie when Julie wasn't available. Yolanda had the massive task of stepping in for the grand final and she did an awesome job! A big thank you to all the people that supported us through the year with a special mention to Chris Hart our Number One Fan and all the friends and family of the players who braved the wind, rain and extreme cold to help us make 2007 a season to remember. And a thank you from your coach for letting me be a part of something great and a hope I'll see you all across those white lines next year. Have Fun Be Safe!

SQUASH

Our last 12 months have had many ups and downs. We relocated back to Concord Squash Centre following the plans for Five Dock to be redeveloped, but this resulted in splitting into two nights, one of which was a Friday night which affects those addicted to Super 14's and alcohol dependencies. We had many highlights during this year, none better than Steve Strains' performances; he's our energiser bunny, just wearing opponents down. Guy Amadee who during the spring 2006 comp dropped just 1 game out of 28 contested. We also saw the emergence of Wally and Glen Tullipan as keen party boys who are now matching it with the A4 boys whose crown is slipping. Brownie still has our 'Warney' award for the most SMS's; he's untouchable in this regard. We also enjoyed the courting stories of Rob Elliot who seems to have found love, or at a minimum is difficult to find on Friday nights. We don't play at Bondi Rob, even though you might! Briars contested in 5 grades in the Spring 2006 pennant. We finished 11th of 16 in the club championship and won 2 pennants, our A4 and our C 3 sides both having stellar comps.

A4 PREMIERS - Frank Bortolotti (6 wins/4 losses) Peter Whitely (5/9) Steve Strain (8/3), Alan Browne (captain) (9/4), Mick Di Monte (8/2), Alan Cameron (0/4). This was an extremely close comp. We finished 3rd in the regular season, just 1 point ahead of the 4th placed Dural team to make the semi's. It was knock out from there. We had a good win over Premier in the preliminary final with both Steve and Peter winning 3 – 0 and Brownie finishing off the night with a 3 – 1 win. We were facing Wenty Leagues in the Grand final, only 3 weeks after we had suffered a big defeat to them. They called Steve Strain following his previous loss and we started off with a big 3 – 0 win, Peter then got 2 games off an old Briar in Ned. Brownie again finished off the night in style with a 3 – 1 win. It was beer all round for our A4 side after a tough comp. Great comps by Steve, Brownie and Mick, also great support from our imports from West's Frank and Peter.

B2 6th - Steve Jones (captain) (2/8), Chris Leung (1/5), Vincent Truong (3/6), Jonathan Tran (2/10) and Thomas Stanley (3/9). A very tough comp for us. Our success in previous comps had deserted us and we found the step up to B4 bigger than expected. Chris missed a large portion of the comp with injury, Vincent performances on paper didn't reflect his level of competitiveness, losing 4 matches in 5 sets, perhaps his mind was at home waiting for the birth of their first child. We had to rely on 12 reserves throughout the season with Rob Elliot performing very well, winning 3 of his 4 matches. Also thanks to Guy, Grant and Greg for helping us out.

C3 PREMIERS - Greg McManus (captain) (10/1), Rob Elliot (10/1), Mick Jaroszewicz (6/4), Guy Amadee (9/0) and Grant Heggarty (6/1). To say we were quietly confident leading into this comp was a bit of an understatement. This team was put together from out of retirement and B and C grade sides. We went through the season undefeated winning by over 50 points. Outstanding comp by Guy who dropped 1 game all comp. The night of the grand final was effectively over after 2 rubbers with both Guy and Rob winning 3 – 0 and Mick adding 1 game to win the night.



C3 Premiers

Chris Leung, Mick Jaroszewicz, Greg McManus, Rob Elliot, (Absent Guy Amadee & Grant Heggarty)

C4 5th - Darren Peisley (4/9), Greg Kelly (2/4), Ed Moore (4/10) Ron Marshall (captain) (4/10), Daniel Truong (2/0 and Kevin Quick (6/2). The C4 grade in Spring 06 was a very tough one to participate in. 2 sides from this comp are now playing high B grades with 1 of the juniors now winning in A grade. We were competitive towards the end of the season but a slow start hurt us. Kevin playing his first comp for us did well and has earned his move higher in the team. Darren, Ed and Ron had good wins during the comp.

D1 5th - Glen Tullipan (5/4), Wally Tullipan (6/2), Dong UK Kim (5/3), John Siionis Captain) (3/5), Richard Kelliler (0/4), Keir Semmens (0/2) and Eric Edoremos (1/3). The team that John built. This team was in most part playing in their first comp together and was put together with hours to spare. John has been a good support for our bottom team and these guys were the life of the party, Glen and Wally in particular adding their many comments from time to time and time again.

AUTUMN 2007 - Briars contested in 3 grades in the Autumn 2007 pennant. We finished 8th of 16 in the club championship and won 1 pennant. The hero's of 07 are our C4 side.

C4 PREMIERS - Darren Peisley (7/6), Kevin Quick (12/1), Wally Tullipan (10/2), Ed Moore (9/6), Glen Tullipan (1/2) and Ron Marshall (captain) (7/7). We finished second after the completion of the rounds, quite a way behind minor premiers Wenty Leagues, who defeated us 3 from 3. In fact we had only taken 3 rubbers out of 12 played during the season. But experience beats youth and we put Wenty Leagues to the sword in emphatic fashion. Darren, Kevin and Ron all won without the threat of Ed walking onto the court. The season went very well, especially for Kevin and Wally who moved up from D grade. The bones of this team have been Briars for many years with many more to come.



C4 Premiers

Ron Marshall, Darren Peisley, Kevin Quick, Ed Moore. Absent Wally Tullipan, Glen Tullipan

B4 Runners up - Chris Leung (2/13), Greg McManus (8/6), Rob Elliot (8/3), Mick Jaroszewicz (8/5), Guy Amadee (4/3) and Steve Wildisen (2/2). Following their success of the previous comp, we were pushed up into B grade where we again performed well. Papa Smurf (Grant) was recuperating from recent a sword fighting injury and we enlisted a new recruit in Steve. Chris was fighting back from injury and found the competition at number 1 very strong. Whilst the balance of the team had winning seasons, we were no match for the team from Windsor, who were competing in their 3rd grand final in a row.

A4 6th - Peter Whitely (0/3), Steve Strain (9/3), Alan Browne (4/7), Mick Di Monte (2/6), Kurt Moeller (0/3). From the penthouse to the cellar in 6 months. Frank took a leave of absence for a comp and Peter struggled with injury and home duties meaning everyone had to step up. Steve had a stellar season playing 11 of his matches at number 1. Brownie was next best but finished the season at the physio which has plagued him since.

NETBALL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am very proud to be writing this report as Briars Netball has seen confident growth and results in 2007, for only its 2nd year running. Briars Netball started in 2006 with 2 teams trying to find their feet on the court and in management, off the court. It is so great to see 2007 bring 5 teams to the competition and not to mention, a premiership side! With retention of most the 2006 players (their support should not go unnoticed) and the inclusion of many new players who have been new to the area or looking for a netball Club to rekindle their playing careers, we were able to form a substantial Netball Club. Ellie McPhee, Lisa McGhee and Rachael Havrlant, all players who joined us in our inaugural year and have provided vital input into the Club and this year agreed to manage three of our five teams. Their help has been consequential to the running of the Club and I would like to express my gratitude for their contribution. These girls managed the team each week, a tiresome job sometimes, and played as well, showing their invaluable netball skill to the Club. A special mention goes to Angela Brooks, manager of the Briars 2nd team, who also began with the Club last year. Angela's organisation and knowledge for the game to coach and manage these young talented girls is encouraging for the future of the Club. I am also pleased to announce the new addition of Gina Arkell to the Club who came in to manage the Briars 5 side. Gina

stepped swiftly into the role and encouraged the girls week after week.

Results for the year were mixed with Briars 3, 4 and 5 having tough and competitive seasons with grading being an issue for the teams' success. Although the results were not as positive as we would have liked, it had no reflection of the tenacious and talented nature of girls that the Club has attracted and it is my hope that next year we can co-ordinate teams that are balanced and reflective of the Association's grade. I am also very pleased to announce the introduction of Best and Fairest and Players Player awards this year, particularly for these teams as recognition needed to be shown for the effort that the girls put in each week. I am particularly proud of our 2nd Grade side who begun as an inaugural team for Briars Netball in 2006. They are our 'young' girls of the Club who are playing in a grade with older, more experienced players that make the game physically competitive and at sometimes brutal. The girls for the 2nd year in a row qualified for the final series and this year made the finals losing to Haberfield. I would have liked nothing more than to see these talented girls have a shot in the grand-final but I am excited to see what they can do for 2008. If it's the last we do, we will get them there because they deserve it.

2007 was the first year Briars entered in a first grade side, and we had one goal for the year; to win the premiership. I am delighted to say we achieved that goal. With all of the girls either still actively playing in the NSW State League competition or in other competitive netball competitions, the commitment to play for Briars put a strain on an already full training and playing schedule and I would to show my appreciation to them. They have set a high standard for the Club and attained a significant achievement by taking out the premiership, undefeated, in the Club's 2nd year running. Special mention goes to Rachael Havrlant who came back from a torn calf muscle to dominate the defense circle once again and Ali Punch who made a spectacular comeback for the Grand Final, from knee surgery, showing us all some determination and receiving player's player points for her fantastic effort in the game.

Our umpires for the season have been invaluable and often do a thankless and difficult job. Briars 1st grade was fortunate enough to have Ruth Havrlant, a National B badge umpire keeping them in line. Many thanks to Ruth for taking the time to umpire. Briars 2 were fortunate enough to have a permanent umpire for the season, provided by Emily Claffey. Thank you Emily for your commitment to Briars Netball in 2008. Thank you to all the players, who during the season filled in to umpire and particularly to the 1st Grade girls. We appreciate the extra commitment as numbers have been down for umpiring this season. We are always looking for umpires, so if you are interested or know someone who would like to earn some extra dollars whilst getting a dose of exercise, please let us know.

This year was the first year we put a team into the summer night competition; a more relaxed and smaller competition where some of the girls expressed interest in wanting to continue their skills and fitness in the off season. I was pleased to see that it was some of the new players wanting to represent the Club in the summer competition and they are truly a great bunch; the kind of members that you want in your sport. The girls are in the midst of enjoying the short 10 week season and are under the capable and delightful management of Stacey Picot and Lisa Bates, who have been nothing but short of superb for the Club. Anika Lalic, our talented defense from 2nd grade kindly gave up her time to umpire the girls for the season and I am extremely grateful.

As mentioned previously, the support and assistance that the managers have made throughout the season has been phenomenal and this has brought much needed relief. I would like to personally extend this to Rachael Havrlant who humbly took on extra work in the management of the Netball Club. As the Club has rapidly expanded the work load has coincided, and Rachael has unselfishly taken on responsibility and tasks to ease the burden on myself. Her leadership and ideas for 2008 will see the Club become more effective and successful for everyone involved in Briars Netball. I would also like to recognise Stacey Picot, who is always able to assist when needed in the season and her enthusiasm is to be admired.

Player's Player was voted on weekly by the team, and awarded for the player that showed 100% effort and a higher standard of performance for the week. Best & Fairest was awarded by the Team Manager for the player who performed consistently well during the season playing a pivotal part of the team's success.

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Briars 1st Grade Player's Player | Best & Fairest 2007 | Ann-Maree Punch Emily Keenan |
| 2 | Briars 2nd Grade Player's Player | Best & Fairest 2007 | Stephanie Dash Anika Lalic |
| 3 | Briars Team 3 Player's Player | Best & Fairest 2007 | Kellie Lane Stacey Picot |
| 4 | Briars Team 4 | Best & Fairest 2007 | Lisa Bates |

Player's Player Anna Bates
5 **Briars Team 5** Best & Fairest 2007 Katrina Bougiouras
Player's Player Alex Theodossiou

Once again, I would like to congratulate these girls, as well as all other players, for their performance in 2007. Your involvement in Briars Netball has contributed to its success and we look forward to 2008.

Tess Havrlant - Netball President

NETBALL FIRST GRADE - PREMIERS



Briars 1st Grade Premiers

L to R: Front Row: Amelia Smyth, Linda McKinlay, Tennille Jago, Anne-Maree Punch, Emily Keenan
Back Row: Alison Punch, Tess Havrlant, Megan Harrison, Louise Punch Absent: Rachael Havrlant

Briars 1 had an outstanding season and are proud and deserved undefeated champions of A grade. It was the first time Briars had entered an A grade team. Not bad considering the club is only 2 years old. The team consisted of 7 new players to the club. We had a strong team made up of existing and former State League or Representative players. We suffered two major injuries in the season, but both players made it back to participate in the latter part of the season, special mention to Allie Punch who returned from knee surgery. Whilst the team preferred to take the 'lighter' approach to the season (ie no training sessions), once on court, all players were competitive and strived to succeed. Our closest rivals were Western Suburbs who tried to combat our strength and depth by recruiting State League players throughout the season. The Grand-Final against Western Suburbs was our closest match of the year and the players are to be congratulated on a hard fought win. The team also won the award for most goals scored in a season. Our average per game was 45 goals, which is very impressive. The team performed umpiring duties for other Briars teams and the girls are to be thanked for volunteering their time. It's uncertain at this stage if many players will return for 2008 as I would expect some players may wish to retire from netball. We hope to keep these ladies on as managers or umpires. Many thanks to our President Tess Havrlant for all her hard work for the season. Congratulations to our Players Player Emily Keenan and Best & Fairest Ann-Marie Punch.

Team Members: Megan Harrison, Tess Havrlant, Rachael Havrlant, Tennille Jago, Emily Keenan, Linda McKinlay, Alison Punch, Ann-Marie Punch, Louise Punch, Amelia Smyth.

Rachael Havrlant - 1st Grade Manager

NETBALL SECOND GRADE

The majority of this team had played last year for Briars in its inaugural year. A successful year in 2006 meant that the players were keen to return, however other commitments meant that only 4 could return. Two more ex-Santa Sabina girls were recruited to play but that still left the team short. Luckily there were three ex-MLC girls also keen to play and they fitted well into the team dynamics. The team was keen to train, partly because it would keep them fit and honest. At the beginning of the season we went through positional preferences and were very lucky in that we had a balanced team of 3 shooters, 4 defences and 3 mid-court players. Our season started well with a couple of wins and the team clicking into place immediately. We were blessed with 3 fabulous new defences in Stephanie Dash, Amy Elia and Ellen Lu, and Anika Lalic maintained her excellent form from the previous year. Our shooters also did well with sparkling Christina Yum, the enthusiastic Alex Claffey and the sweet shooting Maddie Neeley. The two ends were held together by the finesse of Michelle Brooks at centre, the perfect feeding of Emily Pow and the fitness and enthusiasm of Amanda Galati. This team has a lot of promise in the years to come. We started the competition well, but towards the end of the first round encountered the harder teams. Furthermore, we found ourselves without key players a few times, so ended the first round losing 3 games and winning 4. The games mid season were beset by a lack of reserves at times as university and work commitments took hold. However as the season drew to the end the girls sniffed a semi-final berth and stormed home to finish third. The first semi-final was against Burwood, a team that could match Briars in fitness, youth and skill but unfortunately for them (or luckily for us) they had no reserves for that match. Briars played well and came away with the win. The next week however they were to face Haberfield who they had not yet beaten this year. Haberfield were known to be tough and they had the benefit of age and experience on their side. Unfortunately they were too good for us on the day and we lost. It was a fun year and the team enjoyed playing together, we welcomed the new additions to our team and look forward to rolling on in 2008!

Team Members: Alex Claffey, Stephanie Dash, Amy Elia, Michelle Brooks, Ellen Iu, Anika Lalic, Christina Yum, Maddy Neely, Amanda Galati, Emily Pow.

Angela Brooks - Briars 2nd Grade Coach

NETBALL THIRD GRADE

Briars 3 had an overall good season, with players trying their best and having a good time. The team spirit in Briars 3 was evident even though there were factors affecting the season but on the whole Briars 3 learnt a few good lessons about sportsmanship and fun. We had some excellent players in our team that made the game very competitive. There was not a balanced spread between defences and attack players which made it tough however to overcome this Briars 3 moved around players giving them the opportunity to play positions they had not been in before. This was good with giving each player a go and it encouraged possibilities for people to explore their talents. It was also unfortunate to have 2 girls pull out of the team after registration and grading, procuring some holes before the season begun. A special mention needs to go to Stacey Picot who came every week without fail and was a very competitive shooter. She made the game a pleasure to play in and was very dedicated to the sport. Like some of other Briars team, we look forward to 2008 as with the talent that we have amongst the entire Club, we can produce some great teams. I hope that next season we will be able to have trials to place people within the teams to ensure an even spread of talent and skill.

Team Members: Jeanie Callaghan, Kellie Lane, Lisa McGhee, Stacey Picot, Emma Silvia, Kate Carsley, Nicole Raheb.

Lisa McGhee - Briars 3 Team Manager

NETBALL FOURTH GRADE

Not only was 2007 the first year most of the team had put on a Briars uniform, but it was also the first time we played together as team, which, even for the most enthusiastic netball star can prove difficult. The season started slowly, as we adjusted to a different team dynamic and with work, uni and travel commitments it meant that we didn't always have a full team. Nevertheless, as the season progressed, so too did our mojo. Team co-ordination and fun ensued and while we didn't have the best results on paper, we all had a great time developing our roles within the team - Watch this space in 2008! A special mention

goes to Anna and Amanda who were the main drivers behind our weekly training seasons, even if they did end up being more about chatting, less about training. And to Maria who broke her finger and missed the last part of the season. The team consisted of

Anna Bates – Defender and the winner of the team’s Player’s Award.

Amanda Robertson – Proved you don’t need height to be a great defender!

Elizabeth Beverley –Most versatile player of the season! Whenever there were any absences, Liz assumed any position on court with greatest of ease.

Ellie McPhee – Team Manager – Centre court all-rounder.

Maria Nguyen & Shelley Hall – Centre and Energizer bunnies.

Holly Lanfranchi – Shooting star.

Lisa Bates – Shooter and the winner of team’s Best & Fairest Award.

All in all, a great first season!

Lisa Bates - Briars 4 Team Member

NETBALL FIFTH GRADE

This team of enthusiastic girls only got together at the last minute, made up from as young as 18 to mid 30’s and all competent players who turned up every week eager to play. The season started slowly, but as the girls got used to playing with each other, their obvious skill started to show. They may have had only four wins during the season, but they were never “defeated”. They always left the court knowing they had played their best and so often the final score did not convey the ‘closeness’ of the game. Playing against teams that had been playing together for years placed them at a disadvantage, but hopefully if the team can come back next season they will have a more successful year. Another disadvantage for the girls was they did not have a coach and therefore it took a couple of weeks for positions and substitutions to be worked out, but this did become easier as the season progressed. The team consisted of:

Alex Theodossiou – the winner of the team’s Player’s Award (A powerful centre court player)

Katrina Bougiouras – the winner of team’s Best & Fairest Award (Great centre court player and full of energy with a never say die attitude)

Michelle Cavanagh, Anne-Maree Kelleher, Emily Ryan and Lauren Theodossiou – all competent and versatile players who mainly played in attack positions and who all proved to be accurate goal shooters

Debbie Linden – Another great centre court player

Katrina Arkell (did not miss one game all season) and **Katrina Stanek** – were our very capable defenders.

As team manager I wasn’t able to help out technically but enjoyed making sure the girls had plenty of important “sugar” supplies at half time to give them the energy to go on. It was fun, thanks girls and good luck for next season.

Gina Arkell - Briars 5 Manager

BOWLS WOMEN – PRESIDENT’S REPORT

2007 Yaralla District Achievements

- 1 Major Singles Gladys Barnes
- 2 Triples Iris Speechley, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz
- 3 Fours Iris Speechley, Helen Burton, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz
- 4 James Wall Shield Iris Speechley, Helen Burton, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz
- 5 Wolinski Shield Helen Haggerty, Iris Speechley, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz
- 6 Our Club won five out of six district events – last year we won four out of six events.
- 7 Pennants We were Runners-Up in our No.3 Grade played as Macquarie/Yaralla.
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Club Championships 2007

- 1 Major Singles Winner Pat Free
- 2 Runner-Up Gladys Barnes
- 3 Pairs Winners Helen Burton, Pat Free
- 4 Runners-Up Janet Cooper, Denva Barbour
- 5 Triples Winners Iris Speechley, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz
- 6 Runners-Up Gai Shirvington, Helen Burton, Pat Free

| | | |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 7 | Fours Winners | Iris Speechley, Helen Burton, Pat Free, Sylvia Gurewitz |
| 8 | Minor Singles Winner | Selesste Skelton |
| 9 | Runner-Up | Janet Cooper |
| 10 | Consistency Singles | Gladys Barnes |
| 11 | Runner-up | Denva Barbour |

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Our President's and Officers' Day on 28th June was, as always, most enjoyable. Congratulations to all our Club winners and runners-up. I hope that you will do well in 2007/2008. Best wishes to our Pennant players in No.3 Grade again for next year.

Office Bearers 2007-2008

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| President: | Helen Burton | Vice-Presidents: | Shirley Duckworth, Patricia Free |
| Secretary: | Gladys Barnes | Treasurer: | Janet Cooper |
| Committee: | Marjorie Smith, Shirley Alford, Selesste Skelton | | |
| Match/Selection: | Gladys Alderton (Chairperson), Helen Haggerty | | |
| Social Committee: | Alison Balfour (Chairperson), Mary Anderson, Rosa Caccavo, Billie Brandt, Wynne Mashman | | |
| Catering Committee: | No appointment made | | |
| Publicity Officer: | No appointment made | | |
| District Delegates: | Marjorie Smith, Mary Anderson | | |
| Patron: | Doss Lothian | | |

Shirley Alford - President

BOWLS MEN – PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present this my third report as President of Greenlees Park Men's Bowling Club. 2006-2007 has again been a very eventful year for Greenlees Park Men's Bowling Club, this being our first full 12 month period as a sub club under the umbrella of Briars Sports Inc Club, along with our other sporting sub clubs, rugby, men's and ladies hockey, cricket, squash and netball. Friendship with members of these other sporting groups has been swift, in the main. Even though there have been some shaky moments I urge more tolerance by some members and more respect by others.

Our first full 12 months financially as Greenlees Park Men's Bowling sub club has been quite successful even though we had some rather large unexpected expenditures we have still managed to finish the financial year just under \$8,000.00 in profit, this profit goes into a special holding account of the club limited, and can be drawn on in the future if need be.

My special thanks go to my committee, particularly Don Coleman for all the hard work put into running raffles. And my treasurer Ray Crew for keeping tabs on our finances. Also the Club Limited through their sporting grant from bar sales. I thank our men bowling members for their patronage and generous thirsts which has seen men's bowls profit significantly from this bar grant (over 70% of total bar grant to the sporting clubs). To the other sports, if you look closely at what men's bowls has achieved in this regard, you will see what rewards are there simply by your member's patronage.

As far as bowls are concerned this has been another full on year, we have gained some new members with minimal loss, but could definitely do with an injection of more bowlers.

Our major event this year was the co-hosting of the state No.1 Pennant play offs, held over the August bank holiday weekend. This turned out to be a marvellous weekend with the 8 participating clubs arriving on the Friday 3rd August for roll ups which were slightly marred due to inclement weather, which fortunately decided to disappear giving us a fine weekend, the mornings being a bit cool but the days very mild. All the early preparation for this tournament turned out to be invaluable. We had several meetings within our own organisation plus with our co hosts who had not had the experience of running major tournaments of this scale, Alexandria, Erskineville and Matraville RSL both adopting our foot plan which assisted them in also running most successful weekends.

On the Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th August the round robins were conducted with the semi finals held Sunday afternoon. These games brought a high standard of bowls rarely seen on our greens and which were a pleasure to watch. Fortunately the number of spectators was very good giving people the opportunity to

witness such high quality bowls. To all my committee and those members who offered their time and services over the weekend, putting out seating, cooking barbeques, running raffles, cleaning up rubbish, plus making our visitors feel welcome, along with all the other little things that go into making these events a success, thank you very much. To our lady members for your assistance in organising morning teas plus cooking the barbeques, you were marvellous.

To Glen and Tess, thank you very much for all you both did. To our bar staff and Rose and your kitchen staff, thank you very much every thing ran so smoothly. To Peter Neary and your staff plus helpers, congratulations on presenting such good greens, plus immaculate surrounds. All players and officials had nothing but praise for our greens and the general external appearance of our club. Everyone involved can be very proud of what we achieved over the weekend, which has lead our zone officials to re think the staging of the inter zone championships held next year or the year after, which they were going to knock back doubting that the zone had any clubs capable of staging this event. They now know we are completely capable of staging the event and will accept zone 11's time to stage this event.

Regarding pennants, this year we ran with 3 pennant sides, No.1, No.3 and No.5 grades. Our No.1 side won their section but unfortunately lost the zone play off to Alexandria Erskineville. Our No.3 side led their section all the way till the final round, only to lose their final match and see other results go against them, relegating them to 2nd yet again. Our No.5 side performed very strongly all season but just missed out on winning their section. To all the players and side managers who made themselves available for pennants this year I thank you very much.

This year we were close to fielding 4 pennant sides, and with the influx of players over the year hopefully we will be able to field a 4th side in 2008. But this requires bowlers to make themselves available for the 10 weeks of pennants and to get their names on the pennant sheet early enough so that your committee knows where we are at in relation to nominating sides in January when we have to nominate. We entered 1 side in the mid week pennants being grade 2 who won the zone, but unfortunately lost the metropolitan play off to the eventual winners. Burwood diggers also won the zone in the no.3 grade and went on to win the metropolitan play offs. Congratulations to both sides, and thank you to the players who made themselves available. We entered three sides in the summer shield with our No.3 side going on to win the shield in their grade, well done all. Thank you to all the players who made themselves available for this competition.

We were not successful in the state championships this year, our best result being Garry Chant making it through to the semi finals of the zone singles, well done Garry. Two of our members Garry Chant and Don Coleman along with Geoff Wheatly (Toongabbie) won the Sate Poker Machines (formally Lotto) cup, congratulations to you both.

Our in house club championships with the exception of the mixed pairs and major minor pairs are completed, with very strong participation in all championships, the results being.

Major Singles - Winner Ron Kubyk, Runner up Neville Day.

Minor Singles - Winner Ben Williams, Runner up David Mastrobattista

Major Pairs - Winners Ben Williams and Neville Day, Runners up David Mastrobattista and Jesse Loveridge.

Minor Pairs - Winners Wayne Allan and Alan Burton, Runners up Mark Golby and Glen Timms.

Triples - Winners Ben Williams, Wayne Allan and Peter Doherty Runners up David Mastrobattista, Mark Gorlicki and Tony Monda.

Fours - Winners David Mastrobattista, Guy Mandato, Tony Mandato and Tony Monda. Runners up Garry Chant, Joe Caccavo, Terry Starr and Ray Coombes.

Mixed Pairs 2006 - Winners Glad Barnes and Don Coleman Runners up Gay Shirvington and Garry Chant.

To all the winners and those who participated in these championships, congratulations and thank you very much. Tournaments held late last year and so far this year have been very successful, with the running of the Major/Minor pairs held in December 2006 and held in conjunction with Burwood Diggers proving a very successful and most enjoyable tournament. 2006 winners being Dick Knapp and Ben Williams.

One Quick Fill Toners and one Greenlees Park Black Friday pairs were held this year attracting near capacity fields, the winners being April Maurice Falcone and Ray Coombes. A special thanks to our sponsors Wayne Allan (Quickfill Toners) and Greenlees Park Men's Bowling Club. Unfortunately we lost the sponsorship of Quickfill Toners just prior to the running of the July Black Friday, which meant the

men's bowling club had to step in and cover full sponsorship. Fortunately we had sufficient funds to cover this. I thank Wayne for his past sponsorship of Greenlees Park Men's and Ladies Bowling Clubs, in shirt sponsorship, up to 2006, Cap Sponsorship, up to 2007, Patrons Day, Black Fridays plus several Ladies events. Thank you for all you have done Wayne, hopefully somewhere down the future you will be able to find your way to be involved again.

Patron's Day held on Australia Day was very successful with all participating having a great time. This day was also sponsored by Quickfill Toners, thank you Wayne.

The Trevor Lee and Sons Shield was held on Good Friday, the format being versatile fours, with 38 bowlers competing, this was a great success. The winners on the day being John Goulding, Nick Maresso, Garry Chant and Eddie Truesdale. A special thanks to our sponsors for this day Trevor Lee and Sons.

The Greenlees Park Winter turn around triples was to be held over the June long weekend, unfortunately the heavens decided to open the week leading up to and until the Sunday of the long weekend forcing us to cancel this event for 2007. With our full calendar another date was not possible.

The inaugural Greenlees Open Pairs was held over the weekend 22nd – 23rd September. This Tournament being in its first year attracted a healthy field of 20 sides. Hopefully this will increase in future years toward our maximum number of 42 sides, as it is an excellent format tournament with attractive prize money. My special thanks to the sponsors of this event Burwood RSL Club and Greenlees Park Men's Bowling Club. The 2007 winners were Denis Doherty and Terry Delroy (West's Sports).

Burwood Diggers hosted two tournaments this year being Golden Slipper and Melbourne Cup days. These days were both very successful and enjoyable, the winners being Golden Slipper day Mick Camilleri and Jesse Loveridge and Melbourne Cup day, Ben Williams and Tony Monda. A special thanks to Burwood Diggers, particularly Barry Remmington and Alan Graham for their organisation, and Graham Green and Garry Chant for running the calcuttas. Our involvement with Burwood Diggers continues to be a huge success with Wednesday social bowls regularly drawing 20-30 players. Hopefully we will be able to find a way of getting Sunday morning social bowls numbers to improve and even though they have been better this year, we would like to see a substantial increase. A special thanks to Burwood RSL board of management, President Barry Remmington and Dick Knapp who has been Burwood's delegate to our meetings, where his input has been most valuable.

Saturday social bowls outside tournament weekends have also been a big success this year with around 30 bowlers regularly attending. Thanks bowlers for your support. Major renovation of green No.2 was completed this year returning it to the original Greenlees Couch. This green came back very well and we are all looking forward to playing on it again when it comes back in this year after normal annual renovations. I am confident it will be equal to any green in the state. Green number 3 will be the next green to come out for renovations on 17th November. It will be shaved but should not be out for too long, followed by Green number 1 straight after the kids Christmas party on December 9th, for normal renovations. We envisage having two greens in play all the way, with the exception of a couple of weeks over the Christmas, early New Year period.

- 1 To our greenkeeper Peter Neary and your staff, thank you very much for a marvellous job yet again, our greens and surrounds continue to gain nothing but rave reviews.
- 2 To our sponsors, Quickfill Toners (Wayne Allen), Attic Ladders (John Stewart), Trevor Lee and Son, ANZ Finance, Jackie's Bowls and Briars @ Greenlees Club Ltd through their grant system, I thank you very much for your support and hopefully look forward to a long and fruitful association.
- 3 To my committee thank you for your continued support it has been a pleasure working with you all.
- 4 To my bowls secretary Don Coleman, for the running of Wednesday Social bowls and the numerous bits and pieces that probably go unnoticed to most other than myself, thanks very much Don.
- 5 To the board of directors of Briars at Greenlees Club Limited, thank you very much. Without your support we would not have been able to achieve any of the things we have done.
- 6 To Glen and Tess, thank you very much for your assistance during the year, your help has been invaluable.
- 7 To our patron Keith Free thank you very much for your time and occasional quiet word Keith. Thank you very much for your support and advice.
- 8 To our umpires, Col Dawson, Dick Knapp, Col Hodges, Garry Chant, Don Coleman and Tony Monda, thank you very much for giving up so much time during the year to officiate at the many events.
- 9 To our returning officer Glen Taylor and scrutineer Dick Knapp thank you very much for the efforts you have given to this very important duty.

- 10 To the bar and kitchen staff, thank you all for your assistance during the year.
- 11 To members who have lost love ones during the year, my sincere condolences.
- 12 To those members not enjoying the best of health, I wish you a full and speedy recovery.
- 13 To the members, thank you for your patronage during the year and allowing me to represent you as your president over the last 3 years.

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For those not aware, our Constitution (and I think rightfully so) only allows a president to hold position for a maximum 3-year term. But he can come back for a second or more terms later on. The three years of my tenure as men's bowling club president have been very rewarding, particularly early in my reign which saw the arrival of Burwood Diggers and the amalgamation with Briars Sporting Club.

We also saw the revitalisation of social bowls plus a halt to the decline in bowling members which was unfortunately happening. I am very proud of what has been achieved during my term as president, so it really hurts and saddens me to see at the end of my term a small poisoning element (and I stress small) festering from within the ranks of the men's bowling club plus our Ladies bowling club (one would think they have enough problems of their own), which threatens to undo all the hard work put into restabilising the men's club. This small destabilising group is unfortunately suffering a bad case of tunnel vision and can not see how much damage they are doing to the men's bowling club by their efforts to hurt the club limited and the amalgamation. To those people please open your vision and realise you are not doing any damage to the club limited or the amalgamation which are both here to stay, but are causing what could be irreparable damage to the men's bowling club, which has provided you all with so much enjoyment and value entertainment over so many years and intends to continue to give enjoyment to all our members for many years to come provided we are given the opportunity and don't self destruct from within.

To our new President Don Coleman - Don I hope you get an easier passage but as much if not more pleasure and satisfaction out of your tenure at the helm as I did. You can be assured of my full support, and I hope that of all our members, who will see our club prosper and grow under your reign; I wish you good luck and great success.

Tony Cribb - President

TROPHIES

J H STONE TROPHY

The J H Stone Trophy named after the first President of The Briars Sporting Club, the late John Stone, was first awarded in 1950. The name of John Stone's home was called "The Briars". This Trophy can only be won by a club member under the age of 25 years who made an outstanding contribution to the club's welfare during the year.

The winner for this year is Emma Smith who played Women's Hockey 8th Grade (Premiers). Emma was Manager of both 3rd and 8th Grades, was Women's Club Captain and a Member of the Social Committee, and supported both Men's and Women's Hockey during the season. Congratulations Emma.

THE TED STOCKDALE TROPHY

This trophy has been donated by the Board of Directors in recognition of the outstanding contribution made to the Club by Ted Stockdale. It is awarded to a Club member who has made a continuing contribution to the welfare and administration of the Club over a number of years.

This year's winner is Gerard Price. Gerard has been Cricket Chairman since 1988 and in that time has lead Briars Cricket to an unprecedented number of Premierships and Club Championships as shown in the Cricket Report. His administration skills have been outstanding. Well done Gerard.

CRICKET MEMORIAL TROPHY

The trophy is intended as a remembrance of those who lost their lives during service in World War II. The trophy was donated by the late H G Whiddon. The basis of arriving at the winner is as follows:

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------|
| Value to team as a cricketer | - | 35 points |
| Conduct | - | 15 points |
| General keenness | - | 15 points |
| Value to Club as a member | - | 25 points |
| Neatness of dress | - | 10 points |
| | | 100 points |

The winner of this award is Anthony Clarke. Anthony is the guy that every sport needs - always willing to help where needed, supports every function, trains most weeks and always available for selections. Anthony has been involved in the administration of cricket for a number of years now and besides the collection of fees is able to help in other areas as well. Clarkey loves putting the covers down every week as well. Thank you for your help Anthony and congratulations.

A J ROBINSON SHIELD

The Shield was donated by the late A J Robinson ("Robbie") in 1958 and is won by the hockey player obtaining the most points in the following manner:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------------|
| Value of team as a member | - | 35 points |
| Value in Hockey Administration | - | 20 points |
| Value to Club other than Hockey | - | 20 points |
| Conduct on field of play | - | 15 points |
| Neatness of dress | - | 10 points |
| | | 100 points |

This year's winner is James Fordham. James played 2nd and 3rd Grade Hockey and is Coach of Men's 6th Grade. James organised training for the lower grades, coached the Under 11s, assisted the Social Committee and was a Sydney 35 and Over Representative. Congratulations James.

GEOFF ARCHIBALD TROPHY

The Geoff Archibald Trophy is awarded to the Rugby player who has made the greatest contribution to the Club in his first year playing rugby for the Club.

This year's winner is Emilio McFarland. Emilio has for many years been a supporter of the Club, watching his Dad play and also participating in training with the seniors. He has grown up with the Club and this year officially became a Briar by being the first Briars U16s team Captain in his side's inaugural year. Emilio is also qualified touch judge who assists the senior Club when available. He is a very worthy winner of The Geoff Archibald trophy and we wish him many happy years ahead with the Club.

GORDON BEVAN SHIELD

The Gordon Bevan Shield is awarded to the player who, in the opinion of the Club, has contributed the most during the year towards Rugby and the Club in general. It is presented in memory of a young "Briar" who was tragically killed in a road accident. The criteria for selection is as follows:

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| Attendance at training | - | 20 points |
| Value to the team | - | 20 points |
| Most improved player | - | 20 points |
| General keenness | - | 15 points |
| Value as a Club member | - | 15 points |
| Neatness of uniform | - | 10 points |
| | | 100 points |

This year's winner is Tony Kerle. Tony joined Briars four years ago and has held his position at inside centre in that time. Tony has dedicated his time to the Club in not only playing Rugby but also working behind the scenes where the majority do not see. He is often at the grounds early helping to prepare for match day events and leaving the ground last, cleaning sheds and locking up. Tony has a disciplined training ethic that follows through to his playing. Nothing is ever a drama and he is a true Briar who silently achieves a great deal for Rugby.

R D VANDERFIELD TROPHY

The R D Vanderfield Trophy is awarded to a member of Junior Hockey who has contributed most to the junior teams. This award carries the name of a past President who showed interest in the formation of junior teams.

This year's winner is Michaela Vincent. Michaela has been enjoying her first year with Briars and was in the victorious Eighth Grade Women's Hockey team.

DOUG VANDERFIELD TROPHY

This Trophy was donated by the late R D Vanderfield who was instrumental in commencing Squash in the Club and having it recognised as a major sport. The Trophy is presented to the squash player who has contributed the most to Squash and the Club in general.

Points are awarded as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------|
| Value as a team member | - | 20 points |
| Value as a member of the Club | - | 20 points |
| Keeness as a player | - | 20 points |
| Improvement as a player | - | 15 points |
| Conduct on the Squash Court | - | 15 points |
| Neatness of dress | - | 10 points |
| | | 100 points |

This year's winner is Greg McManus. Greg is the Squash Chairman and was Captain of the victorious C3 side. His invaluable work behind the scenes is keeping Squash viable.

BRIAN HUTTLY TROPHY

This trophy was donated by Brian Huttly and is awarded to a lady bowler who has given meritorious service to Women's Bowls over the year in a voluntary position. Brian has been involved in bowls at Greenlees for many years as an administrator and player. The award can only be won once in a lifetime.

This year's winner is Marj Smith. Marj joined Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club in 1987. She has occupied the position of Vice President for three different Presidents' over a nine-year period and has fulfilled two terms as President; the first was 1996, 1997 and 1998, and the second term was 2003, 2004 and 2005. Marj was Women's Bowls President at the amalgamation of our club with the Briars Sporting Club, and I offer my thanks for her assistance in the smooth transition. Marjorie has also filled the position of Delegate to the Euralla District for many years. Over the years, Marj has had extensive involvement in the smooth running of the Children's Xmas Party and a leader in encouraging new women bowlers to our club.

PHIL McAULAY TROPHY

The Phil McAulay Trophy is awarded to a male bowler who over the year has given meritorious services to Men's Bowls in a voluntary role. Donated by Phil McAulay, who has been involved in Bowls at Greenlees for many years as an administrator and player, this award can only be won once in a lifetime.

This year's winner is Tony Cribb. Tony is a Club Director and has been President of Men's Bowls at Greenlees for the last three years. His many notable contributions include negotiating and organising the No.1 State Pennant Finals at the Club this year. Tony also plays pennants, club championships and social

bowl. Congratulations Tony.

THE BRIARS FOUNDATION



The Briars Foundation Limited was formed in 1994 to permit members to donate funds for Briars capital works.

Projects completed so far include the following:



1998 Briars Hockey Complex at Cintra. The Foundation advanced \$100,000 to permit hockey to build this complex. Hockey has successfully reimbursed \$100,000 to the foundation.



2006 Hockey playing surface at Cintra upgraded. The Foundation advanced \$148,000 for this upgrade, of which \$120,000 has already been refunded by Briars Hockey.



2005 Junior Rugby Development Programme. \$10,000 for financial assistance to purchase the necessary equipment.



2007 Rugby/hockey field lights and goal posts on the ground adjoining Greenlees. Foundation provided \$26,000.

MEMBERSHIP: The Foundation membership by category is as detailed below.

Rugby have been, by far, the most ardent Foundation supporters with over 65% of members coming from Rugby ranks and over 85% of funds from past rugby players. 10 players from the 1964 & 1965 premiership rugby teams are Foundation members. Other sports and premiership teams are urged to get behind the Foundation. Foundation membership at present by sporting category is Rugby 23; Cricket 5; Hockey 3; Bowls 1; Squash 1.

CURRENT MEMBER LIST:

Class A Foundation Non Voting member (\$100-\$2,499)

Ray Ackerman
Ken Bell
Ian Blair
Colin Dennis
Bob Kersay
Ken Kable
Bill Marshall
Peter Mansford
John Metcalf
Col Rankin
Cec Stavens
F Tsang
Kary Trollope
Peter Unwin
Roger Vanderfield

Don Walker***
George Wright

Class B Foundation Member (\$2,600-\$24,999)

Ross Anstey
Andy Clifford
Richard Crookas
John Edmonds
Garnet Green
Bill Hooker
Mike Mathews
John Price
Doug Prowse***
Laurie Routley
John Richards
Warwick Williams
Tony Wozniak

Class C Foundation Vice President (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Mal Goldsmith**
Ian Richard*
John Fandle*
Donald Way***

Class D Foundation Life Member (\$50,000 plus)

Steve Kair
John Singleton*
Chris Walker**

KEY

* Includes bequest
** Plus bequest
*** Deceased

There is more information on the Foundation web page at www.briarsatgreenlees.com.au To join or move up to a higher membership category please contact the President of the Foundation, Colin Dennis on 9816 4679 or cdennis10@vtown.com.au