

# **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LTD**



## **3rd Annual Report and Balance Sheet 2007 – 2008**

**Presented to Members at the Club Rooms  
Cnr Ian Parade & Wellbank Street, Concord 2137  
on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2009**

**Briars at Greenlees Ltd  
ABN 710 010 295 45**

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# **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LTD**

## **Patrons**

D A Walker  
K Free OAM

## **President**

B Huttly

## **Vice Presidents**

Mayor of Canada Bay  
Member for Drummoyne

## **Board of Directors**

I Blair	T Cribb	B Howle	C Hickey
K Norris	J Price	R Tregeagle	B Huttly

## **General Manager**

G Taylor

## **Treasurer**

I Blair

## **Auditor**

Harley, Russell and Day

## **Solicitors**

P Mattick LLB  
Turner Freeman

## **Management Committee**

G Price	Cricket
M Denniss	Hockey
J Slender	Rugby
G McManus	Squash
T Cribb	Mens Bowls
H Burton	Women's Bowls
T Havrlant	Netball

# THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB



**Founded 1918**

## **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

## **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
1995	I R Vanderfield AO OBE
2002	J Balmforth BEM

## **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
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
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 second report as Chairman of the amalgamated club. During the past twelve months, the club has traded exceptionally well with a nett profit of \$41,233. This profit takes into account all payments to date (30 September 2008) including but not limited to building, consultancies, legal advice, purchase of kitchen equipment and Council Development Application costs.

Last year, like almost every other club, we were experiencing the legacy of the Governments non-smoking policy, and this year, our bar and gaming trade have turned this around, and the graph curve even though it is small, is at an upward trend again.

Our scheduled upgrade of poker machine games continues whilst we still remain the best paying player return of 91.09% for any inner west club of our size. (Our link is in addition to the 91.09%). Our weekly promotions continue to become more popular attracting new participants. I refer to Race the Ace on Tuesdays, Trivia on Wednesdays and Poker on Thursdays. The ever-popular Friday night raffles and badge draws continue to draw members and guests and a special thank you to Tony and his helpers for its success.

During the year several sports held old members re-unions, which I was privileged to attend.

Recently this year, the board upgraded all of the bistro equipment leaving some minor repairs outstanding, which will be attended to as soon as the new roof is installed. Members would have noticed the plans on display for our renovations, which will hopefully commence early to mid February.

Our Treasurer Ian, General Manager Glen and our Accountant John have been extremely busy preparing cash flows, predictions and projections, and all those sorts of things that bean counters do in order to procure our building loan of \$2M. The construction period is planned to be five months (weather permitting) and during this time, all scheduled major functions will go ahead. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience that may eventuate such as toilet facilities, relocation of management staff, bowls lockers, etc. The forthcoming minor disruptions will certainly be outweighed by the benefits achieved in the long run.

Again this year, I would like to thank all those who have assisted in any way to help promote our great club to achieve the goals and targets we have met. This includes staff, management, directors, contractors, and most importantly, you the members.

Congratulations to all sports for their efforts over the last twelve months. I'm sure all the sporting Presidents and Secretaries will have editorials for you to read elsewhere in this report.

Our Code of Conduct and dress rules have been accepted by almost everyone, which is very gratifying to see.

Our social calendar for the year past was again very busy and congratulations to Melissa for its organisation. This year is shaping up to be even bigger.

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 again rewarded accordingly.

To all of our members, it has been my pleasure to be your Chairman again and I wish you all the seasons' greetings.

This year, there are two board positions up for grabs, that of John Price and myself. I urge you to make and take the time to vote, as good management is the key to success.

To those members whom lost loved ones during the year, I offer my sincere condolences, and to those not feeling the best, I trust you will have a speedy recovery.

Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and I'll see you at the AGM.

**Brian Huttly – Chairman**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

This was a particularly tough year due to the change in government legislation re non-smoking within clubs and hotels. The profit for the year was \$41,233 (2007 - \$187,057). The decline in profit was due to poker machine profit \$511,200 (2007 - \$609,019). Bar \$122,835 (2007 - \$140,875) and the main increase in expenses was depreciation \$160,199 (2007 - \$128,673).

Poker machine profit would have reduced further had it not been for the abolition of poker machine duty in 2008 (2007 - \$64,648). As always, governments giveth with one hand and taketh away with the other. After the reduction in poker machine tax, an increase in the TAB commission by one per cent during the year reduced profit by \$4,396.

Bar price increases were not passed on quickly enough during the year but this has now been rectified with the gross profit percentage back up to 56-57%.

All expenses are being reviewed regularly, in particular, wages.

The Club has spent \$674,791 on capital items during the year. Refurbishment of the bar, poker machine room, lounges and bistro was \$427,063. The kitchen was refurbished \$70,000 and E-Bet and poker machines installed \$71,563, and \$92,598 Work in Progress Stage II, were the main capital items. All capital costs were funded internally.

George Street did not achieve its full potential with one shop being vacant for ten months. This shop has now been leased but the upstairs tenant has departed and in this climate a replacement is not easy to find.

The cash flow has decreased due to the capital expenditure during the year but Club trading has generated a cash positive result. The sports have improved their financial situations and are now revenue neutral.

At the time of writing a Development Application (DA) has been submitted to the Canada Bay Council for the major refurbishment of the Club. Profit and Loss and Cash Flow Statements have been prepared and discussions with banks and financial advisors have taken place but, until the DA has been approved, progress is on hold.

For the first three months of 2009 financial year, profit is ahead of budget and ahead of last year, which is very encouraging going into the refurbishment stage.

**Ian Blair - Treasurer**

## **THE BRIARS FOUNDATION LIMITED**

Directors: Paul Price (President) Ian Blair. Peter Dunlop. John Edmonds. John Price. Richard Tregeagle. Warwick Williams.

The past year for the Foundation has seen a number of changes but little activity. Founding members Col Dennis (President) and Chris Walker (Director) have stood down in the past twelve months, without both Col and Chris the Foundation would not exist and on behalf of all of the Directors, members and the Briars Club we thank you for your amazing efforts. Paul Price stepped into the Presidents chair mid year and Richard Tregeagle took over from Chris in November. Ken Kable resigned during the year and was replaced by John Edmonds and we thank Ken for his contribution. Our treasurer Peter Etches also resigned and was replaced by Bill Hooker in November and we thank Peter for his hard work.

The Statement of Financial Position for The Foundation, to the year ended 30 June 2008, shows net assets of \$233,772 compared with \$239,277 for the 2007 year.

As of November 2008, there were thirty-eight active members compared to thirty-five last year and four members are deceased.

Last year negotiations were finalised with the Australian Sports Foundation, which created an opportunity for donations to be tax deductible. This outcome has been responsible for the significant increase in membership and donations and a number of existing members have taken 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.

There were no grants this year however the projects that are still on our list include the planned upgrade and renovation of the dressing rooms at Rothwell Park, a scoreboard for Hockey and the eventual major changes to the clubrooms, that will include a home for The Briars history and memorabilia.

The next meeting for the Foundation in February is an important one as we determine and strategise where we fit into Briars at Greenlees, where we see the Foundation heading and how we can grow membership.

My thanks to the Directors for their support and constructive advice, and to Keith Wearne for the preparation of the company's accounts.

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

**Paul Price – President**

## **VALE ROGER VANDERFIELD**

Roger joined The Briars in 1946 as an 18 year old and played Rugby for Briars. Roger attended Sydney Grammar School and then studied Medicine at Sydney University. He decided that playing Rugby was not for him and took up refereeing. Roger became an International Referee between 1956 and 1974 refereeing 14 tests, 18 other internationals and 1260 other matches. He was a Life Member of The Briars, The Australian Rugby Union, The NSW Rugby Union and NSW Rugby Referees. For over 25 years he was CEO of Royal North Shore Hospital and was also an Honorary Fellow of Sydney University.

Roger was the youngest of four boys and a girl born to Richard and Ruby Vanderfield who lived in Enfield. Richard was of the Vanderfield and Reid timber merchants. Roger married Margaret Cotter in 1954 and is survived by Margaret, daughters Penelope and Linda, son Michael and nine grandchildren. Roger and Margaret's eldest son Ian died in 2000.

In the early days of the licensed Club in Burwood, Roger was the Senior Steward with great distinction and was the inaugural winner of the J H Stone Trophy in 1950 and again the following year. This trophy is awarded to the member who is under 25 and who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club's welfare during the year. Roger's brothers Don and Doug were also Briars and their sister Marjorie was the wife of Geoff Whiddon, a former President of Briars. In 1962 the Vanderfield family donated a magnificent trophy cabinet that stands proudly in the Clubrooms today.

Roger became President of the Australian Rugby Union and Chairman of the International Rugby Board. He was standing beside Queen Elizabeth II at Twickenham when she handed the William Webb Ellis Trophy to the Wallabies Captain, Nick Farr Jones, in 1991. Roger also helped to organise the inaugural Rugby World Cup in 1987 in New Zealand.

Roger was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2006 for his services to health care through Royal North Shore Hospital where a building is named in his honour and to rugby. He was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1976. Achievements in the medical field were numerous - he was on the Board of the Royal Rehabilitation Centre in Sydney 1987 and Chairman 1994. Roger was Federal President of the Royal Australian College of Medical Administrators and served on NSW State and Federal Councils of the Australian Hospital Association. He was also President of the Haemophilia Society of NSW and Medical Secretary of the World Federation of Haemophilia.

## CRICKET CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

What a difference 12 months can make! After 5 years of successive Club Championships the pressure was always going to be on us to produce again. But, the loss of about 30 players through injury, work commitments, moving interstate and overseas, retirements etc was always going to challenge us and the year turned out to be a very difficult one.

The season was not a disaster as far as results were concerned as we finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the Club Championship, won our first ever 5<sup>th</sup> grade title, and made the semi finals in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This was regarded as not a very successful season by our standards but still surpassed the achievements of most other clubs. To further complicate the season we lost the services of our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade captains and so new captains were appointed for the season. The season was also probably the wettest for many years with plenty of games being affected by rain and we were not able to get the results when needed.

To complete our season Rothwell Park, through the efforts of Adam Powell, was voted in the top three Shires Ground of the Year again and shows what a great job he did throughout the season.

Although there was not as much success on the field as previous seasons it is no doubt a reflection of the efforts of a few members off the field that allows us to continue to succeed in difficult times.

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 and helping with any other job as required throughout the season. Clarke also gave up time to be a representative on the Shires Representative Committee. Mark Smyck also assisted in many areas throughout the season including the laying of covers at various times and Scott Brennan needs to be recognised for his up to date seasonal statistics as well. Paul Price for his assistance (and advice!) behind the scenes and Terry Murphy for his assistance in compiling and updating the very detailed Club stats at the years end and for his attendance at the SCA meeting each month or so in town on our behalf. Also to Rose at the bistro for her provision of the afternoon teas at our home grounds each week. They were very well received.

Five people who were required to contribute their time each week were the captains in Cameron French, Wayne Grimson, Jack Jardim, Greg Wallace and Tom Watson. I would like to thank and congratulate them for their efforts in organising players, covers, etc for each game in a very challenging season. In all my time at the club this was the most difficult season we have ever encountered with regards player availability and it is a credit to the captains and all the players that we were able to perform as we did.

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 and Ryan 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 fulfil any projects we wish to achieve. The involvement of Venus Packaging for the last nine or ten 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.

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 very regularly during this season and I would like to thank the many players who helped us out in any small way. Some I'm sure, thought that they would be required for every game such was the regularity of desperate phone calls! You know who you are as there are far too many to mention but we are very grateful for your assistance.

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 two clubs. For the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 all 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 the club 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, Bob Streeter, 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: First Grade Players Player - Scott Castle; Second Grade Players Player - Gerard Price; Third Grade Players Player - Jack Jardim; Fourth grade Players Player - Greg Wallace; Fifth Grade Players Player - Matt Rowley; Under 24's Players Player - Chris Hart; Masters Players Player - Dave Jebb; Ted Watt Trophy for Best New Talent - Steve Davis; David Walker Trophy for Services to Cricket - Ian Blair. To all these award winners we congratulate you and thank Paul Price for his efforts in helping organise the evening. 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 FIRST GRADE**

In terms of results alone the season of 2007/2008 a disappointing one for the Briars First Grade side missing the finals for the first time in ten seasons. Player losses from the previous season, injuries and unavailability over the course of the season resulted in no fewer than 23 different players take the field for the top side at the club.

Finishing 10<sup>th</sup> on the ladder the results for the side were as follows:

Outright wins – 1; First innings wins – 2; Draws – 2; First innings losses – 7.

Although the side did not make the finals there were a number of positives that were able to be gleaned from the season. One of these was that over the course of the season a large number of players had an opportunity to test themselves in the top grade. The benefits of this introduction will be seen in the coming season with a number of players gaining valuable experience. Players such as William Service and Chris Hart have the potential to become leading players at the club.

Another highlight of the season was the bowling of the side. Lead by the evergreen Paul Pannuti and Scott Castle the side continuously troubled opposition batsmen with only one score of 200 only achieved in the season. And this with home games played at the highway that is Rothwell Park. It was the batting of the side that more often than not let the side down, falling agonizingly close to victory on a number of run chases. As highlighted earlier this experience (and what the side learned from these matches) will hold all the players in good stead in the future games where similar situations present.

Player reports have been provided for those players that played in excess of four games over the course of the season.

**David Cox** - An absolute gem of a guy to have in any side Coxy did an excellent job when called on to open the batting in the first grade side. A clean hitter of the ball once set he managed to put together some strong opening partnerships at the top of the order. Undoubtedly had the best warm up routine in Shires Cricket.

**Bharat Sattanathan** - Immensely talented 'The King' was only available for a limited number of games this season as his MBA studies continued. Ultracompetitive Bharat was instrumental in the sides best win of the season against Bexley scoring a quick paced 50 in the second innings to get the side across the line. We look forward to seeing him play more games next season, he is a great player to watch.

**Chris Hart** - In his second season at the season Chris was elevated to bat at Number 3 in first grade. He accepted this challenge with great passion and was a consistent presence at training to continue to develop his game. He would have benefited greatly from the experiences this season and much will be expected from this clean hitter in the coming seasons.

**Paul Pannuti** - Along with Scott Castle the fabric that made up the side. Threatening retirement the year before Paul returned in the 2007-08 season with a vengeance taking the new ball and regularly taking wickets or putting pressure on the opposition batting. We all know that is this pressure at one end that is the catalyst of wickets at the other and I am sure Scott Castle benefited greatly from his new ball partnership with Paul.

**Ben Hurford** - Having not played cricket for several years Hurf was elevated to first grade following some strong contributions for the second grade side. He frequently seemed at ease at the wicket getting a number of starts but not being able to convert any of them to the big score he was hoping for.

**Adam Evison** - Debuted in first grade in the season 2007/2008 season and made a consistent contribution over the course of the season. A deceptive bowler he produced some strong contributions with the ball and is another that will benefit greatly from the experience.

**Scott Castle** - Briars first grade players of the year Scott Castle was outstanding over the course of the season. A regular wicket taker (23 for the season) Scott could be relied upon to take wickets in every innings, these breakthroughs most often when they were desperately required by the side.

**Brett Roberts** - Robbo came into the side for the second half of the side and had immediate results. His left arm orthodox is of the highest standard and he was another who made a significant contribution to restricting sides to small totals. His five wickets again Lane Cove was the cornerstone of the victory taking the final wicket with the opposition just one run behind.

**Cameron Beames** - Another who moved to the top grade after some strong performances in second grade. An excellent slipper and with an astute cricket brain provided excellent support to the captain. Although did not score heavily made some good contributions.

**Andrew Jalalaty** - AJ is just a great guy to have in the team. His enthusiasm for the game is unending and makes the time spent in the field even more enjoyable. He did not have the season he would have liked with the bat but it is a big task keeping and then opening the batting. He has a lot of potential as a leader and I am sure, at some stage, he will lead the First Grade side.

**Ben Chapman** - Mixing cricket with a stint at the police academy made getting any consistency difficult this year for Ben. He possesses an expansive array of strokes that allows him, on his day, to take any bowling attack apart. We are looking forward to having him back full time at the club in the near future.

**William Service** - One of the emerging talents at the club Will is genuinely fast. His potential was glimpsed in the four games he played before heading on an overseas trip for the duration of the season. We will watch with interest as Will continues his career with the club.

**Marty Oxley** - An experienced and intelligent cricketer Marty played a role in almost every game he played. Whether it be with the bat, ball or in the field he was consistently thinking about the game. A true Briar it was great to have him around to teach some of the newer players about the club.

**Cameron French** - Had a tough season coming back to the club after a stint coaching. Although made several starts with the bat was not able to convert to a big score in the season. Bowled well on helpful wickets at times but was restricted by a finger injury for the second half of the season.

#### Batting Averages

Name	Mt	In	NO	Runs	HS	Avg
Bharat Sattanathan	7	9	3	261	69*	43.50
Adam Evison	5	4	3	30	15*	30.00
Cameron French	9	11	2	234	49	26.00
David Cox	7	7	-	181	72	25.86
Chris Hart	11	11	2	181	58	20.11
Marty Oxley	5	4	-	75	30	18.75
Andrew Jalalatay	11	9	-	147	48	16.33
Ben Chapman	6	5	-	71	30	14.20
Ben Hurford	6	6	1	41	20	8.20
Paul Pannuti	9	8	-	63	26	7.88
Cam Beames	5	5	-	34	18	6.80
Scott Castle	10	8	2	29	14	4.83
Brett Roberts	7	6	2	19	15*	4.75
Will Service	4	3	-	9	6	3.00

**Also Batted:** A Srinivas 3-109, 2 Stewart 3-93, P Burkhardt 1-12, W Grimison 1-11, P Simpson 1-6, S Brennan 1-5, G Saleh 1-4, P Catalovski 2-1, S Harvey 1-0.

## Bowling

Name	Mt	Ovrs	Mdn	Runs	Bowl	Econ	Avg	Wkts
Scott Castle	10	128.2	20	386	5-31	3.01	16.78	23
Paul Pannuti	9	101.4	22	268	5-42	2.64	15.76	17
Brett Roberts	7	90.0	16	313	5-39	3.48	19.56	16
Cameron French	9	95.3	20	282	4-19	2.95	23.50	12
Bharat Sattanathan	7	62.0	7	227	3-27	3.66	22.70	10
Adam Evison	5	25.0	3	92	4-39	3.68	13.14	7
Will Service	4	40.0	6	127	2-58	3.18	31.75	4
Marty Oxley	5	19.3	3	76	3-12	3.90	25.33	3

**Also Bowled:** P Catalovski 6-85, G Saleh 3-32, S Davis 2-60, S Hudson 1-50, S Harvey 0-19, A Jalalalay 0-10, A Srinivas 0-18, W Stewart 0-15.

It was a pleasure playing with the Briars last season. Much is to said of a side that struggles through adversity and is still able to find enjoyment in the game and sharing of a common experience amongst friend. This attitude reflects well on the leadership of the club, with Gerard Price to be recognized for his hard work. In what was a difficult season for the stalwart he never wavered from doing what is best for the club, even if he was required to make personal sacrifices. We are certainly the club we are because of his hard work. We look forward to 2008/09 with the lessons of the last season learnt and a wave of young players coming through the club which with the direction of the senior players, will see the mighty Briars back at the top of the ladder.

## Cameron French - Captain

## CRICKET SECOND GRADE

As defending premiers, the 2007/08 season meant the team had to outdo its performances of last season to again secure the premiership. So with a new skipper in Wayne Grimson in charge, and a few new players joining the side, a mixture of the usual old and a few new young faces again took up the challenge for the season ahead.

Round 1 was an easy win after dismissing Epping for 182, Peter Catalovski 5-34, we amassed 9-367 to declare and leave Marty Oxley stranded on 99\* (blame Catalovski who was batting with Marty at the time apparently). They ended at 4-129 second time around. R2 vs Uni they were dismissed for 231, Sarkis Achmar starring with 7-52 from 28, in reply we passed their total 6 down, Paul Price 47\*. Round 3 vs Southern Districts was washed out both weeks in a severe blow to our club championship points. R4 vs Roseville we had them all out for 176 and us passing their total 9 down with the last pair of Gerard Price and Anthony Clarke contributing the 8 runs required in a close one.

In round 5 vs Strathfield we were dismissed for a poor 89 and were passed 3 down with Gerard Price 3-22 from his 10. R6 vs Georges River we were dismissed for 124, then had them 8-98, 9-120, then all out 125 the ball after they passed our total. Gerard Price 7-48 from 27. Second time around, we declared at 6-114 and almost got them at 8-82 after 28 overs. R7 vs Lane Cove they got 210 whilst we were dismissed for 132, Brett Howle 52.

Into 2008 with round 8 vs Lindfield with them 179, Gerard Price 4-35 and us 1-35 overnight only to have about 100 ton of top soil dumped on the ground during the week but the second day was washed out anyway. R9 vs Warringah had us under perform with the bat again to be all out 132 but the bowlers did the job to dismiss them for 68, Sarkis Achmar 6-36. We declared at 5-103 with a 167 run lead and again had them on the ropes at 8-65 after 33 overs. Round 10 vs North West Sydney was washed out.

Round 11 vs Auburn we were dismissed for 229, Paul Simpson 55, and then rolled them for 135, Gerard Price 4-32 from 20. Round 12 vs Pennant Hills they were all out 226, as usual Gerard Price 4-43 from 22. In reply we were out for 162, Cam Beames 56.

With one round to go the side was in seventh place, 3 points outside the top 6 so the one dayer in the final round vs South Sydney was critical and the side performed appropriately dismissing them for 120, Sarkis Achmar 4-31. We got the runs within 25 overs to secure the 2 bonus points, Ben Chapman 36\*, and fourth position on the ladder with 38 points.

The side finished the regular season with 6 wins, 4 loses and 3 washed out draws.

The qualifying final had the side up against third placed Lane Cove at Tantallon Oval. We were sent in and accumulated runs all day to be 6-200 at one stage but then all out 236, Cam Beames 45, Marty Oxley 48, Gerard Price 50. Lane Cove then proceeded to 4-160, 8-198 and then a nail biting 8-222 until they were all out 230. Sarkis Achmar 4-38 from 29.

So onto the semi final... or so we thought, until Lane Cove protested the result of the match based upon the eligibility of one of our players. On the Tuesday evening that protest was dismissed by Sydney Cricket, so Lane Cove further appealed to Cricket NSW on the Thursday evening whereby their protest was then upheld. With no rights of appeal then available to ourselves our season ended with that decision around a table in the offices of Sydney Cricket on that Thursday night and not on the field as should have been the case. It is pointless to ramble on in this report in regards to the fairness or otherwise of this outcome except to say that 11 players felt it was the most inappropriate and a disappointing way to finish a season after some 8 months of commitment and effort of training and playing.

So on the Saturday the team and a few supporters congregated at Rothwell Park for a combined wake and celebration in remembrance of a season and perhaps back to back premiership that might have been.

During the season there were 29 players used during the year and some of the better individual performances included:

- Sarkis Achmar – 26 wickets at 9.8, best of 7-52
- Cam Beames 223 runs at 37.2
- Wayne Grimson 261 runs at 21.8 and 14 wickets at 19.1
- Marty Oxley 99\* vs Epping, 147 runs at 73.5 & 9 wickets at 18.5
- Gerard Price 139 runs at 23.2 & 38 wickets at 12.6 (from 233 overs), best of 7-48

A special mention of Gerard Price as his efforts both on and off the field are simply without peer.

In conclusion, the side was competitive throughout the year and was the team to beat during the finals. However, a disappointing way to finish the season did not take away from the fun and enjoyment of playing cricket under the Briars cap with a good time had by all who played second grade throughout the season so thanks and well done to all those who contributed to that during the year.

## Brett Howle

### Batting

Player	Games	Inn	NO	HS	50	100	Avg	Agg	Ctchs
S Achmar	6	4	2	1*	0	0	1.5	3	1
C Beames	6	6	0	56	2	0	37.17	223	6
S Brennan	11	13	2	34	0	0	18.73	206	15, 1stmp
A Clarke	6	5	1	22	0	0	11.5	46	4
A Evison	6	5	0	31	0	0	7.8	39	1
W Grimson	11	12	0	71	2	0	21.75	261	5
B Howle	11	11	0	52	1	0	18.18	200	5
G Price	12	10	4	50	1	0	23.17	139	3
V Sharma	7	7	2	30	0	0	16.20	81	0
P Simpson	6	7	2	55	1	0	27.00	135	2
P Tregeagle	6	8	1	20	0	0	14.29	100	4

### Bowling

Player	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Best	5 inns	Avg	Wkts
S Achmar	135.3	47	254	7-52	2	9.77	26
P Catalovski	26	8	60	5-34	1	10.00	6
A Clarke	44	7	145	2-12	0	24.17	6
S Davis	58	12	182	3-41	0	26.00	7
A Evison	50.1	10	176	3-34	0	25.14	7
W Grimson	103	22	267	3-41	0	19.07	14
M Oxley	56	10	166	3-30	0	18.44	9
G Price	233.3	64	479	7-48	1	12.61	38

## CRICKET THIRD GRADE

In what was an eventful and sometimes frustrating season due to bad weather, player unavailability and sheer loss of playing personnel, third grade were set a huge task of defending the third grade premiership for a fifth consecutive year. Nevertheless, all 39 players used throughout the season played in the true Briar spirit, and that alone was the difference in many games, and at the end of the regular season we finished second with seven wins, five washout's and one loss.

Unfortunately we could not replicate previous season results going down to Macquarie University in the quarter final, and then followed by a comprehensive loss to Pennant Hills.

### Season Highlights

- Dan Haikin and Will Hood seventh wicket partnership of 140 runs against Epping in round one
- Brett Howle 72 against Epping round one
- Dan Haikin match winning innings of 68\* against Macquarie University in round two
- Greg Stoneham 5-31 against Macquarie University
- Mark Smyck 65 against Lane Cove and 56 against Warringah
- George Saleh 5-77 against Pennant Hills in the semi final
- Anthony Clarke 6-18 against Georges River in round six

### Funny and Special Moments

- Paul Price self proclaimed "greatest catch of all time" against Souths
- George Saleh innovative and creative stroke making shots coming down the batting order
- Mark Smyck numerous fielding attempts throughout the season
- The unearthing of new talent in the likes of Steve Davis, Vijay Sharma and Krishna Srinivasan
- Being part of an emotional last game for club stalwart Anthony Clark
- Being given the honor to captain third grade

### Thank Yous

- A massive thank you to all 38 players that played this season
- Thanks to all the senior players and captains for your advice and wisdom throughout the season
- Massive thanks to Gerard Price who makes playing for the Briars possible

### Player Statistics

Name	Mt	Inn	NO	HS	50	100	Avg	Runs	Ovrs	Mdn	Runs	Bowl	Avg	Wkt
L Andrews	7	9	-	25	-	-	11.44	103						
A Clarke	7	7	3	19	-	-	6.25	25	67.3	2	150	6-18	9.38	16
S Davis	7	5	-	26	-	-	10.20	51	40.0	5	123	4-20	12.30	10
D Haikin	4	5	1	77	2	-	38.50	154	29.0	7	72	4-9	12.00	6
J Harris	4	4	1	22*	-	-	12.33	37						
S Harvey									55.3	3	122	3-18	12.2	10
W Hood	9	11	1	71*	1	-	14.30	143						
J Jardim	13	15	-	73	1	-	19.27	289	38.0	6	110	3-11	13.75	8
G Saleh	8	8	-	41	-	-	16.38	131	133.3	12	390	5-77	16.25	24
V Sharma	6	7	1	46	-	-	24.33	146	22.0	-	87	2-11	17.40	5
M Smyck	12	14	1	65	2	-	22.23	289	46.0	6	122	2-16	17.43	7
K Srinivasan	6	6	1	38	-	-	23.20	116	71.0	4	115	4-19	7.19	16
G Stoneham									29.4	9	68	5-31	11.33	6
D Welsh	6	7	-	28	-	-	12.71	89	49.2	1	129	3-19	21.50	6

**Also Batted:** T Dapice 1-69, J Hevey 3-33, S Harvey 3-19, R Kapoo 2-11, N Lester 4-17, A Nielsen 4-36, M Richards 5-43, G Stoneham 2-7, C Trewin 4-67, D Trewin 4-68, A Berenger 4-19.

**Also Bowled:** L Andrews 2-38, J Hevey 0-1, N Lester 3-20.

**Jack Jardim - Captain**

## CRICKET FOURTH GRADE

2007/08 was a tough season for Burwood Briars 4<sup>th</sup> grade. A scarcity of players throughout the club meant that it was rare for more than four players to play in consecutive 4<sup>th</sup> grade matches. Captain Greg Wallace

played in each of our 12 matches, the next most appearances being 7 matches. A total of 54 players took the field in 4s. Thus it was no surprise that Greg scored the most runs, took the most wickets, had the best bowling average, held the most catches and was the players-player. He would be the first to admit that this was more from turning up than playing particularly well.

Best individual innings for the season were Pratham Karkal with 108 against Roseville, Dougal Robinson (77 v Southern Districts), Greg Wallace (67\* v South Sydney), Saffan Hassan 62 v Auburn) and Dave Trewin (56 v Pennant Hills).

15 year old Saffan Hassan showed much promise with a batting average of almost 30 and figuring in the top 3 partnerships of the season in only 5 times at the crease. Saffan shared a 114 3rd wicket partnership against Roseville with century-maker Pratham Karkal. He had a second century partnership of 101 with Carl Trewin against Auburn for the 1st wicket and in the final match of the season had a 91 opening partnership against South Sydney with retiring captain Greg Wallace.

Another partnership of significance was 82 for the 10th wicket by the experienced Dave Trewin (56, runs, not years, well not yet anyway) and 15 year-old Brad Whitfield (26no) against Pennant Hills when the team was struggling at 9-52. They batted with grit and determination, cockiness and aplomb, to each record their highest score of the season. True Briars spirit.

Best bowling was 4 wickets in an innings which occurred five times. Mick Towells took 4/17 against Southern Districts, Greg Wallace took 4/25 against Warringah and 4/49 against Auburn, and against South Sydney Brett Williams took 4/38 and Dan Haikin took 4/41. 15 year-old Brad Whitfield (10 wickets at 16) and 16 year-old Lachlan Irvine-Brown (10 wickets at 21) - both showed much pace, passion and promise.

Winning only 5 of our 12 matches was never going to be enough to make the play-offs.

Congratulations to Tom Watson and the victorious 5th grade. Congratulations as always to Gerard Price for all his efforts and to the other captains for their leadership and assistance.

#### **Batting**

<b>Batsman</b>	<b>Mt</b>	<b>In</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Runs</b>	<b>HS</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Pratham Karkal	1	1	-	108	108	108.0
Brett Goman	5	5	2	105	43	35.0
Saffan Hassan	5	5	-	148	62	29.6
Greg Wallace	12	13	2	270	67*	24.6

**Also Batted:** Ed Lam 0-30, Karn Ghosh 0-16, Abernash Singh 0-4, Kavilan Bascaran 0-2, Dougal Robinson 1-77, Hapreet Singh 1-43, Stephen Hudson 1-34, Brad Whitfield 1-32, Warwick Giblin 1-29, Carl Trewin 2-51, Dave Trewin 3-73, Pascal Wallace 1-22, Dan Haikin 1-22, Marty Oxley 1-17, Jeremy Haikin 2-34, Sabeh Hassan 4-61, Paul Simpson 1-15, Raj Kapoor 6-80, Ben Taylor 2-19, Michael Taberner 7-64, Andy Macky 1-9, Justin Hevey 4-36, Lachlan Irvine-Brown 3-25, Tom Dapice 1-8, Brendan Warburton Bur 3-23, David Abood 2-15, Anthony Nielsen 3-21, Babar Khan Bur 1-6, Rohit Dwivedi 1-6, Dilip Uppili 1-5, Brett Williams 1-9, Reg DeJager 5-21, John Tucker 1-4, Nathan Williams 2-6, Steve Bellemore 1-2, Kris Srinivasan 1-2, Soheil Mehta 1-1, Jason Rawle 1-1, Nathan Lester 1-0, Bharat Patel 1-0, Dylan Edwards 1-0, Mark Richards 1-0, Pat Mertens 1-0.

#### **Bowling**

<b>Bowler</b>	<b>Mt</b>	<b>Ovrs</b>	<b>Mdn</b>	<b>Runs</b>	<b>Wkts</b>	<b>Best</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Greg Wallace	12	107.1	13	373	24	4-25	15.5
Brad Whitfield	5	43.0	5	163	10	3-67	16.3
Lachlan Irvine-Brown	6	48.0	4	210	10	3-19	21.0

**Also Bowled:** Nathan Lester 8-86, Mick Towells 7-26, Rohit Dwivedi 7-156, Sabeh Hassan 6-123, Brett Williams 5-74, Dan Haikin 5-118, Richard Tregaele 3-15, Kris Srinivasan 3-15, Pascal Wallace 3-19, Stephen Hudson 3-36, Jeremy Haikin 3-70, Marty Oxley 2-18, Ben Taylor 2-55, Michael Taberner 2-66, Brendan Warburton 2-100, A Sobels 1-3, Dougal Robinson 1-11, Paul Simpson 1-18, Matt Rowley 1-18, Steve Bellemore 1-33, John Tucker 1-55, Justin Hevey 0-5, Saffan Hassan 0-8, Andy Macky 0-10, Jason Rawle 0-18, Dylan Edwards 0-35, Carl Trewin 0-47, Reg DeJager 0-48, Abernash Singh 0-48, Nathan Williams 0-51, Hapreet Singh 0-56.

**Catches:** Greg Wallace 10, Raj Kapoor 6, Brett Goman 5, Michael Taberner 3, Tom Dapice 3.

**2 Catches:** Lachlan Irvine-Brown, Marty Oxley, Dan Haikin, Brad Whitfield. Matt Rowley, Pratham Karkal.

**1 catch:** Babar Khan, Warwick Giblin, Will Hood, Stephen Hudson, Mick Towells, Ed Lam, Jeremy Bellemore, Carl Trewin, Dave Trewin, Karn Ghosh, Dougal Robinson, Steve Bellemore, Mark Richards, John Tucker, Soheil Mehta, Reg DeJager, Dilip Uppili, Anthony Nielsen, Sabeh Hassan.  
**Also played one match without batting or bowling:** Jeremy Bellemore, Will Hood, Peter Wallace

## CRICKET FIFTH GRADE

In a year in which Shires cricket suffered through lack of players, Briars fifth grade was not immune. However, the dark tunnel which saw Briars fifth grade use around 70 players take the field, including one round in which 9 players in the team that took the field were related in some way to Scott Castle, their was certainly light at the end of the tunnel. Briars 5th grade, in partnership with Western Suburbs Cricket, managed to lose only one game of the regular 21-game season, not to mention one or two rain outs, on their way to the Burwood Briars inaugural winning of the Tim Creer Cup. It didn't get more than fairytale than Briars 5th Grade than the Grand Final at Waterloo oval, with Briars defeating Lindfield for the fourth time in the season to take home the Tim Creer Cup. The team, pace attack of Rowley, Bellemore S and Whitfield, batting line up of Hessian, Waide, Bascaren, Patel, Bellemore S and Goman with a minor contribution from James McCue did a great job to win a competitive game at Waterloo Oval. After last year's grand final loss v South Sydney, this win was the perfect finish to an unsettled but great season. Burwood started poorly losing their 3 youngsters at the top of the order, Hassan, Waide and Kabilan in quick fashion. Consolidation was now required, and who better to do so that Jeremy Bellemore and Bharat Patel). Patel warmed to the task, while Bellemore bided his time, however it was this 115 run partnership that set up the Briars win. Bellemore was patient, no doubt, until the end of his innings when he lashed out, including three fours in three balls. From this point the tail failed to contribute, however the 161 on the board meant Briars were quietly confident with a solid bowling line up.

With Lindfield settled to get to 1-41 after Corey took an early wicket, I was forced to roll the dice, making rapid bowling changes to bring on the fullback cum late order batsman cum leg spinner cum off spinner in James McCue. McCue took immediate effect, ripping through the Lindfield side, taking the remarkable and unheard figures of 6-0 to pick up the man of the match award. After the 6- love he has been aptly nicknamed 'Federer'. The 6-0 has been a real interruption to my week, being stopped in the city for questions about the 6-0, even during the first Briars rugby game today was a request to meet James made. After the game, Jimmy asked me for a photo with the six batsmen he dismissed, I just tell him to shut up- he did a good job cleaning up the tail.

Thanks to the wannabe journo Peter 'Fitz' for his mention of James McCue in the 'Fitz team of the week', Jimmy will be signing copies of The Herald later. Lindfield capitulated to be 3-74 to all out 91, allowing Briars to take the Tim Creer Cup. Support from Nathan Lester and Mark Smyck representing the Briars crowd was also much appreciated.

Other highlights of the season included:

- Ben Chapman's 90 Ben has played two matches for fifth grade- both against Macquarie Uni- scoring 100 and a 90 respectively).
- Derek Welsh's 75 and including two thirds of an over - thanks to Judith Welsh.
- Will Hood's 4-21 against Lindfield.
- Two games at Waterloo oval in downtown Redfern with no reports to Redfern police station.
- 4 games v Lindfield - 4 wins of the toss for me - 4 times batted first - 4 unsuccessful Lindfield run chases - 4 wins.

Thanks to Vice Captain Jeremy Bellemore along with Bharat Patel for their leadership assistance. Thanks to rugby players Kyle Carl Williams, Nick Dropolous, and James for supporting their club and helping out. Thanks to Scott Brennan for technical assistance, Jason Harris for some choice words before the GF and Gerard Price for his assistance. Thanks to all the Briars who sent words of support before the game or congratulations after, it was much appreciated. I sincerely believe it is a great honour to captain any Briars Cricket side and have enjoyed immensely the last three years of captaincy.

There's only one Burwood Briars.

	Mt	In	NO	HS	50	100	Avg	Runs	Ovrs	Mdn	Runs	Bowl	Avg	Wt	Ct
K Bascaran	8	8	1	45*	-	-	16.71	117							
J Bellemore	9	8	-	39	-	-	13.25	106	13.0	1	48	1-11	24.00	2	4

S Bellemore	5	4	2	9*	-	-	7.50	15	31.0	9	60	3-9	15.00	4	3
B Goman	5	4	1	17	-	-	9.33	28							
S Hassan	7	7	-	29	-	-	11.86	83	9.0	-	40	2-40	20.00	2	-
J McCue	4	4	1	44*	-	-	23.00	69	10.4	6	15	6-0	2.14	7	1
D Midghell	4	3	1	6	-	-	6.00	12	4.0	-	26	2-26	13.00	2	2
D Papandrea	1	1	-	8	-	-	8.00	8							
B Patel	6	5	1	80	2	-	50.75	203							
M Rowley	10	7	4	3	-	-	1.67	5	74.0	12	221	4-27	13.00	17	4
J Waide	7	7	2	85*	1	-	31.20	156							
T Watson	13	10	1	35*	-	-	18.67	168	100.3	24	230	3-11	9.58	24	5
B Whitfield	5	3	-	18	-	-	9.33	28	39.4	5	138	2-22	17.25	8	2

**Also Batted:** A Alice 1-0; N Alvaro 1-0, R Anderson 2-4, G Ashmore 1-0, A Barnard 1-8, P Bedi 1-2, M Bell 3-8, S Brennan 1-20, D Brooks 1-3, O Castle 1-1, B Chapman 1-90, J Clark 3-12, T Crisp 3-16, B Diaz 1-0, A Dwyer 1-27, C Ford 1-14, S Hassan 1-64, W Hood 1-5, L Irvin-Brown 1-7, B Kabalan 1-17, R Kalakunta 1-4, A Kutasi 1-12, N Lester 3-9, P Lind 1-2, A Martin 1-2, M Medway 1-0, A Morshed 1-0, A Nielsen 1-27, P Papandrea 1-2, D Robinson 1-1, L Robinson 1-1, P Robinson 1-2, M Smyck 1-9, A Sobels 1-12, A Stead 1-22, A Stewart 1-5, M Taberner 2-7, B Taylor 1-0, S Thana 2-26, C Frewin 1-5, P Wallace 1-17, B Warburton 1-4, D Welsh 1-75, N Williamson 2-36, B Williams 1-6

**Also Bowled:** N Alvaro 0-16, A Barnard 1-7, P Bedi 2-8, D Brooks 1-15, B Chapman 0-11, T Crisp 1-10, B Gorman 0-16, R Kalakunta 0-11, D Midghell 2-26, A Morshed 0-10, B Patel 0-5, D Robinson 0-5, J Waide 1-14, B Warburton 1-19, D Welsh 2-3, B Williams 4-24, G Ashmore 2-9, S Hassan 2-40, W Hood 4-21, L Irwin-Brown 1-18, A Martyn 3-18, M Smyck 3-23, A Sobels 2-12, A Stead 3-22, B Taylor 3-25, C Frewin 1-23.

## CRICKET UNDER 24'S

For the second season in a row I had the privilege of captaining the 2007/2008 Burwood Briars Frank Gray team. Due to whether and injuries we were forced into a few changes namely losing our leading wicket taker Derek Welsh's due to an ankle injury and the infamous Bharath due to work commitments. However, Derek's loss was Steve Davis gain, as he took his opportunity and showed his quality regularly picking up wickets and throughout the season kept performing consistently well. The 2007/2008 Frank Gray season turned out to be a frustrating year as in the playing group we had the ability to go a lot further, but unfortunately, we let ourselves down in the end. As a team, we performed admirably and never lay down and in true Briar spirit we fought in every game we played in.

A season highlight would be beating Auburn at Rothwell, supported by the well watered home crowd we scored 204 with Chris Hart scoring 108 ably supported by Aj scoring 45, and in reply we dismissed Auburn for 171, to score an exciting win for the boys. As a standout performer for the year, Chris Hart was again in great touch. Chris has the ability to take apart bowling attacks and in FG we saw this first hand especially in his demolishing innings against Auburn. If Chris was the standout performer, Smycka wasn't too far behind. Mark Smyck took his game to another level, being in the last year of 24's Smycka left nothing behind. 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.

A few special mentions to Scottie Brennen for giving up his Sundays to help with warm ups, scoring, drinks and lunches throughout the year and whose efforts were appreciated by the entire FG Squad.

The 2007/2008 FG season is the last for myself, Smycka and Derek. Playing 24's for Briars holds so much tradition and we have been proud to represent the club and we have enjoyed the ride. We wish the boys well in the future and will support them unconditionally.

Gerard, 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. 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.

Name	Mt	In	NO	HS	50	100	Avg	Runs	Ovr	Mdn	Runs	Bowl	AvgWk	Ct	St	RO
M Chammas	4	4	-	9	-	-	5.00	20	11.1	1	58	4-11	14.50	4	1	-
S Davis	3	3	-	6	-	-	4.67	14	23.0	-	96	2-42	32.00	3	-	-
C Hart	4	4	-	108	1	1	47.50	190	18.3	1	86	2-25	21.50	4	1	2



**Also Bowled:** S Bellemore 1-22, R Dwivedi 0-9, M Lee 0-51, J Rodgers 0-5, B Sattanathan 1-52, P Smith 2-26, M Taberner 0-24, B Taylor 2-48.

This season also saw the midweek competition entry of Briars in the U85kg competition. U85s promotes further skill development by providing match experience for our younger “Light Weight” players.

On a committee front I would like to thank the immediate Executive members of Damien Johnson and Tom Watson for their assistance. The mentoring and advice provided by Rugby Director Chris Walker again was ever important and guided the committee in confronting and understanding further operational issues. Taking onboard Chris’s advice and assistance in gaining Bluetongue’s return sponsorship, Rugby is in a secure financial position for the next two seasons, as long as prudent financial management is adhered to.

Socially in 08 our events were few, which is currently under review of the new Rugby committee, however the social committee did a fantastic effort in providing an awesome presentation night that I know many will remember for a long time.

Thank you to Julia Boyter, Matthew Grace, James and Mel Nott who worked hard in running raffles and raising funds throughout the season to also help subsidise the evening.

Social events are important for Rugby and being able to hold them at our home Briars@Greenlees is an important core ingredient to having a successful Club. Most would agree that Rugby’s behaviour at the Club has improved out of sight and the committee has been vigilant in enforcing discipline. This is a point that the Rugby Committee now has proof, that yes the players are able to control themselves and their behaviour inside Briars@Greenlees. What the Club Limited and other members need to understand is that Rugby is part of Briars@Greenlees, needs its own area to hold functions and allow the boys to make a bit of noise. During a season Rugby returns to the Club on a Saturday evening for at the most 12 times. Bonding is a big part of our sport. Briars players stick their neck out for each other on the field and represent the Club. This is further complimented by their mateship off the field and at their very own club house. This is how they identify, understand and respect being part of the Briars family.

On behalf of Briars Rugby Union I would like to sincerely thank the following for their assistance and support of Season 2008.

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| • John Singleton | Major Sponsor        |
| • Steve Keir     | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • John Edmonds   | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • Chris Walker   | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • Mike Matthews  | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • John Mortlock  | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • Col Dennis     | Colts Player Sponsor |
| • Kerry Trollope | Colts Player Sponsor |

The generosity of these Briars is acknowledged by all. Their kindness and support of Rugby is proof of their friendships established through playing our great game and love of the Club. Thank you again from all who are involved with Briars Rugby.

#### **Rugby Award Recipients**

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • 1st Grade Best and Fairest     | James Ronsisvalle  |
| • 1st Grade Players Player       | Peter Low          |
| • 1st Grade Players Player       | Peter Finlay       |
| • 2nd Grade Best and Fairest     | Se Yeon Lee        |
| • 2nd Grade Players Player       | Ian Pond           |
| • 3rd Grade Best and Fairest     | Nick Alvaro        |
| • 3rd Grade Players Player       | Matthew Carew      |
| • 4th Grade Best and Fairest     | Glen Ricketts      |
| • 4th Grade Players Player       | James McCue        |
| • 5th Grade Best and Fairest     | Grant Savage       |
| • 5th Grade Players Player       | Tony “Cheech” Wang |
| • U21 Colts Best and Fairest     | Emmanuel Comino    |
| • U21 Colts Players Player       | Ben Forbes         |
| • Rookie of the Year             | Michael Taberner   |
| • Most Improved                  | Nick Alvaro        |
| • Clubmen of the Year            | Lloyd Smith        |
| • Chairman’s Encouragement Award | Shay Quilty        |

Finally, I came to this Club as just a player and finished my Rugby career as a Premiership winning player and Rugby Chairman. I'd like to thank all of you who have supported me during this time, been there to give advice and also to listen. Since 2005 we've come from a 4 team club to one fielding 6 sides and an U85kg midweek team all in Division 2. It takes a lot of time and effort to manage Rugby and I thank those who have resided in the committees during my tenure. Most of all I thank Chris Walker for teaching me the principles of how to become successful.

**John Slender –Briars Rugby Chairman**

## **RUGBY FIRST GRADE**

2008 was a case of 'so close yet so far'. We had the expectations that we were going to be in the mix again and that became reality but then we just let ourselves down in some of the basics of rugby. In 2008 we got to see some of Briars future make there 1st grade debuts, with Scott Burnicle, Mick Taberner, Taylor Spratt excelling when they were asked to play even after usually playing Colts earlier in the day. We already knew of Ben Forbes ability and he showed that he should be a regular 1st grade player for years to come. Congratulations to the award winners, Awesome and Low for the Players/Player and Stripes for the Coaches award the three of you were deserved winners. Our season was hindered by a few injuries in key positions, but even when we did the shuffling around the team still played with the skill and class that they have. I think we must stay positive with next season and take advantage of the new ELV's that are coming into our game. If we are fit then we will dominate. These new rules will really fit our style of play but we must be fit. I see some people have started, take advantage of the Briars gym. I want to thank all the other coaches, Blunders, Team Waha, Damo and The Godfather for their efforts this year, and the committee for all their assistance. By the look of the new committee this year it sounds like there is some fun to be had. Lets get behind these guys and support every decision they make. Hope every one had a good Christmas and New Year and are ready for 2009. I think there is something special just around the corner. See you at pre-season.

**Mark Gudmunson - Coach**

## **RUGBY THIRD GRADE**

The 2008 season saw the debut of a couple of young, up and coming coaches to the position of Blunt Cup Coaches. Chris Lamond (Laha) and Matt Waddington (Waddo) have been fixtures of the Briar Rugby Community for 19 years. Both have had plenty of rugby experience but co-coaching was to prove an eye opener for both of them.

The club decision to only train one night a week and to make better use of that time was a good idea in theory. In reality it made the job of coaching the team a nightmare. Players are generally lazy creatures and often find lame excuses not to train - usually only informing the coach once the session has started. Another cause of frustration was the players who didn't train due to injury but said they'd be alright by the weekend. Then the weekend comes around and surprise, surprise, they still aren't fit to play. This not only unsettles our team training it is unfair on the grade below as they have to adjust to last minute changes on game day as the position is filled.

It comes as no surprise that we used 51 different players in Blunt Cup this year. 28 of those players only played between one and four games. That only leaves 23 players to play the rest between them. This is an important statistic as it shows the stability in the side. This year introducing a new player to the team would mean having to teach him the skills that the rest of the team had already mastered. This led to the conscious decision to make selections from a small player base.

There were 9 players who played 9 games or more. They were Mathew Grace (9), Rob Borsak(10), Nick Alvaro (11), David Ananin (11), Mat Nichols (11), John Singh (11), Andrew Fitzgerald (12), Nac Kinikini (12) and Mat Carew (13) who played the most games.

Special mention should also go to the following players: Simon Carew (8), Tony Kerle (8), James Maclachlan (8), Mick Taberner (8), Scott McGill (7), Tim Rolls (7), Tom Watson (7), Rob Jones (6) Brett Sinclair (6) and Dion McVie (6) who all made significant contributions to the team.

I think some of the most memorable games from a coaching perspective were round 1 versus Barker away, we won 19-16 and were introduced to Kini. Round 8 versus Kings away, we won 12-9 but lost the fight. Round 15 versus Hornsby at Rothwell, we won 29-0 keeping a very cocky team to nil. Round 18 versus Lindfield at Lindfield. The place was a goat track. Lindfield were leading the competition. We needed to win to ensure a position in the semifinals. We had just come off a loss to Kings who were also a top 4 side. Our preparation was as good as you could get and we won that game 17-7. We then went from the Penthouse to the Outhouse. Our preparation was poor and we lost the Minor Semi Final versus Kings the following week and two weeks later Lindfield went on to win the Grand Final.

We witnessed many outstanding good young players in Blunt Cup this season. Some have selected from obscurity and are destined for the higher grades in the future. Congratulations to Nick Alvaro, Best and Fairest, and Matt Carew, Most Improved, for their respective awards.

Finally I would like to thank the Rugby Committee for a successful season, John Slender for his untiring service to Briars Rugby, my fellow coach Laha and to all who played or aspired to play in Team Waha this year. Good Luck in 2009.

**Matt Waddington**

## **RUGBY FOURTH GRADE**

Season 2008 was a mixed one for Fourth Grade. We won the games we probably shouldn't have and lost the games we probably should have won. On our day with our full compliment of players there wasn't a team in the comp that could compete with us, but injuries, external commitments, depth and positional consistency took their toll and cost us dearly. Whilst we didn't always have the resources we probably required, one thing that could never be questioned was the teams commitment to the cause. I don't think there was a player who wore the Fourth Grade Jersey this year that didn't give it their all, and for that I'm truly appreciative.

**Special Mentions** for their efforts in Season 2008 must go to:

**The Team (4th Grade 2008)** - Congratulations on the Season, whilst we didn't feature in the finals as we had all hoped, I believe the season was a successful one none the less. The season saw the emergence of a number of players, the re-emergence of others and the next chapter in the proud careers of a number of Briars. To all those who wore the Briars 4th Grade Jersey in season 08, Thanks.

**Super League** - A special thanks needs to go to all those Super Leaguers who backed up for me this season, started on short notice and stood by on the bench, you provided us with great depth, energy and flexibility.

**Committee, Coaches, Sponsors and Support Team** - Without you all none of this season's successes would have been possible, therefore I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people who gave so much to our club this season - Slender, Boyter, Guddo, Blunders, Laha, Waddo, Pete, Jules, Stan, Carlie, Pauly, Kerle, Notty, Mel, Chris Walker, John Singleton, Kevin Ivans, Ellen, Lloydie, Tom, Derek, and everyone else who I have regrettably and inadvertently forgotten.

**Season 2009** - I believe the keys to a successful Fourth Grade team are positional consistency, a blend of experience and youth, and a simple game plan. If we can concentrate on these three simple tasks, 2009 will be a successful one for 4th Grade. In order for us to achieve these tasks it is essential that our senior players go around again - remember you're retired a very long time, we work together to recruit the next generation and we commit as a team to give Season 09 a real shake. Have a safe Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all fresh and fit for Season 2009.

**Damien Johnson - Coach**

## **RUGBY BRIARS COLTS**

As individuals this side was blessed with so much talent but performing as a team, played very much like a bunch of misfits. Frustrating at times, for a coach you start to question your ability and selections as you review their performance. I'd very much like to thank Mark Gudmunson for coming in during the season

and assisting me with the Colts and their training. In hindsight, 3 years ago Briars Colts did not exist. Simon James put together Briars U19s in 2006 and the core of this group have remained bringing more of their young mates to Briars. In all Briars Colts had 28 registered players – Mick Taberner, Alex Constanti, Shay Quilty, Toby Crisp, Stuart Ryan Emmanuel Comino, Peter Santangelo, Jimmy Levy Rohan Singh, Joe Kavua, Scott Burnicle, George Thompson, Simon Stigger, Alex Gonano, Tom Matley, Andrew Gregson, Evan Seiff, Ben Forbes, David Brancitisano, Patrick Ditchfield, Andrew Weston, Taylor Spratt, Jack Ginty, Will Psaltis, Tim Rolls, Niall Knox, Lawrence Coward and Wayne Howlett. Although these boys finished second last in the competition I must concede that my main object was to keep them all together as mates and enjoying Briars Rugby. It sounds like a poor result with 6 wins and 12 losses for the season, but I could not have asked anything more of these young Briars. Tim Rolls and David Brancitisano played the entire season in 3rd and 2nd Grade. Taylor Spratt, Mick Taberner, Shay Quilty, Ben Forbes, Toby Crisp, Jimmy Levy and Joe Kavua all played 1st and 2nd Grade this season. The remainder of Briars Colts all backed up and played amongst 3s and 4s. Amongst mature heads these lads displayed their individual skills and impressed many with their speed and talent. These boys are good and are the future of our Club. When I think back to when I was 20, I was the same – skirt, beer, parties and Rugby. The only thing that changes is the order as you get older. As a Club we should be proud of these young Briars as they are part of our Club and support it. They also very much understand that the Club will be one day theirs to manage and look after.

The Godfather

## **RUGBY UNDER 85KG**

Briars' debut in the Under 85kg competition was one of mixed fortunes with Mother Nature conspiring against us to rain out numerous games. Perhaps next year we'll stage the comp out west to help the farmers. Despite this, we notched up two wins and a draw from seven matches played, plus a couple of forfeits, to put us just outside semi final contention placing third in our pool. The season was definitely a fun and positive one, providing extra fitness for the keen beans, giving others more game time, introducing some new players to the club, and most of all giving players from different Saturday grades an opportunity to play together and get to know each other. Hell, we even managed to play some pretty good footy!

We used close to 35 players across the brief season, showing there is definitely interest in this brand of footy. Many players by choice or necessity played out of their normal position, and from this a devastating inside centre (who has been masquerading as a half back for many years) was unveiled. Well done in particular to those backs that had a crack in the forwards. We were definitely a bit light on (pardon the pun) in the tight five. We would have had more players available if some had eased off the pies, so hopefully those borderline players will use the off season as an opportunity to trim down!

Thanks to everyone that was involved in the team either in a playing or managing role. We couldn't have done it without those that helped out in coordinating the team and everyone pitching in to set up the field including those superb goal posts at Fortress Briars. I hope we continue to field a team in 2009 – we'll definitely be better for the experience.

Ninja

## **HOCKEY MEN'S – PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

2008 was the first year when Men's, Women's and Juniors operated as a single club. I believe this has proven to be a great step forward for Briars Hockey, even though there were a small number of minor teething problems, which is to be expected. We now have structures in place that allow for greater continuity from year to year, and this has allowed a significant amount of the preparatory work for season 2009 to have already commenced, while in previous years this hadn't started in earnest till the new year.

While the results on the field weren't as good as we would probably have liked (more detail on the performance of individual teams will be provided in the coaches reports below), we had some successes, notably:

- U17B winning the premiership
- U13B winning the premiership

- Women's Sixth grade who were promoted to a higher grade this year and made it all the way to the grand final and going down narrowly in a very competitive match.

One of the strengths of Briars is the club spirit, which was in evidence in the number of club members who came out and supported all the teams in the finals. The crowd at the 17B Grand Final was one of the biggest I've seen at Cintra and it was 95% (or more) Briars.

Congratulations go to:

- Alysha Borg on winning the Loretta Dorman Medal for Best and Fairest in SWHL first grade competition; this award is voted on by all players across the clubs in SWHL: first grade
- Dane McIlveen for receiving the Umpires Award from the Sydney Hockey as the best umpire in the Men's competition.

It takes a significant amount of work by a number of people to run a club the size of Briars Hockey and I would like to thank every one who gave of their own time in any of a number ways. Specifically I'd like to thank the hard working Committee: Kylie Norris – Vice President, Janet Adams – Administration, Jo Sikkens – Finance, Ivan Boulton – Coaching and Development, Hayley Wong – Social, Blake Durance and Alana Tagg – Club Captains and Garry Fuller – Junior Liaison. Again AJ and Wal did a sterling job in the canteen – I'd hate to think where we'd be without these guys. There are a number of other people who assisted on the various sub-committees or as coaches, managers and umpires, and I'd like to thank them on behalf of the club.

Looking forward to 2009 and beyond, there are several areas in which we as a club must improve to achieve the "world class hockey club" status to which we aspire:

**Team Managers – we need:** Formal appointment of a manager for every team, a manual for managers to outline what their duties and responsibilities are and, possibly a "Managers' Manager" within the Admin portfolio.

**More participation by club members in the following areas:** Umpiring, team managers, sub-committee membership.

**More participation at Briars events:** Our club captains, managers and committee members need to be more forceful in promoting these events. Also, the core group of regular attendees need to use peer pressure to get greater involvement.

We have to remember that the club is only as strong as we as a group make it. We are a club, not a group of individual teams or a large bunch of individual players – we cannot continue to support players who do nothing but play Hockey. In 2009, let's aim for improved success on the field and increased participation in club activities by our players and loyal supporters.

**Mike Denniss - Chairman**

## **HOCKEY MEN'S FIRST GRADE (PL1)**

**Coach: Ivan Boulton      Managers: Michael Imer, John Price, Allen Chu**

The 2008 season was very disappointing and lessons must be learned and taken forward into next season and beyond. To look back at the final points table to see a Briars first team on 7th position is not a good feeling.

The season was not a total disaster in terms of player development and growth. This is basically a very young team. With seniors players such as David Bourke and Adam Banister away most of the season, Josh Miller and Kieran Govers out with injury, Mathew Johnson due to work commitments stopped playing through the year. Plus up to five players away at State senior and U21 or National duties and we welcomed three new very talented players in Rhys Gray, Ben Poulton and Kishan Patel. Our young players all continue to grow and I am confident so long as we make a few fundamental changes in the way we operate the future for this team looks very bright. The above factors caused a lot of disruption to team continuity and resulted in our ability to play hockey at the consistently high standard required at premier level.

When the results are analysed three of the four draws were against the top three teams and seven of the ten losses the scores were within one goal. Also, in the wins we had the team played exceptionally well, showed what they can do and scored some fantastic goals. This sadly was only a shadow of what I know they can produce. Having young talented players who are also in NSWIS programmes, state teams and pushing for national selections is a reality for the club. A key challenge is to work within this environment and produce a consistently high standard of club hockey each time we play. This did not happen in 2008.

#### **Award Winners:**

- Players Player - Josh White
- Best and Fairest - Ben Poulton
- Coaches Award - Blake Durance

The results of this year can be separated into the following categories - coaches performance, players performance, player conditioning.

**Coach's Performance** - The team did not perform up to expectations and I as head coach take much of this responsibility. I believe planning for each game was thorough and well communicated. Training sessions were well organised and had a purpose however communication between myself and the players must improve so that I make myself more available for one on one feedback sessions (technical and tactical) after training and matches.

**Players Performance** - There is no doubt every player talked about us winning the premiership in 2008 but we lacked the consistency each week to win a premiership in this competition. It was too easy for players to miss training, to not attend social functions, to not support the junior programme etc. These are just a few things that senior players will be expected to commit to in 2009.

There were many individual players who stood out during the season:

**Josh Miller's** leadership and commitment to the team although he was frustrated with nagging injuries most of the season. He to me typifies what it takes to be a Briar and the sooner he is back on the park the better.

**Josh White, Adam Imer and Dane McIlveen** all grew in their hockey and made huge steps forward in their personal development and will play a major role in 2009. All three players have the ability and motivation to play at the highest level and they now are senior players within the team and they will play a vital role towards the team's successes next year.

It was disappointing that **Kieran Govers** carried an injury much of the season, but similar to **Josh Miller** he regularly came to training and supported the team while not playing. When he did play I saw a quality player with ever increasing maturity capable of playing at the highest levels.

**Rhys Gray, Ben Poulton and Kishan Patel** settled into their first year with the club. Rhys' ability to play across the midfield and deep defence makes him a huge asset for the club. A focus will be to develop his specialist set play skills and build him into an integral part of the team. Ben is a quality player who is highly motivated to always play at his best. He is very demanding of himself and team mates and leads by example, however at times his determination leads him to getting frustrated with himself and team mates. Ben has what it takes to become a great striker and I hope that he chooses to stay with his mates at Briars and continues to grow his hockey. Kishan came over from NZ hockey and took some time to adjust to Sydney premier hockey. He is a quality player, however, settled in very quickly to Briars club hockey and committed one hundred percent to both on and off field activities.

**David Bourke and Adam Banister** returned to the team well into the season and their respective skills, leadership and experience was an asset to the team. They are not likely to play in 2009 as both are playing in Europe.

**Blake Durance** through his determination and self belief, cemented his place as a regular member of the first grade team. He was always totally committed to his mates and improving his own game and can look forward to building on this year's performance to taking more responsibility within the team in 2009.

**Andrew Borg, Paul Sharp, Troy Prescott and Chris Coombes** are four players who have showed typical Briars spirit over the years and they all played key roles in playing first grade this year. Borgy always has the ability to score a goal just when needed and Sharpie, Preso and Coombsey always trained harder than most and were totally committed to playing games in second grade and never gave up hope of playing first grade. It is this determination that will hold them in good stead for 2009 in making first grade.

**Alan Charlton** as always played a key role on the field with his experience at the back and role in set plays. With Josh Miller out injured, Alan took over the captaincy role for much of the season. I think that the communication (feedback on training sessions, game plans and individual player's performances etc) between myself and Alan could have been better and that I presumed too much. Communication across all levels between myself and players is a significant area that will improve next year. My thanks to Alan for his leadership and support throughout the year.

**Stuart Cayzer** is another player who is highly motivated to achieve and sets very high personal standards with everything he does. The combination of the number of midfield and deep defensive positional changes during the season and himself not playing consistently to his best standards lead to the defensive unit not working as well as they might.

**Ian McGregor** was a consistent performer during the year and continued to always give of his best as he has done for Briars over the years. He will be overseas next year and not available to play for Briars in 2009. He shared a very special moment with the team prior to his last game and if (when) he does return to the club he will be welcomed.

**Lewis Mike and Derryn Allsop** were given the opportunity to gain first grade caps. Both players showed signs that they have the ability to force their way permanently into first grade. I look forward to seeing both guys at off and preseason training to see their progress and to take on the 2009 season.

**Players Conditioning - Fact** – As a collective team unit, our players were not fit enough at the start of the season. Players conditioning also includes their mental fitness and this is an area that needs attention.

Thanks to Michael Imer, John Price and Allen Chu in sharing the management duties. It was difficult for all three of you at times. I hope that next year we can settle on one manager per team. My thanks to all the players who played this year.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S SECOND GRADE (PL2)**

**Coach:** Jonny Caren      **Managers:** Michael Imer, John Price, Allen Chu

This year for me was a great learning experience, in regards to a number of areas for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade team.

Firstly there was the new club culture, one of which was built on winning and winning well. This was reinforced by the players repeatedly at the start of the season constantly referring back to the previous year's grand final win. I am extremely happy with the guys having this winning attitude but I believe it got the better of us in a few games where we ended up being complacent because of this. I believe this year was more of a humbling experience and they understand moving into this year (2009) that every game will be a battle and we have to work for it.

Secondly I got to learn about the personalities within the team. There were quite a few clashes at times especially at the start of the year but I have learnt to work with these personalities and hope that this will be a thing of the past. I will have to be more consistent in my communication with the players to achieve this.

Lastly I believe I have had a great learning experience in the boy's capabilities as hockey players. I honestly believe that we have an extremely talented bunch of hockey players but they like to work as individuals a lot of the time. What I will be focusing on moving forward, if I am successful in retaining my position as 2<sup>nd</sup> grade coach, is producing smarter hockey players with a team mentality as opposed to individual players capability.

After looking at the team stats for the 2008 season my conclusion is we need to identify a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade squad of approx 18 – 20 players early on in the pre season phase and work with these guys. Any team that has 32 different players over the course of the year will struggle in producing a consistent performance and structure. This will need to be addressed with the top 4 grades in mind.

The following is a breakdown of my personal thoughts on the major players within 2<sup>nd</sup> grade this year.

**Derryn Allsop** - In my mind Derryn was one of the stand outs for the year. Not so much on performance but on his attitude to the game and to his dedication to the club. He attended every pre season activity, was always one of the first to training and even during the period when he was sick or injured, still turned up to



training to be part of the squad. Derryn shows so much potential if he was just to understand what I am expecting of him. I look forward to working with him this year.

**Oliver Bailey** - Olly was a great unexpected addition to the team. He added good strength to the midfield and shows a good understanding of what I am trying to achieve as a team structure. I hope he is still around to play next year.

**Sam Candido** – Sam was a little bit inconsistent throughout the year. When he was playing well he was unstoppable but when he played badly it could hurt us as a team. I believe Sammy shows a lot of potential also and with a little more awareness as a player and some fitness work I feel he could be a stand out player for 2009.

**Chris Coombes** - Captain Coombes for me can be described in four words “solid as a rock”. He was very much the most consistent player throughout the year. He is an extremely talented hockey player who I have no doubt will be a great 1<sup>st</sup> grade player in years to come. I still feel he has some room for improvement in his hockey knowledge in regards to decision making and leading but that will come with more and more experience. As a captain he helped me a lot with decisions throughout the year and had a lot of respect from the other players.

**Daniel Denta** - It will be a shame to lose Daniel this year as yet again he was an extremely talented hockey player. Daniel was used as a utility player by myself as I was able to play him almost anywhere on the park. I believe his strongest position was up front as he is great moving forward and attacking.

**James Fordham** - I was very disappointed with this player as I defended him on a number of occasions from other players wanting him to drop into lower grades. What I saw in Jimmy was someone who had experience and knew when to move up the pitch but more importantly knew how to track back and defend as well, which to me is very important as a striker. Jimmy helped a lot in the build up of our attacks. What he struggled to understand towards the later part of the year was how I rotated my bench with the forward line. This in turn led to him dropping himself to lower grades.

**Jamie Gallagher** - Although Jamie only played 5 games he is another player I would like to give recognition to in regards to his attitude towards training and the club. Jamie jumped at every opportunity to learn from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and never complained once when he was not selected or when he sat on the bench for us. I could see the improvement and development of him in the short space of time that he did spend with us and I am really looking forward to working with him this year. He will be a future star of Briars 1<sup>st</sup> grade team in years to come.

**Luke Hough** - Like Jamie, Luke had limited time in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade but jumped at every opportunity to learn and was happy to get what ever game time he could. I am excited to work with him this year as I can see a lot of potential with Luke. He needs to make sure he attends all pre season to get himself fit and take care of any injuries he is carrying from the previous years. Another future 1<sup>st</sup> grade Briar in the making.

**Andrew Kilazoglou** - Killa started the season very slow and struggled with consistency in his game. However after regaining some confidence in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and stepping back into 2<sup>nd</sup> grade I thought he had some outstanding performances and was my man of the match on a number of occasions. Im not sure what his aspirations are as a hockey player for next year but I believe if he wishes to play 2<sup>nd</sup> grade there is a spot there for him. He will have to put in a big pre season for fitness levels and get into his rhythm early on in the preseason games. Yet another player I am looking forward to doing more work with.

**Lewis Mike** - Where do I start with Mr Mike??? Probably one of the most frustrating players I have ever had to work with and I mean this in a good way. Lewis has an unbelievable talent as a full back. He saved us on a number of occasions throughout the year. If he would only listen to what I ask him to do he would turn from being a good player into a fantastic player. Lewis needs to learn to listen, try what is asked of him without having an answer or smart arse comment about it. If he was to do what he was asked Lewis wouldn't be playing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade anymore he would most likely be number one choice for 1<sup>st</sup> grade. I will be sitting down with this player early on in pre season and spelling this out to him. Watch out for a big year from him if all goes to plan!!!

**Leigh Partridge** - Chook was yet another slow starter for me. He showed some raw talent in pre season games but didn't come into his element until the mid part of the season. Like Sammy, Chook when he was on form was the go to guy but when he was off par could hurt us going forward. Chook has a great awareness of the goal when he gets into the D and is something I want to do more work with him this year all going well that he is with us.

**Kase Patel** - This is someone who I enjoyed having on the team and working with towards the back end of the year. Kase is extremely passionate about the game and is a sponge (wants to learn as much as possible from you). I have done a lot of work on the side with Kase in the gym and I hope he sticks around this year also.

**Darren Pike** - Yet another senior player who I was very disappointed with. The guy is extremely gifted as a player and I would love to have kept him involved with the team to help the junior players come through as they would benefit from his input. We did clash on a number of occasions, the reason being we are very similar in our delivery of information (my way or the highway!!!). I don't believe that Pikey will want to play 2<sup>nd</sup> grade next year but I hope he will help with the development of some of the junior forwards coming through the ranks.

**Troy Prescott** - Presso was for me one of the stand outs for the year. My only complaint would be that I didn't get to use him as much as I would have liked as he was taken up too 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Presso is a senior player who the guys in the team look up to. His basic skills were tremendous all year and finishing in the D was impeccable. He was used as a utility player throughout the year playing in the fwd line, inside fwds and when needed in the back line. I hope he stays focused for this up coming season.

**Mark Ross** - Shed was slightly inconsistent throughout the year but im sure he would agree that this was due to having a lot of time out throughout the year due to work commitments and Defence force hockey commitments. Unfortunately it looks like we might lose Shed this year due to work commitments but if we could work something out I would love him to stay. When on form he could almost guarantee a clean sheet. Consistency at training is the key for him to be successful.

**Matt Small** - Matty is yet again another very talented player. I feel he came a long way this season from what I saw at the start of pre season. However, he needs to take on board what is asked of him and practice it. Too often I think he pretended he knew what was expected of him but just wasn't clear. If we can find some way of getting the message through Matty has huge potential and could turn out to be a 1<sup>st</sup> grade forward at some stage. Finishing will be his main focus for the year ahead. Yet another player I am looking forward to working closely with this year.

This concludes my report for the 2008 PL2 Season. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Imer, John Price and Allen Chu for their help this season as managers. Another thank you must go to Janet Adams who has helped out a lot with the team behind the scenes and has helped me with settling into the club structure a lot.

Moving forward for the 2009 season I am extremely excited as I now have a good understanding with what I am working with. The pre season conditioning will be much more structured and intense. The pre season skills will be much more team focused. We will build on the team culture that is already established within the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade team.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S THIRD GRADE (DIV 1.1)**

**Coach: James "Jimmy" Fordham**

**Manager: Stephen "Chief" Graham**

3<sup>rd</sup> grade men's is always a challenge in that the players are always experienced and strong and renowned for late season performance. It seems 2008 followed a similar pattern to 2007 in that we started a little slow and started posting wins mid season and finished strong to end up in 4<sup>th</sup> spot (same as 2007).

Sadly the season came to an end when the unstoppable drag flicker of Manly finished us off in the Semi finals in some very dreary playing conditions.

This year we introduced some new younger players in the form of Jamie Gallagher, Jake Imer, Corey Allsop and of course Luke Hough, Scott Duffy (new to club) and Justin Burns (new to club) completed the 40% youth and 60% experience combination which makes 3s such a success. The older heads of Captain Frosty, Reyno, Bulldog, Dunny, ACE and Nelson provided the core stability to the team throughout the year and welcome new goalie to the club this year Noons was rock solid in goals and will certainly be an asset to the club for years to come. Andrew the K MAN Killa also joined our ranks and provided us with someone who could move between half and back to give us strength and was instrumental in our 2<sup>nd</sup> half surge to the semi finals this year.

I have worked with the young players - Jamie, Jake, Corey and Tailor and Nic (4s) for 2 years now and it is rewarding to watch these players grow into mature and capable team players. It was a pleasure to work with these boys (as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> grade squad) and even though we had a fairly large number of players in and out all year due to various commitments, the boys played some great hockey and kept the Briars integrity in check. A consistent team would be my advice for a 2009 premiership for 3s.

I would like to thank Lachie Boa for sharing the load with me this year between 3s and 4s and Stephen Graham for helping out with the team sheets and players player voting each week.

**John “Noons” Noonan** - The keeper of the goal mouth. Dependable and very capable. A welcome asset to the club. Needs to work on throwing the “players’ player” drink back quicker. Team benchmark is around 3 seconds. Noons came close to players player this year.

**Michael “Capt Frosty” Frost** - Fullback extraordinaire. Captain Frost is the person every team needs - someone who leads from the back, when speaks the team listens and a passionate player capable of big things. Rumour has it, he will be back next year but refuses to play FB.. 25 years at the back apparently is enough.

**Nelson “Nels” Parlett** - Full back. A quietly spoken man who when called on pulls out the big tackles and plays. Another new and welcome addition to the club.

**Ian “Reyno” Reynolds** - All round nice guy who commands the centre of the field. Reyno is a born centre half who has many more years of great hockey ahead. The man who wants to be dropped but is always held in higher grade. I guess the club values his abilities more than he does.

**Glenn “Bulldog” Bullock** - Now here’s a man who wears his passion on his sleeve. Big games is what this guy was made for. Dog was one of our more experienced players this year who played wing half and full back and only contributed one slab of beer this year - a big improvement on ’07 and I expect bigger and better things from him in 09.

**Jamie “needs a nick name” Gallagher** - the young quiet achiever. Funniest run I have ever seen (airplane). Jamie is one to watch in the years to come. Clearly a premier player in the making. Great solid consistent wing half who is not afraid to mix it up with the older competitors. He grew some hairs on his chest (in a playing sense) this year and once he becomes more vocal - the sky is the limit for him.

**Andrew “the K man - KILLA” Kilazoglou** - Wing half - another experienced (albeit younger) player on the team who provided skill and determination all season. With a little more fitness Killa is capable of bigger and better hockey - was great to have him in the team this year. A team player who will do what ever is asked of him for the betterment of the team.

**Adrians “ACE” Collins** - Inner. Here is perhaps the fittest guy in the club who gets peed off if his hear rate monitor doesn’t explode over 200 at either training or game day. The work horse of the team. Also a big improvement in his game this year.

**Greg “Dunny” Dunn** - another man who wears his passion on his sleeve. Dunny was my “go to man” when the sides intensity was low and he would pull the teams spirits up as he ripped into the opposition. Dunny will always be a major asset to any team he plays with in the years to come.

**Luke Hough** - Luke is contender for clubs highest goal scorer this year and has played a sensational year as striker. Getting many starts in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade this year, it is clear he will be one of the players to watch in years to come. Luke provides an exciting game of hockey to watch and most of his goals came from positions where 90% of strikers would miss.

**Corey “Corr” Allsop** - Corey is one of the faster players in the club with those freakish Allsop genes. He moved from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this year and was easily one of the more improved players in the team. 2 more years and who knows where he will be?

**Jake Imer** - one of the young brigade. Jake started this year tentatively and then came home strong proving he will be a future premier player. Another big improver this year and proved in the last 4 games (and was rewarded with points) he is here to stay.

**Scott Duffy and Justin Burns** - These two came into the club into the season and both come from military backgrounds. Both players proved very strong and fit - perfect inners for this level of hockey. Whilst they missed the majority of the season, I hope to see them around in years to come.

Thanks also to Nigel Francisco, Stephen "Chief" Graham, Sarbit "Jeet" Singh, Taylor Di Val and Matt Floyd for helping 3s when needed throughout the 2008 season.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S FOURTH GRADE (DIV 1.2)**

**Coach: Lachlan Boa**

**Manager: Stephen "Chief" Graham**

At the start of this season it was difficult to see how the year would pan out for 4<sup>th</sup> grade and where we would be on the ladder at the end of it. I knew we had a strong playing group but to make the top four and actually contesting the minor premiership with two rounds to go was incredible given where we finished last year. The effort this year has certainly put this side in good stead for next year if it can be largely left intact in terms of players.

This year we had a very good mix of experience and youth. This showed in the results and where we finished the year. It was good to see the older guys passing on advice to the younger guys who were eager to listen and learn. With this it enabled us to become a very close knit team where all the players were willing to play for each other. Having a team that was committed to each other allowed us to win games that we could quite easily have drawn or lost.

We were able to control most of our games this year. However, there were a few games where we became frustrated and not able to play to the full extent of our abilities. This frustration was due to a number of things be it umpiring, opposition players or just not being patient enough. These are things we need to learn to deal with. This resulted in a few games we should have won rather than lost. Which in the end could have been the difference between finishing 4<sup>th</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup>. Overall though I was very happy with the attitude of the team towards the game and each other.

Training is an area where we can improve. Attendance most nights were good. Though only getting one night a week to train means that we need to make the most of the time we have available to us. Our fitness was probably the biggest issue for us this year. This is an area where the players need to take responsibility for this and can be done outside of training. From where we were at the start of the year I feel everyone's game improved. Not only in basic skills but also being able to read the game and know where they had to be on the field etc.

I was impressed with the younger guys that we had play all year or help out when we were short. The willingness to listen and do what was asked of them is a credit to them. If we can hold onto these younger guys in the next few years the club should be in a very good position in terms of bringing players through from our junior ranks.

I would like to thank a few people for their efforts this year.

**James Fordham** - Thanks mate for your help in running the bench and training etc. It was much appreciated and also an asset to the team.

**Richard Nutt** - Thanks for your captaincy and help in running the team.

**Chiefy** - Thanks for your help with the off field side of things and also for turning up when you were injured and not playing.

Finally thanks to AJ and Wal for their tireless work and effort in keeping the canteen and ground going. Cheers Guys.

## HOCKEY MEN'S FIFTH GRADE (DIV 2.1)

**Coach: Troy Prescott**

**Manager: Ian Brown**

This was not a successful year for game results, however there was much success in terms of development and player growth. The team consisted of older experienced players mixed with younger players experiencing their first year playing in seniors. This mix of experience worked well as the more experienced players were able to mentor the new and upcoming players providing advice and guidance on and off the field. As the season went on there was a constant and gradual improvement, particularly with positional play, strength, game structure and player maturity. Even though this was Briars 5<sup>th</sup> grade team, the opposition was often the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade side for that club. The team, week on week held their own against these stronger sides with noticeable improvement as the season continued.

**Marcus Fung-** Throughout the season Marcus was very strong and could always be relied upon to make the difficult saves. Despite a few seasons off, Marcus still has great a skill level. Congratulations to Marcus and his wife on the birth of his son during the season, hopefully he will play on next year regardless of his new commitments.

**Robert Wood (captain)-** Woody was a mentor for the younger players, being chosen as captain early on by the team. He was a solid defender all season and used his captaincy to lead and direct the team.

**Daniel Strout:** As a right half, Daniel, could not be faulted in his positional play, strength and commitment. He always listened and acted upon feedback. He was one of the most consistent players all year.

**Joshua Finnegan** - Josh joined the team part way through the year, as one of the up and coming junior Briars. Josh improved significantly throughout the season; this improvement is a result of his incredible enthusiasm each week.

**Ben Tudman** - Ben made the switch from juniors to seniors effortlessly. His speed and skill shows him to be a dangerous attacker and a strong defender. He links in well with the forwards. Ben always put his heart and soul into the game, never giving in.

**Brett Manning** - Brett played briefly in the team, his presence lifted the team knowing they had someone with Brett's skills and expertise behind them. It was a big loss when he left the team part way through the season.

**Chris Schmitt** - Chris played well in many positions this year while being used as a utility player. Chris performed well inside the circle. With an improved fitness level, Chris will excel.

**Elison Furneaux-Bate** - Playing inside forward, Elison was quick and skilful in attack. He was able to get on top of his opposing player in most instances. With more vision and positional play, Elison is well on the way to becoming a top grade player.

**Gary O'Sullivan** - Gary started the season coming off a surfing injury, unfortunately his fitness level did not fully recover. Being one of the eldest players in the team, he assisted players with positional play and finishing skills. Played with lots of passion and lead well in the top three.

**Glen Cassim** - Due to work commitments, Glen unfortunately was only able to play a limited number of games during the season. Regardless, Glen always gave 110%. If Glen was able to commit more time to the season, I have no doubt he would be playing a higher grade.

**Patrick Ryan** - When Pat put in the effort, he was an unstoppable striker. He has everything to be a top grade player, provided he continues to increase his drive and determination.

**Richard Sahadjak** - A great leader and positional player. He is very much a confidence player. If he plays with confidence, he is unstoppable. Also the enforcer of the team, he was always the first to stand up for the younger guys.

**Steve Strain** - A very fit and quick player, the team could always rely on him to do all the running. He season was mired by injury.

**Zac McCowage** - Zac is an up and coming star. He showed a vast improvement this year with his skills and strength. He will achieve at a high level in his hockey career.

Murray Green, Alan O'Connell, Adam Schasser and Andrew Maxwell were also part of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team this year. They all fitted into the team and placed their mark on the game. All solid defenders and always achieved expectations. Steve Begnell and Phil Card unfortunately had season ending injuries this year.

Overall the season was successful in terms of player development, I hope I was able to teach the younger players something and I hope they enjoyed the season as much as I did. All the young players should advance in their hockey next year, they have all proven they are the future of this club. A special thanks to Ian Brown and Mike Denniss for their hard work off the field doing all the unseen administrative tasks all season. Also thank you to Nate Ball for his assistance coaching throughout the year.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S SIXTH GRADE (DIV 2.2)**

**Coach: Nathan Ball      Manager: Mike Denniss**

At the start of the year, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade had no coach and at the last minute Nate Ball was asked and decided he would help out. At the start of the year the team was asked what they wanted to achieve and what they expected from the year. The answer was not come last and to learn something. With this in mind Nate changed his normal coaching style and came to a happy medium - of teaching with out too much yelling and too many shuttles.

With Preso as the 5<sup>th</sup> grade coach we worked together throughout the year to improve the basic skill level and understanding of the game. As for the games it was a frustrating year sometimes with the team stepping up to the stronger teams in the grade that possible shouldn't be playing at this level. With results very close, only losing by 1 or 2 goals to the top teams, to struggling against weaker teams. Then all of a sudden the boys would bring out a massive win against teams we expected to have a hard game. And this was the way of the whole season. With a couple of draws going our way the end might have been a whole lot different. The team ended the season in 7<sup>th</sup> position, but only 9 points behind the minor Premiers St George. The guys very nearly made the semi final. For the year the guys mentioned that they enjoyed the year and achieved their goals. With injury cutting through the team in the latter part of the season the team benefited from a few late entries who where a great help.

Thank you to the boys who showed every week and put in the effort at training. This included the several 5<sup>th</sup> grade guys who came down to help each week. Thanks to the guys with families who would always be late but would always show just in time to make the game. A special thanks to Mike who as well as playing as much as he can, managed the team and me!! It was an enjoyable year personally for me and due to Mike and the boys, rekindled my passion for coaching and being involved with the development of the game within the Briars Club. I look forward to the 2009 Season.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S SEVENTH GRADE (DIV 4.1)**

**Manager: Simon Bergfield**

<b>Played</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Drawn</b>	<b>Goals For</b>	<b>Goals Against</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup>/10</b>

This season was a little disappointing in that we lost games that we should have won. Dropping points like this resulted in the team finishing 7<sup>th</sup> but only just out of contention for the semis. The main reason for this was varying player numbers and not necessarily having the same players on the field each week.

**Paul Collier** - Joined the team and the club this season. Paul is a very good goal keeper.

**David Paul** - A good fullback from the old school - goes in hard for the ball

**Geoff Atkins** - A 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.

**Viv Paul** - Young and fast with good ball skills.

**Clay Scanlon** - A speedy right-wing who has continued to improve through season.

**Simon Bergfield** - - Chief organizer and utility player who played most positions on the field.

**Harj Sandhu** - Due to other commitments only managed a couple of games.

Thanks also to the other guys who played and umpired throughout the season; a number of players from the 6ths and the 8ths.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S EIGHTH GRADE (DIV 4.2)**

**Manager - Simon Bergfield**

<b>Played</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Drawn</b>	<b>Goals For</b>	<b>Goals Against</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> /10</b>

The mighty 8ths displayed a vast improvement from last season and made it to the semis. The team consisted of players with a board range of experience from first-timers through to veterans but the mix worked well. Improvement in a couple of areas may well see the team go further next season.

**Joel Osmond** - A very good keeper who could play a number of grades higher.

**Chris Baldwin** - A 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 last season and has developed further in that role through this season.

**Keith Lemon** - Had not played since high school but got up to speed fairly quickly. Keith developed into a very mobile right half.

**Martin Campbell** - Had not played before but improved throughout the season to the extent that he was player's player in the semi-final.

**Alan Jones** - Crafty left wing who loves the game and loves to score goals.

**David Jones** - Back on the field and showed flashes of brilliance at inner or wing.

**Nick Duignan** - A young right-inner who can run all day and score some great goals.

**Adam Palmer** - A young son to chase around and low cal beer have rejuvenated Adam and he re-discovered his goal scoring form

**Daryl Baihn** - Unorthodox but effective inside forward.

**Carlos Pangilinan** - Played mostly in the half line and was consistently solid.

**Shane Murray** - Another first-time player who improved his skills through the season, scored a couple of goals and was always positive.

Thanks also to the various 7<sup>th</sup> graders who played throughout the season.

## **HOCKEY MEN'S UNDER 17B**

**Coach: Sam Everist and Ben Hurford      Manager: Caryn Maxwell**

**Gilbert Gough-Fuller** - As the goalkeeper Gilbert was an important part of our defensive unit that had the least goals scored against in the competition. Gilbert was unfortunate not to be playing seniors this year so it was important to develop his skills to allow him the opportunity next season. He has a good understanding

of the game and he is a wonderful save on his stick side, but had a tendency to use his stick too often. This was addressed and by season end he showed that his feet are just as reliable as his stick!

**Andrew Maxwell** - Andrew was our most reliable defender who had a great consistent year. Andrew is a strong tackler, reads the play well, has excellent passing skills and is a good organiser in general play. One of our top players this year and was a pleasure to coach.

**Aaron Russell** - one of our most improved players this year. Aaron's defensive work really came together as he developed into a good mobile defender. Aaron has a lovely strong pass that at times goes a little wayward but the consistency of his game is developing.

**Josh Finnegan** - Josh was probably frustrated by his role as an outside half but his defensive pressure and his ability to create an overlap in attack made him a valuable asset to the team and the structure we wanted to play.

**Ben Tudman** - Ben plays a workman like centre half role that is uncomplicated but very effective, and allowed our strong ball runners to feed off him through the inside forward channels. Having found Ben playing seniors and not U17s at the start of the year forced us to bully him into playing, which was rewarding for both parties in the end and very much appreciated by us.

**Josh Jung** - Josh was another player frustrated by his position as an outside half but his brilliant tackling had him earmarked as our left half. His kamikaze runs on defensive short corners were one of the highlights throughout the year. Josh needs to work on his positional play and releasing the ball earlier for him to slot into an inside forward position on a more regular basis.

**Harish Vellemalai** - Harish was another of our developing players this year. He worked really hard on his positional play and developing strength with and without the ball. Harish is a good listener and follows direction well and played a safe role as a left half.

**Taylor Di Val** - Taylor was our most dominating player and apart from a rocky start to the year, led from the front and worked hard at both ends of the ground. Taylor has excellent skills and an excellent understanding of the game. He is one to watch in the future as he moves on to bigger and better things.

**Jake Imer** - Jake will be a little disappointed at his form at U17s level, but it was a year in which he made inroads with understanding more about himself and that will allow his hockey to benefit in the future. Jake was always contributing as a team leader, and that is a role that will be far more important in the coming years.

**Ben Laurence-Chenu** - Ben was our most improved player this year and really typified the player development that we were seeking. Ben was versatile in his positions and became a valuable utility player. Ben takes direction well, his positional play is excellent and doesn't mind a little argy bargy even if he does seem relaxed and unphased. I hope this year has inspired Ben to continue next year as he enters the senior ranks.

**Zac McCowage** - Zac is our long-term project as he played out of his age division this year, so he has another 2 years at the U17 level. Zac has plenty of potential that really was displayed in the grand final. He has some great skills and a good shot on goal. Consistency and plotting a game structure are a couple of things that we are going to work on next year.

**Jonathan O'Connor** - Jono is an explosive striker who has the ability to turn defenders inside out with ease. With some extra fitness and some real focus on skills work at training Jono will go from a burst player into a really devastating strike forward.

**Hugo Drummond** - Hugo was another of our best and consistent players all year. He led the charge down our right side and linked beautifully with the players around him. Hugo has excellent skills but is not afraid to tough it out if the physicality is required.



# HOCKEY MEN'S UNDER 17C

**Coach: Derryn Allsop and Lewis Mike**

This year was about improvement, and the team - according to their final opponents of the year Norwest Strikers 3 - "were 5 times better than the first round game". They couldn't have put it any sweeter because their improvement was something to be proud of. Nearly defeating the grand final winners Briars U17B, losing 3-1 was by far a great achievement for the boys. Congratulations on a great season boys and a great future ahead of you! We were really proud of how these boys turned up to the game to not just have fun but to work on their skills each and every week. Some of the skills I will mention below.

**Alex Berlage** - learnt to be a pretty good trusty goalkeeper, but also useful on the field. Moment of glory - catching the ball with his two gloves and throwing over the backline, what a ripper!

**David Kilford** - his hit was becoming a solid way of defence getting the ball out of the back 25. Moment of glory as captain, nearly leading the team to a win in the semi final.

**Matthew Vano** - first season of hockey and it took a bit for the man to find his strides. But when he did he was a reliable hitter of the ball and his tackling was strong. Moment of glory - the last game of the year was the first game all season that the ball did not hit his foot, the tears in coach Daz's eyes melted my heart as he embraced the calm and collected fullback after the game.

**David Cameron** - a pretty trusty all rounder, able to play up front or in the half line. Once this young man was switched on, his tackling ability could possibly have been the best on the field.

**Michael Cameron** - like his brother he was pretty versatile, but I preferred him up front as his passing ability caused quite a few scares to the enemies defending line.

**Simon Greewood** - using his ice hockey skills in the game, he became one of the most exciting players on the team. Moment of glory - his runs up the middle of the field tapping the ball away from his opponents was a crowd favourite.

**Jack Kelleher** - The Gallipoli boy of the team, his constant running and pressure in the middle of the field was great to watch, his jab tackle was like watching a medieval warrior stabbing at the heels of a running heathen. Moment of glory - being the ladies man of the U17C's, the amount of women asking Jack to sign photos and articles in the newspaper was outstanding.

**Paul Biondi** - Paul is a trusty and reliable player, quick in attack but strong in defence. He was one of the decision makers out there on the field. Moment of glory - With one fullback down in the semi final Paul stepped up and played back. The coaching staff thought that the game he played was truly the best game he played on the field all season. He is one player to look out for in future and I hope to play alongside him in the back in years to come.

**Hugh McGlone** - Hugh's skills and abilities advanced throughout the season and the reason why? Not the coaching staff that's for sure, but this young mans dedication and ability for his new loved sport. Moment of Glory - "scoring a goal" in one game and looking around at his team mates wondering what happened. Did he or did he not touch it? This is to be a question that will live long in the history of Briars hockey club.

**Luke Dassaklis** - A loud player on and off the field, Luke was a very strong player for his size and he was quite successful in winning those 50/50 balls. He loved to get up close and personal to his opponents. Moment of glory - no one in the team loved to push his opponents in the back more than Luke, yes he had the skill to beat them but he liked to let them know he was coming to tackle them anyway.

**Dave Hristofrides** - an under 15 boy that is true, but he has the heart the size of a second grade fullback. A very skilful player and although playing against larger players than him, he ran around them multiple times and he was excellent in attack and defence. This is one player Briars will need to hold onto for the future.

**Keifer** - Our new goalie for the last few games of the year (sorry if I misspelt your name mate). I wasn't sure at first that this new guy would be effective in the team but as soon as he hit the goals he was an animal, charging the attackers on 1 on 1's and destroying any possibilities of any sly goal.

**Other Mentions:**

- **Matt Hollings** - great player, unlucky over injury. Hope to see him next season.
  - **Jacob Bararon** - known as "The German". Pretty handy as a half.
  - **Lachlan Foster** - another under 15, good player and scored a ripper goal.
- Also, another thank you for the little under 15 goalie that assisted in one game too!

## HOCKEY MEN'S VETS

**Coach and Manager: Adam Schasser**

With the season over I can now reflect over what was. Even though the last game was disappointing for all, the season as a whole was very exciting and hopeful for things to come. We started off in the pre-season comp progressing to the final, after a monumental game that saw normal game time, extra time, sudden death and a 12 round penalty shoot out, we narrowly went down 6-5. A great effort by all and fantastic goal keeping by Ozzie.

The Vets comp this year was split into two pools of 8 teams. After playing each team the top 4 teams from both pools joined to make up "B" division, the lower 4 to "C" division. Briars finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> spot in our pool. And after another 7 games we finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Winning the semi, but losing the final ended the season for us. But finishing in 11<sup>th</sup> position in 2007, what we achieved this year was beyond my and the teams goals and expectations. So I must congratulate all those who played in the team this year and I have enjoyed not only playing in this team but also having those many team talks after the games with each and everyone.

**The Team:** Geoff Atkins, Simon Bergfield, Sean Bermingham, Ian Brown, Nick Carter, Peter Cremen, Michael Denniss, Brent Diprose, Joseph Ferrer, Michael Imer, Allan Jones, John Montgomery, David Osmond, David Paul, Grant Robertshaw, Clay Scanlon, Adam Schasser, David Slater.

Wins 8, Draws 4, Loses 4, Goals for 38, Goals against 26.  
Sydney Reps Allan Jones over 60's, Adam Schasser over 40's

Thank you all and I will see you in the pre-season.

## HOCKEY JUNIORS UNDER 11AS

**Coach: Adam Schasser**

A great effort from all the kids this season. Although the end of the season resulted in only 4 wins and 2 draws, the kids gave 100% and were consistently competitive resulting in many close games. As the season progressed, so did their skills and a great improvement in teamwork was noticed. Many thanks to Matthew Lihou who was always keen to 'don' the goal keeping pads, and did a fantastic job throughout the season!

Congratulations to our Sydney Reps, Christopher Schasser, Tom Vastani and Jeriah Puckeridge. And many thanks to the rest of the team for their great effort: Bridget Hetherington, Caitlin Birmingham, Pearson Bulmer, Gurkupal Singh, Piers Lourey, Alex Ring, Luke Gallagher, Lucas Bickerton, Harrison Cremen, James Marshall.

**Trophy winners:** Best and Fairest - Christopher Schasser, Most Consistent - Tom Vastani, Most Improved - Matthew Lihou

It has been an honour to coach and watch the kids' progress and improve over the years, (many since minkeys). I wish them well as they progress to under 13's next year, and look forward to watching their development and achievements for many years to come.

**Adam Schasser - Coach**

## HOCKEY JUNIORS UNDER 11BS

**Coaches: Clay Scanlon and Joe Ferrer**

The year started out with the possibility of only fielding one under 11's due to a lack of numbers. We were fortunate enough to join with Baulkham Hills who were in the same position as ourselves which meant a bunch of mainly young and new players got to play hockey, which is what it is all about. Our kids found the going a bit tough in the early games while still getting to know their new Baulkham Hills team mates, but it didn't take long to realise that with a bit of practice we had some great young and talented players that just love to play hockey.

Two of our most consistent players were our fullbacks Liam Birmingham and Jarrod Scanlon who kept us in all our games and only narrowly losing most our games against much older players.

As the year went on our mid field in Hannah Schasser and Olivia Ferrer started showing some great skills and control in the middle of the field. Jessie Lee-Taylor and Bridget Harrington developed their hockey and improved their skills which I am sure they will carry into next year. Jessie's younger brother Jye helped out in goals for the latter part of the season and looked like a natural, stopping some great shots at goal.

We finally won our first game (which was against the team who finished 2<sup>nd</sup>) which also happened to be the last game of the year - I guess leaving us on a winning note and all our kids keen to back up next year.

I would like to thank all the parents for getting their kids to the games considering half of our home games were played at Baulkham Hills. Finally I would like to say it was a pleasure seeing these young kids improve and hope to see them all next year. Lastly, a special thanks to Piers Lourey and Lucas Bickerton from the U11As who helped out when needed.

**Clay Scanlon - Coach**

## HOCKEY JUNIORS UNDER 13S

**Coach: Grant Wakefield**

**Manager: Karen Scanlon**

All 17 members of the U13 squad contributed to the success of the 2008 season. The way the team played the final game of the season (the Grand Final) said a lot about the team as a whole and also about the individual skills and determination that the players developed during the season.

The grand final game was played in cold and wet conditions at Pennant Hills and with a 0:0 full time score, the team had to dig deep to get back on the field with the vigour and focus required to play to a game plan and secure a win. A goal to Robbie Staker in the second period of extra time secured a win but as always it takes an entire team to contribute to their best to win the tight games and the whole team played strong hockey for the full 90 minutes and were elated, along with a rowdy group of parents and supporters.

**Farbar Siddiq** - Farbar took over goal keeping duties part way through the season and turned out to be a special find for the team. His goal keeping played a decisive part in the success of the season and should he choose, he has a promising goal keeping career ahead of him. Farbar also won the Briars Hockey goalkeeper of the year award at the junior's presentations.

**Matthew Loury** - Matthew is a dependable and skilled right half and enabled us to have some "go forward" from the halves and to also sure up the defence when needed. Matthew was selected in the Sydney U13 representative squad and also received the U13 best and fairest.

**Sabrina Williams** - From being relatively new to hockey in 2008, Sabrina showed some great skills and understanding development and was awarded the most improved player award for the season.

**Amelia White** - Amelia played in a few different positions early in the season but settled into centre half mid way through the season and made an important contribution to the success of the team. Amelia's combination of determination and unselfish ball distribution skills were especially valuable at the sharp end of the season when the team had to fight harder for the wins we achieved.

**Jeanette Muir** - Jeanette is also one of the U13 players that was new to hockey in 2008 and she developed some good skills as the season progressed, especially an ability to sniff out wing forward goal scoring opportunities near the goal mouth.

**Tori Scanlon** - Tori's strength on the ball and skills made her a valuable all rounder in the team but especially as a key inside forward, she is one of the players that a team can be built around. Although occasionally frustrated at not scoring goals, she was a contributor to many scored by others. Tori was selected in the Sydney girls U13 representative squad.

**Reuben Wakefield** - All good teams start with a tight defence and Reuben was one of the rocks in our defence and during the season he also developed his ability to punch forward into the attack on occasions to give us more options going forward. As one of the penalty corner options, he also scored from some sweetly hit shots at goal.

**Caitlin Bickerton** - One of the more experienced team members, Caitlin worked very hard on the field and willingly fulfilled whatever role she was called on to do. Her abilities at inside forward on either side of the field improved greatly during the season. Caitlin was selected in the Sydney U13 girl's squad.

**Sarah Bermingham** - Sarah's hockey continued to improve through the year and in several games her defence at left half frustrated the opposition and contributed to some good results from the team. On several occasions during the year she played a key role on the field despite tiredness setting in.

**Lewis Gersbasch** - Lewis' speed enjoyment of playing hockey was always visible and combined with his speed and always improving skills made him a valuable and versatile midfield player. Lewis was also selected in the Sydney U13 boy's squad.

**Michael Lihou** - Some players are natural strikers and Michael is one of these. Michael scored 20 goals in the season and in terms of scoring goals no player in the team came close to Michael (the next highest scored 5 goals). If Michael continues to improve his all-round skills he will grow into a strong centre forward.

**Robbie Staker** - Robbie developed a passion for left wing and when placed elsewhere on the field always had a longing look in his eye and he never missed a chance to move back to his favoured position. Robbie was second highest goal scorer and scored the winning goal in the grand final.

**Lily Turpin** - Lily is a fast and committed player and if she continues to improve her hockey skills at the rate of 2008 she will develop into a very valuable player. Lily played most of here season on the wing and especially on the right made a good contribution to the team.

**Daniel Graham** - Daniel was voted Players-Player by his team mates and this honour was well deserved. Daniel fulfilled an important role as left half and as fullback during the season but his overall contribution to team spirit was also important and recognised by his team mates and the coach.

**Kate Haldane** - Kate's hockey skills continued to improve during the season and her versatility especially, made her an important part of the team. She played in defence, the halves and in the forwards - wherever she was needed and she did this with commitment and determination.

**Conor Quigley** - Conor scored one goal during the season and came perilously close to scoring several more. With his enjoyment of hockey and determination, if he continues to play he will develop into a dangerous attacking player.

**Annie Graham** - Annie was also new to hockey in 2008 and she continually improved during the season. A highlight of the season for Annie was scoring 2 goals in round 11 - midway through the season. Both coming as a result of the development of her understanding of wing positional play.

**Grant Wakefield - Coach**

## HOCKEY JUNIORS UNDER 15CS

**Coach: Dane McIlveen**

2007 was more about having fun than getting wins on the board for the U15C team. Although, when they were on the field they certainly showed desperation in getting the ball into the goal. The U15C's need to be commended on their team spirit and sportsmanship. They were always having fun and enjoying each others company. On the field they would always play the whistle and the umpires never had complaints about how the team acted.

The U15C's struggled to field the same team every weekend. I used 24 players through the season which made things very difficult. But some of the group, led by Millie Cheetham (most consistent), made the effort to be at the games every week.

In defence, the team struggled to get back in numbers which led to some very high score lines, although Rosie O'Dea, Allison Bermingham, Paul Jago and Sarah Thomas-Brown always made huge efforts.

Morgan Durance did the majority of goal keeping for the U15C's and learnt lots throughout the season. Yianni Spathis and Zoe Streeter were two of the teams best, both sharing the role at centre half. They usually both controlled the game well and featured in both attack and defence. Shareeka Helaluddin and Adelaide Wainwright also consistently turned up to training and the games and both were willing to listen and learn. They both improved dramatically this year.

Lachlan Foster (best and fairest) was our star striker, scoring the majority of the teams goals. He was always prominent in front of goal and can go a long way if he listens and learns. To back him up was U13 player Michael Lihou, who also helped out a fair bit through the season and scored some good goals.

Michelle Yu (most improved) was a quite girl but listened to everything I had to say. She improved so much this year and I hope she will continue playing hockey with Briars in the future as she also can go a long way.

All up it was a fun season by all; the most enjoyable moment had by all was by far when we won our only game. Congratulations to everyone and good luck in the future.

**Dane McIlveen - Coach**

## HOCKEY WOMEN'S FIRST GRADE - ML1

**Coach: Ian McGregor    Manager: Gill Burns**

2008 has been an incredible season to say the least for the 1<sup>st</sup> grade girls. With the majority of the side staying together from the previous season, the team united quite quickly, and despite missing some key players from 2007, were able to put some good wins together early in the season. However, this season, has been a season of significant disruption for the team, on regular occasions losing 4 or 5 players a match due to injury, sickness, or due to representative and travel commitments. This resulted in a number of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade girls being required to step up and play 1<sup>st</sup> grade on a regular occasion, which they did well.

ML1 was a close competition this year shown by the fact that with 3 weeks to go, 6 clubs including Briars had a chance of making the semi-finals with 4<sup>th</sup> place to 6<sup>th</sup> remaining tight. However, amidst the injuries, lack of attendance at training and ill disciplined behaviour, it all played a big part in the girls ultimately finishing 6<sup>th</sup> overall. The girls showed signs of brilliance at stages during the season, dominating top 4 sides during periods of their games. This provided insight into how well the girls could play, and that with such form, anything was possible. I eagerly look forward to seeing the girls both individually and as a team do some amazing things in 2009.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade Players**

**Kasey Cocking (Captain - CH)** An outstanding Captain and player, a natural leader on the field which made it quite easy to coach. She was very attentive to what was expected of her, however unfortunately injury half way through the year prevented her from finishing the season. I look forward to seeing Kasey cement a regular position in the NSW AHL side for 2009.

**Jess Esslemont (Captain - LI)** - Concluding the year as team Captain in Kasey's absence - a good attacking player who played well at Inside forward. She developed skill in changing direction at pace, and put important goals away during close games. Her ability to read the play and link in with those around her highlighted her natural hockey gift and what she is capable of.

**Alysha Borg (VC - FB)** - An exceptional young player who has the right attitude to go along way in both AHL and perhaps further. Her keenness to learn, her commitment to training and her ability to read the game has contributed to her being so successful this season, winning the teams player's player award..

**Ebony Barber (Striker)** - Her elimination skills and her ability to get a quick shot at goal has been invaluable to the side. Her work ethic, hockey development and fitness has been greater than last season, and I look forward to seeing her continued development in the NSW AHL side in future years.

**Ashley Cocking (CH and RI)** - Her ability to distribute high quality passes and also eliminate players in tight spaces has been very valuable this season. Ashlee was also responsible for setting many of the goals up this year, and if she can remain injury free in 2009 will also be a strong contender for NSW.

**Shelby Cocking (Striker)** - Being one of the youngest girls in the side, she started the season well being an important part of our attack. However, as the season progressed, unfortunately her injuries got the best of her and she was unable to play to the level she is clearly capable of. With a break over the summer, I anticipate Shelby will have a successful 2009.

**Sarah Maria Denta (RH)** - Our Danish connection. A wonderfully skilful player who has been ever so reliable and a pleasure to coach! Sarah has been a crucial part of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade side. Playing right half and fullback on occasion, she linked incredibly well with both the Inside right and Centre Half and was a natural leader for the side.

**Annie Hope (LH)** - Annie has had a disrupted year with illness and work commitments. Often arriving just in time for the game, she would either have a blinder or struggle to get settled into the game - no in between for Annie. A strong left half and a naturally gifted player.

**Mel Hope (FB)** - In her final season for Briars, Mel was a significant help to the side. A tremendously strong hitter of the ball, and one who had a sound ability to read the play well. She almost didn't play at all this season with her many other commitments and she did brilliantly - thanks Mel.

**Rebecca Landers (GK)** - Still a young member of the team, Bec has had a relatively stable season in goals this year. Her ability to save the good lifted shots with her stick and gloves was at a very high quality. With continued work on her footwork and positioning, Bec has incredible potential and will have a very successful 2009.

**Stephanie Purdy (Striker)** - A player with significant skill and potential. Steph has a tremendous ability to eliminate players, and with the right attitude, and by working on her vision on and off the ball, she will develop into a brilliant player.

**Phoebe Robins (Striker)** - She has improved significantly this season. With her consistent attendance at training and her willingness to improve her technique, she has clearly achieved a better understanding of the overall game since 2007.

**Hannah Stanley (H/Striker)** - With a late call up from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at the start of the season, Hannah proved to be an extremely hard worker on the field. She worked tirelessly, whether suffering from illness, or even when concuss - she continued to battle on for the side. She showed sound character traits this season including courage and commitment that have helped her develop as a player.

And also a big thanks to the following girls from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade that also helped out a number of times during the year. As you can see we used a considerable number of players in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade side. Every one of these girls did well when needed in the top grade. They also improved throughout the year, thanks to the work done by Blake Durance and Darren Pike (2nd grade coaches).

**Julie Prolov** - Stepped up very successfully when called upon late in the season. A skilful hockey player with a seriously powerful hit to match!

**Tina Done** - A consistently strong and game smart hockey player.

**Kate Cook** - Kate is a keen player who can read the game brilliantly and is incredibly skilful.

**Gabby Weiss** - Gabby played some fantastic hockey as a half for 1<sup>st</sup> grade in the second half of the season. Her marking ability proved invaluable during the tight games.

**Jess Mesic** - A skilful young player with very good positional awareness in the circle.

**Ellyce Loudon** - A good, low and strong tackler. She often made crucial tackles in the last line of defence preventing the opposition entering our circle.

**Hayley De La Motte** - A great help to our side with incredible potential. She has excellent movement on and off the ball and created many opportunities with her leading. A player to watch in 1<sup>st</sup> grade for 2009.

**Leigh Pasfield (GK)** - Covered on numerous occasions whilst Bec was on representative duties or injured. She kept this season at a new level I have not seen her keep at before - she was brilliant! Her keenness to help and her tremendous passion in seeing other goal keepers develop their full potential is a great asset for Briars. Thank you Leigh.

## **HOCKEY WOMEN'S SECOND GRADE - ML2**

**Coaches: Blake Durance and Darren Pike**

**Managers: Mel French and Julie Prolov**

The 2008 Briars Metro League 2 team finished 6th this season, narrowly missing the semi finals. This was disappointing as the team had made themselves the goal of making the top 4 and play finals hockey for the first time. However in saying that, the girls were faced with some new challenges, being 2 new coaches, a different playing style/system and importantly the loss of some senior players.

The 2007 ML2 team proved that they had a strong camaraderie, which they continued to build, allowing them to get stuck into the technical skills early. It took a few weeks before results started going their way, but by the end of the year the team were capable of controlling the game by moving the ball at high speed, controlling possession and waiting for the best opportunities to strike. Converting chances into goals was difficult this year as we gave ourselves a lot of opportunities but failed to find the back of the net consistently. With greater patience and thoroughness, the goals will definitely come. On the defensive side of things the girls were outstanding, starting from our press up front all the way back to being out numbered on top of our circle. The ML2's talent, commitment and positive attitude plus their attendance at training made coaching this side extremely enjoyable and beneficial as all members were willing to try new and different skills.

We would like thank all the girls who filled in for us this year, with many proving they had the ability to play ML2 hockey consistently. Also a special thanks to Cindy Goodridge for getting us started with the managerial work, thanks Cindy.

Both of us are positive that 2009 will hold great things for the Briars ML2 team. With the great attitude at training, growing maturity and concentration, this team can go a long way.

**Leigh Pasfield** - started the season a little off pace, but soon found her touch and saved us a number of times, pulling off some great last ditch saves.

**Kylie Norris** - showed to be a true leader on and off the field. When the going got tough, Kylie was the first one to step up to the challenge, always driving the team forward. She also chipped in with some handy goals as hitter on PC's.

**Julie Prolov** - is a player who gives everything when she plays. Julie never let anything get over her and continually pushed the team forward. Formed an excellent partnership with Kylie as the team's fullbacks.

**Ellyce Loudon** - is a player who quietly does her job and does it very well. Ellyce's defensive prowess makes her a must in any top team.

**Gabby Weiss** - was one of the new players to join the team this year however it didn't take too long for her to fit in. Gabby's strong ball movement gave our attack plenty of possession. Became an important member of the half line.

**Tina Done** - is a workhorse who guided the girls around the park. Tina's skill and enthusiasm harassed the opposition week in, week out. As centre half, was the focus of the team in attack and defence.

**Kate Cook** - is a young up and coming player, who when turns it on can dominate a game with her skill. Kate gave us the luxury of being able to play a number of positions well. Great team member who regularly made training and games from her base in Newcastle.

**Jess Mesic** - is a young player who never got beaten twice by her opponent. Her skill and deceiving strength on the ball made her difficult to tackle. As an inner she gave the team great penetration going forward.

**Judith Smith** - was another player who gave it all when she played. No stone was unturned when Judith played, as she made sure she got hold of everything. Started as a right half before moving into the inner position with ease.

**Cath Harland** - was at the heart of our attack. Cath very rarely left anything out on the field as she continually led by example, leading the forward line exceptionally. Her positional play, experience and smarts gave a lot to the team and coaches as well.

**Hayley De La Motte** - is another young and up and coming player with a lot of skills under her belt. Hayley had a natural talent of being able to run the ball at speed and beating defenders.

**Amy Watkins** - did her job without any questions. Amy always backed up her players and was rewarded with a couple of nice goals by stealing the ball from defenders under their noses, earning the nickname "the burglar".

**Bonnie Short** - gave it all every game. Not afraid of any situation Bonnie regularly put her body on the line, closing down the defenders space.

**Mel French** - is a natural forward who always seems to be in the right place. When Mel received the ball, she was a threat to any defence. Was greatly missed by the team after finding out she was expecting a future Briar. Congrats Mellie.

**Anna McGeoch** - had to leave us halfway through the year for other commitments. But prior to leaving Anna was a key part of our attack line, with the ability to get in behind the defence and setting up our forwards. She was also a great team member with a great attitude.

## **HOCKEY WOMEN'S THIRD GRADE - ED2**

**Coach: David Ratcliffe    Manager: Janet Adams**

A new year in front of them, these girls took full advantage of it. With a mix of young and mature individual players, the challenge was to turn them into a team. With a quick trip away to the coast the girls bonded and there was no turning back. Up the coast they went one all with the Central Coast rep team and that paved the way for a season to remember. The girls went from last place in 2007 to third place in 2008 and were unlucky not to go further but that's what next year is for! These girls now share a very strong bond that is easily seen on the pitch. They worked extremely hard and not only finished 3<sup>rd</sup> but were the only team to beat the undefeated East team who eventually went on to win the premiership.

The team is going from strength to strength and 2009 looks like it will be their year.

**Janet Adams** - Solid and strong. A big thanks has to go to Janet as she was not just a good player but the manager as well who had to put up with a lot of the coaches crap! So he thanks her for that. Janet showed good leadership and supported all the girls on and off the field.

**Ruby Ainsworth** - The words 'two hands on the stick' come to mind! But besides that Ruby has shown she is not only faster than any fullback but is able to beat a goalkeeper with skill as well.

**Maddy Hall** - Another great one handed player with very quick feet. Maddy shocked opponents by leaving then in her wake as she broke through the defence to score goal after goal.

**Steph Black** - "Skip" to her friends, but "Utility Player" to her coach. Steph has proven on many occasions she is able to play anywhere on the park and make that spot her own.

**Grace Fowler** - With skill to burn Grace has the potential to strive to great heights and hopefully climb the ladder all the way to first grade in the future.



**Charlotte Allan** - Has a great amount of intensity and a will to win. Charlotte's never-die attitude has got us home on many occasions. With a little more work Charlotte is another player who could be climbing the ladder shortly.

**Alison Jones** - Back from a break from hockey and you'd think she never left. Ali's skills up front in the circle were vital to the teams success as she made a mess of other teams defences always pushing for the next goal.

**Sam Bray** - New to the club Sam fitted in from the first game and with her cool head and attention to detail on the field she was to stake a place in both the offence and the defensive lines.

**Susan Mullins** - Another new player to the club Susan had trouble finding her feet but with persistence and moments of brilliance she showed she had a lot to offer. We look forward to seeing what she has got for 2009.

**Shannon Barlow** - the rock! I've never seen such a cool and calm fullback in my life. She strikes with precision and always makes that tackle. She has the right amount of balance between aggression and skill which made her such an important part of our back line.

**Shelley George** - Shelly's first year with Briars was a memorable one. The coach had his doubts at first but they were put to rest after the first match. Shelley's aggression and skill saw many a goalkeeper feel the sting of a hockey ball and we look forward to seeing what she can do in 2009.

**Kim Moodie** - Kim's cool head under pressure and skill level enabled her to help some of the younger girls reach their potential by setting the standard of play. Kim is a dependable player who can just get the job done.

**Steph Di Val** - If anyone said being a keeper is hard try being a keeper and the youngest member of our team. Steph has earned the respect of not only the girls in the team but other teams as well. She has an amazing drive and puts everything on the line for her team although sometimes too aggressive. Steph's passion for her craft will hopefully one day see her at the top of the ladder for Briars.

**Alice Wilson** - Miss Tackle; Alice somehow never misses a one-on-one tackle, her uncanny skill makes strikers do back flips to try and get past.

To the girls of ED2, you have all made leaps and bounds in not only your skill level but in your game play as well. You have looked defeat in the face and together as a team snatched victory. I do wish you all the best for 2009, make it your year to hold that trophy and stake your piece of history. Never stop believing in what you have all built this year and take what you have learnt into next season. Together we stand, give me a "B"...

## **HOCKEY WOMEN'S FOURTH GRADE - ML5**

**Coaches: Blake Durance, Andrew Borg**

The 2007 season saw the ML4 team relegated after winning just a single game. The season started as a somewhat unknown with many returning for another season. With the addition of some new faces, things were promising. As the season progressed, the girls came to realise their true potential, playing a good style of hockey and enjoying themselves on the field. No longer was the goal to win a game it had become to win the competition.

The team had a season to be proud of, winning 8 games in a row, scoring some fantastic goals, brilliantly constructed set plays/corners and a brand of hockey that shows that these girls have even more still to offer. The group worked hard all season at training and games, meeting Macarthur in the sudden death semi final. With the lead changing several times throughout the match, the team bowed out 4-3 in golden goal extra time, not without showing a great deal of character and determination until the final whistle.

The season as a whole was a great deal of fun, not only did they perform well on the field but off the field too, with the majority of the team at most social functions, helping out as members of various committees.

**Kerry-Anne Gudmunson-** Unfortunately had an injury plagued season, but after returning, offered the team so much strength and reliability at the back and equally vital when moved into the half line.

**Alana Tagg-** A great leader of the team both on and off the field, our rudder in the middle that rarely didn't dominate the opposition. Led the team as captain and dictated the tempo of the game when needed, providing composure and structure to the midfield.

**Rachel Stephenson-** One of the most committed players in the competition, constantly diving for balls that were seemingly going over the line, Rachel's work rate and contribution was immense all season. Her pace and versatility were a great asset to the side.

**Anna French-** An extremely unorthodox striker who scored some of the best goals seen in women's hockey. Anna was a focal point in attack for the season ending up on the top scorers list for the division, with 11 goals. Nice work, scoring goals can be fun!

**Helen Sahadjak-** Helen's speed, skill and ability to beat players almost carefree made her so dangerous to the opposition. Helen is a talent who is destined to play top grade hockey for Briars in the future. Also gained exposure in Briars ML2 side.

**Josie Nicol-** Permanent holder of the I.T.S Award all season long, Josie proved to be extremely versatile and handy goal scorer. A 'Utility' player that with self confidence will realise her true ability and potential. Great team member who inspires others with her attitude at training and games.

**Courtney Owens-** Another one of our young guns that is a truly natural athlete. Courtney is another player that with confidence and presence will reach her true ability. Scored 2 unbelievable goals in the semi final and showed us that she has a big future in the top grades. Fantastic speed, part of a young front line who contributed many goals.

**Penny Walker-** Showed signs of brilliance in our goal, making some massive saves in particular in the semi final. Unfortunately couldn't commit to training but showed with extra work she has the natural ability to succeed in goals for the Briars.

**Briony Tyree-** Super Mum! An inspirational player who offered the team so much through her direction, fitness and versatility. Had a great debut for the Briars and showed that she has fantastic leadership skills, driving the team with other senior players.

**Jo Wells-** Unfortunately her season was cut short with an overseas trip but Jo was an extremely valuable player. Her speed offered us the ability to counter attack from defence and put teams on their heels.

**Sarah Sullivan-** One of Sarah's best seasons. Played solidly at fullback and read the game well. Always providing encouragement to the team.

**Kate Sullivan-** Our Miss Reliable, played almost every minute of every game never letting her team mates down. Great tackler and extremely strong at the break down.

**Nicola Firth-** "Ms Shoulder", the rock at the back, Nicola had her best season yet! Commanded respect all season with her defensive group and never gave strikers an inch. With the ability to hit through the attacking line she will improve immensely. Uncanny ability to get away with murder in the circle and make it look like an accident.

**Chu Wai Liew-** Utility player who could play anywhere across midfield and forward line, tenacious tackler who rarely let her opposite number beat her. Chu Wai was great at building attack from defence. "Chu hands on the stick" will help improve her game

**Chu Yook Liew-** Like her twin sister, Chu Yook demonstrated an ability to slot into any position on the team. A real workhorse whose constant effort inspired the team and linked play very well. "Chu hands on the stick" for 2009.

**Nicola Buckingham-** Another new player to the Briars in 08. Demonstrated great ability in the inner channel with a great backstick tackle and shot. Unfortunately her season ended abruptly, departing overseas.

## HOCKEY WOMEN'S FIFTH GRADE - ED3

**Coach: Chris Coombes**

**Managers: Georgie Nicol and Jo Bradshaw**

This year frustratingly ended by just missing the finals, after securely holding our place in the top 4 for majority of the season. Whilst it was a disappointing way for the season to finish, all the girls should be extremely proud of what they have achieved. Starting the year with the combination of two teams, a few new players and a new coach, it was expected to provide some interesting challenges. However all the girls gelled straight away and were committed to making 2008 a successful year. The team proved very competitive in each and every game and with some improved finishing up front could have found themselves a lot higher up the ladder.

**Jo Bradshaw** - Captain of the team and all round leader on the field. Provided the team with most of their attacking options, using her speed and skill on the right hand side to dominate opposition defenders.

**Steph Do Como** - As goal keeper saved the team many times as the last line of defence. An extremely consistent performer in goals was an essential part of the team's success.

**Brenda Doran** - Played across the half and forward line always showing a lot aggression and determination in whatever roll she was asked to play. Has decided to leave the club next year will be sadly missed.

**Sophie Green** - Always reliable and ever determined, was able to play several roles through the midfield. Found herself injured for a lot of the second half of the year, but to her credit was always there to provide that extra support from the sideline.

**Monique Imer** - The teams super star in the making. Was used in many positions throughout the year and handled them all with ease. Definitely a player to watch in the future.

**Jodie Lam** - Worked extremely hard and was consistent at left inner. Always chasing back into defence and provided many attacking options going forward.

**Jess Martyn** - Positioning herself well in attack from left wing, was able put the ball in the back of the net on multiple occasions.

**Belinda Merrick** - Outstanding year, gained confidence with every game. Played in both defence and attack, scored and assisted many goals and was very always reliable in defence. Awarded the team's Most Valuable Player and was thoroughly deserved, great year Bel.

**Georgie Nicol** - An extremely valuable asset in both attack and defence. Started the year as full back and finished as a forward and the teams leading goal scorer. Was a leader on and off the field and captained the team on occasion, a critical part to the team's success.

**Jen Prosser** - Great year, solid as a rock at full back. The team's player's player, was always reliable in defence, all the girls feeling at ease knowing Jen was behind them.

**Naomi Scouller** - Was always the aggressor on the field. Played many roles throughout the year, but settled at centre half and provided strength and stability in the middle of the park.

**Nat Shiel** - The team's Best and Fairest player, had an awesome year at left half. Extremely consistent in defence and as the year progressed grew in confidence and started to work her way forward providing some excellent attacking options, great year Nat well done.

**Steph Wise** - Provided a lot of determination and energy across the forward line. Always contested the loose ball with enthusiasm and provided the team with many committed runs into attack.

**Hayley Wong** - Consistent performer all year. Showed plenty of composure at full back defusing many of the opposition's attacking options.

A big thank you to all the girls for such an enjoyable season. Everyone has worked extremely hard all year, always committed to training and made my first year coaching a rewarding experience. Let's hope we can all stick together next year and continue to extend on the improvements made this year as a team. I would also like to thank all the girls who filled in on many occasions throughout the year, it's very much appreciated. Bring on 2009 looking forward to a bigger and better year.

## HOCKEY WOMEN'S SIXTH GRADE - ED4

**Coach: David Ratcliffe**

**Manager: Emma Smith**

The girls stepped up a division this year to ED4 and our goal was simple - make it to the top four in our first year. The year started well and in true form these girls adapted well to the faster paced game. The girls trained hard with almost 100% attendance at all trainings which showed out there on the field. They not only challenged some of the big teams but took them down in true Briars fashion. They exceeded all expectations of their coach when they finished a close 2nd after all the rounds. One of the best compliments heard came from a spectator when he said "you guys didn't beat them with individual skill but you wore them into submission as a team" and it was this dynamic which makes this group of girls such a great team. The fact that they all fight as one unit and protect each other like a family, pushing themselves in honour of their team mates and for Briars.

**Cassie Allsop** - If you had come and watched Cassie play there was no way you would have known it was her first year. She found her form in the back line and with every game she grew in confidence and skill and we look forward to seeing her next year.

**Lee Best** - One word "solid"! She is her own worst critic through each game but over the season proved that she is still one of the fastest, toughest backs in the league.

**Janet Candido** - Still showing she's got what it takes to score a goal but still always telling her coach she would score more if the goal keepers just weren't there and could he please move them for her? I'll see what I can do in 2009 for you Janet.

**Lauren Candido** - Strong mid fielder with a never-die attitude and great skills - what more could a coach ask for. With her tough look exterior it is always funny to hear the "WELL DONE MUM" form Lauren when Janet scores.

**Courtney Cruikshank** - Skills to burn, this future cop stamps her authority in any position she is placed and was a vital defensive player for the team.

**Beth Edwards** - Every year I have to convince her to come back, but she is a valued member of this team and her skills and quick thinking always gives us the edge needed. She fights with a full heart and a strong determination to win so Beth here is the early call up "I'll see you next season make it yours".

**Zoe Hart** - This young girl never says die. She will play until there is nothing left in her but still find a way to give her coach more. I am proud to see her grow in to a very good young hockey player and will expect even more in 2009.

**Julie Hetherington** - Julie's skills grow every year and the final proved that, making the crucial saves when it matters and putting it all on the line for her team. 2009 will be Julie's year to go down on the ground!

**Whitney Lane** - Young fast and skilful. Whitney out ran and out played all who challenged her. Still a bit of work to do on goal scoring but none the less has a promising future in Briars and can only get better.

**Caryn Maxwell** - Again I have to say a player I can trust to get the job done! Always Caryn pushes herself and her team to be the best they can be by leading by example. Her cool head and skill make her dangerous all over the park.

**Alicia Nucifora** - Started slow but grew with every game. Alicia's drive and thirst for goals and cemented her place in the forward pack. a player that can only improve in 2009 season.

**Emma Smith** - When things where tough Emma did what it took to score that crucial goal, which not only earned her the title of highest goal scorer in Briars but highest goal score in the whole on the Eastern District League.

**Rowena Stewart** - Still the nicest player on the pitch. Week in week out Rowena pushed herself to learn new skills and fought hard to protect the goal line. We look forward to her return in 2009.

**Kristen Thompson** - A little girl with a big heart and a big drive, Kristen never let her opponent get on top of her, giving as good as she got. With a bit more advanced skills training for 2009 Kristen can only move forward.

**Amy Wilson** - Amy came back from injury during the season but it didn't slow her down with all her skills still intact she pushed forward to become a very big part of the team. Look forward to seeing what 2009 brings.

The grand final was an up and down affair and at half time the score was locked at 1-1 but with a lucky break away in the second half Dolphins took it to 2-1. The girls fought hard but with all 11 dolphins inside the 'D' the girls just couldn't get the break through. None the less, what a year! You have done yourself and Briars proud. It just gives you all a reason to return for 2009 to finish the job. All these girls should be very proud of what they have accomplished this year, I know their coach is!

And a final thanks to Emma who not only played for her team but managed them as well putting up with all her coaches crap. Thank you to all those who supported us during the season and to the spectators who came and cheered us on in the grand final, sorry we couldn't win it for you, but we will see you there again next year hopefully with a happier result!

## **HOCKEY WOMEN'S SEVENTH GRADE - ML6**

**Coach: Steve Begnell**

**Manager: Katrina Willebrands**

A solid performance this year after a shaky start. ML6 started the season with 2 full time strikers, 5 midfield players and 7 fullbacks. Needless to say a period of transition while full backs became forwards and halves was experienced at the start of the season and a few mediocre results against much weaker opposition was the result. After this period the Briars girls hit their straps and really started to cement their spot in the top four. A much stronger second half of the season saw the girls finish fourth on the ladder - 1 point behind third place and 9 points clear of 5<sup>th</sup> place.

The semi final really showed the fighting spirit of the girls, initially going down a goal in the first half then fighting back to be 2-1 up midway through the second half. When Gordon equalized with 10 minutes to go the girls hung on through golden goal extra time gallantly against a much younger team to hold out for the draw. This unfortunately meant Gordon who finished higher went through to the final however, if you have to go out, the girls can hold their heads high on a very hard fought game. Great results Briars ML6

Each of the players this year were:

**Kylie Beckhouse** - Captain of the team and the ever reliable workhorse. Kylie had a great season again this year and provided great leadership for the team. Never one to stand back and always encouraging the team, Kylie was an invaluable asset.

**Jo Sikkens** - Jo, playing Goal Keeper for the first time this year, really stepped up. Jo's skills as a forward were utilized by other teams in Briars but we were happy to have her stopping power on the goal line for us. Jo's improvement in her new position was astounding throughout the year and she provided the solid brick wall on the goal line that any coach could ask for at the back.

**Marg Saunders** - Marg was another player throughout the season that you just couldn't shake at the back. Marg's solid defense was integral to building the play for Briars and a great voice of reason on the field for some of our developing players.

**Belinda Murray** - Belinda in her first year playing for Briars improved her fitness greatly throughout the season. With solid performances at the back, she fit in well with what was a well rehearsed back line that had been together for a few seasons.

**Katrina Willebrands** - Katrina added versatility to her game this year venturing out of her preferred position of full back into the half line where she made the defensive left half position her own. Valuable at both half and full back Katrina contributed to a stellar defensive line that held strong all season.

**Michaela Vincent** - Michaela is a star of the future. Hockey runs in her veins and at 15 she held down the centre half position for us in the later half of the season with maturity beyond her years. Another full back at

the start of the season Michaela, with very little coaching, ran the field and communicated well with her forwards to bring together our on field formation. A real improvement and will look for big things from her in the future.

**Lisa Coulson** - Lisa after being named the most improved player in the team last year, continued on her path and made right half her position. Lisa could not be faulted with her on field performance and colorful as it was, her off field performance was usually something to be remembered also. Lisa is probably one of the strongest players on the ball and always managed to break down the attack on her side of the field and then build for Briars in counter attack. Another great season.

**Lisa Hando** - Lisa this season and last showed that she is the most skillful player on this team. Lisa is punching well below her weight in ML6 and always stepped up during those difficult matches to play some of her best hockey. With great vision beyond anyone on the field "Hando" could often create something of nothing, and created many scoring opportunities for our forwards playing out of left inside forward (and managed to slot a few of her own as well). Great season Hando.

**Kristyn "Wednesday" Fowler** - Kristyn became a great utility player this year. Playing everything from full back to centre striker. Kristyn's aggression injected life into whatever area of the field she played, and invariably things happened in our favor. Her first ever move into the forwards resulted in a goal minutes later, with similar results and work ethic applied to any position she played. Well done Wednesday for great versatility and improvement this year.

**Nicole Larkin** - Nicole was another full back at the start of the season, and returning from a few years away from hockey, quite plainly performed beyond all expectations. Another player that ran hard until she couldn't run anymore, had a rest for 10 and then went hard again. Her stick skills while a bit rusty at first came on greatly towards the end of the season and culminated in a goal that put Briars into finals contention. Nic will be one to watch next year.

**Michelle Clarke** - Michelle is the surprise packet this year. Michelle after a quiet start and a few missed games due to either not being in the country or injury, turned into a striker that would simply make something happen whenever she went near the ball. Shell ran strong, beat players and surprised all with some stick skills that I simply didn't know she had. Well done Shell.

**Tiff Blandford** - The goal scoring machine. Not a goalie built that can stop her, Tiff again this season blasted her way to the top of the goal scorers list. Amazing deflections coming from everywhere Tiff always seemed to get herself into the right position to score that pivotal goal. This season saw Tiff add some touch and finesse to her game that last year was mostly about power. Another great season Tiff.

**Liz Williams** - Liz played brilliantly this year. No other way to put it. One of only two players that played every game this year even backing up to play a full game even after the city to surf. Liz had the common theme of being a full back thrown into the forwards and took to it like a duck in water. Liz created passing opportunities with her speed and put pressure on the opposition as they tried to build out of there own half. Liz scored her first ever goal this year and with the improvement she has shown we'll see many more from her. Liz, right to the last game gave it her all and went down swinging with a major injury in our last game of the season. Heal well Liz; we'll need you next year.

**Hetal Petal** - Hetal's stick skills were as good as ever this year however she had some hiccups with injury that prevented her from playing her best. Hetal decided to take a rest from hockey towards the end of the season and we hope she returns refreshed next year to Briars.

**Harriet Boyle** - Harriet came to us midway through the season from a lower grade, and deservedly so. Harriet could be another star of the future as she shows some great skill and determination. Harriet's season was cut short due to injury which unfortunately made her ineligible to play in the semi final with us, however she showed some good signs in her return match from injury which was the last game of the regular season. With a little more maturity in her game which will come with a few more years, Harriet will be a force to be reckoned with on any team and at any position. Keep it up Harriet.

**Emma Lee** - Emma was a late inclusion to the team and what an injection of skill she was. Playing for the full game with the girls on her first appearance and what I believe to be her first game back after a few years away from the game, she shut down every advance from the opposing team. Emma showed skill and enthusiasm in the team that simply elevated play to another level. Thanks for the contribution Emma and hope to see you again next year.

## HOCKEY WOMEN'S EIGHTH GRADE - ED5

**Coach: Nicola Firth and Cath Harland**

The 2008 season saw a new look 8<sup>th</sup> grade team, with 7 of its members new to Briars hockey, and a first time senior women's hockey coach. This team improved significantly throughout the season and our first win in round 6 (Briars 5 over St George 2) gave the girls a boost of confidence and enthusiasm. My proudest moment as coach was in round 12, the girls were up against Sutho, the toughest team in the grade who completely demolished their opposition every round. Despite having only 11 players, freakishly hot weather, and being 1-nil down at half time, the girls played strong and confident hockey, they were solid in defense and produced several great opportunities in attack that unfortunately they could simply not convert leaving the final score at 1-nil.

To all the girls in the team thank you for a great season. You have all made significant improvements in your on field skills as well as becoming a strong and capable team I hope to see you all in 2009.

I want to thank Cath Harland for acting as my assistant coach this season. I greatly appreciated your advice, assistance at training and games, and guidance throughout the season, thank you! Thank you also to the following people who filled in during the season; Julie Hetherington, Kylie Beckhouse, Tiffanie Blandford, Zoe Hart, Cassie Allsop, Janet Candido, Courtney Cruikshank, Anna French, Whitney Lane, Naomi Scouller, it is truly appreciated.

### **Team Members:**

**Christina Agnese** - Christina was thrown into just about every position this season. She showed real strength in defense and by the end of the season became one the toughest players to get through. You are a flexible hockey player, which proved handy on many occasions, thank you.

**Sophie Cameron** - Sophie is the quiet achiever, who never stopped working. Sophie's skill as an attacker developed through the season and she was a key member of our forward line.

**Mary Anne Devine** - Mary Anne was a late addition to the team, and one that proved valuable. Starting in the forwards she showed her love of the back stick, and when moved to the half line midway through the season she developed well as a defender.

**Yolanda De Winter** - Where would we have been without you? Yolanda was a late addition to the team agreeing to play "one more season" as a full time goalie. We certainly gave you a workout, and I know both myself, and the team appreciated you joining our 8<sup>th</sup> grade!

**Thea Deaken-Greenwood** - A truly passionate player who was a solid half/inner this season. Nothing stopped her, her persistence and drive continued for the full 70 min making her invaluable.

**Suzanne Hodgkinson** - Sue is always positive both on and off the field, a relative new comer to the sport she took every opportunity to practice her skills and develop a greater understanding of the game. Thanks for a great season Sue.

**Liz Kempers** - Liz picked up a hockey stick for the first time this season and was thrown into right wing. Liz worked hard every week at training and games and improved greatly by the end of the season.

**Katrina Mansfield** - Miss Reliable - Katrina was pushed into fullback this season and thrived in defense. She was solid, consistent and as Captain was the leader the team needed on the field.

**Karen Messerschmidt** - Karen's competitiveness and natural aggression made her a lively addition to Briars 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Having been away from hockey for a considerable period Karen continually improved as a defender throughout the season, well done!

**Jo Sikkens** - Fully Sikkens - Jo was a god send this season, an experienced hockey player who packs a punch up front. For playing multiple games every weekend as goalie and still backing up on the field thank you for your commitment and support this season.

**Maison Set** - Having never picked up a hockey stick before Maison went through a steep learning curve at the beginning of the season and showed real improvement, I hope to see you back at Briars.

**Caitlen Stone** - Caitlen was a key playmaker this season, with great stick skills she carved up the opposition's defense to place the team in strong attacking positions, and score several goals herself. Playing between RH and RI she was able to link up with sister Elly who were a solid combination.

**Elly Stone** - Elly makes up the other half of the Stone sister team and was given the challenge of leading the team from CH this season. As one of the younger members of the team it took some time for Elly to build her confidence however by the end of the season she was taking control from the middle and encouraging her team mates, well done Elly!

**Greta Ulbrick** - Greta's young and quick legs made her invaluable as inner. She is a workhorse who never gives up in either attack or defense. Due to injury Greta's season was a short one, but I look forward to watching her develop in the future she has great potential!

**Diarne Zographou** - It was great to have Diarne on the team this season, playing left half she showed great strength in defense, and brought a fun positive approach to games and training. As one of the strongest players on the team she also took on a leadership role this season, thank you.

## SQUASH

When I joined Briars (circa 1990) I remember it being a charismatic and loud bunch of blokes who would play hard and enjoy their opponents company back in our club rooms for a good laugh and a beer after a game of squash. Our old club rooms have long gone but we still enjoy representing our club under our club colours. We look forward to getting back to our new club to share the spoils.

Whilst our most recent performances have been nothing to write home about I want it known that our club is valued and respected amongst our peers. I want to continue to be proud club. Dan Power, Ken Kable, Ray Pontifex, Jim Farrell, John Siounnis, Ron Marshall, Grant Heggarty and Greg Kelly (there are certainly more and don't be shy to let me know). They may not have been all A' graders but they are Briars Champions. They may be blushing now that I have mentioned their names, but I would like all of our current players to know they were sportsmen of the highest regard. Both on and off the playing field. I feel that our performances on the court are only matched by our performance off the court. I for one have not excelled as a squash chairman, but I will rectify that and I hope that is mirrored by you.

<b>Autumn 2008</b>	<b>Division 9</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>
	Darren Peisley	8	6
	Guy Amedee	1	2
	Grant Heggarty	2	6
	Steve Wildisen	3	4
	Ed Moore	5	5

This team didn't see out the season due to injury and overseas work commitments. We may have seen the end of Ed on a squash court which we will miss but we won't miss his antics.

<b>Division 8</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>
Chris Leung	6	6
Mick Jaro	6	7
Garry Phillips	6	8
Wally Tullipan	5	6
Glen Tullipan	4	5

This team performed very well. Fell short at the last hurdle in the preliminary final but always had a cold beer and a laugh for anyone who would listen. Thanks for the ice Glen.

<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>
Steve Strain	6	7
Alan Browne	5	8
Mick Di Monte	0	6
Steve Jones	2	6
Greg McManus	3	13

This side was not at all fortunate. Mick D and Steve J were only able to play a handful of matches. Steve Strain and Brownie tried hard and Greg was over graded.



**Spring 2008** - The recently completed comp saw a more competitive Briars but with just 2 teams.

<b>Division 8</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>
Guy Amedee	5	4
Darren Peisley	2	9
Glen Tullipan	6	2
Wally Tullipan	3	9
Grant Heggarty	7	3
Steve Wildisen	6	3

Finished the comp in position 4 (out of 6) and missing the semis. The team was very strong in positions 2 - 4 but lacked a killer number 1. All up, won more than they lost.

<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>
Steve Strain	4	3
Alan Browne	2	7
Mick Di Monte	0	5
Chris Leung	5	6
Greg McManus	1	6
Mick Jaro	1	7

What a tough comp. 6 man side, with a bye and our number 1 unavailable for the first half of the comp. The only shining light was Chris Leung. Serious practice every Monday night. Note to self, practice makes perfect.

**Greg McManus**

## **NETBALL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

2008 was capped off with its 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Premiership. With the Club it in its 3<sup>rd</sup> season, we entered 4 competitive teams were into the IWSNA competition and saw 2 teams qualify to the finals.

Consolidated from 5 teams to 4 teams in 2008 proved to be a beneficial move to the strength and depth of the Club and I would like to thank all the players on their commitment to Briars Netball for the year.

Our results for this year were (before final series):

- Briars 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> in A grade.
- Briars 2 - 6<sup>th</sup> in AR grade, interesting season with new AR grade.
- Briars 3 - 3<sup>rd</sup> in B3 grade.
- Briars 4 - 5<sup>th</sup> in C1 grade, unlucky not to make the Semis.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Grade team once again was hit with injuries throughout the season which saw getting a 'healthy' 7 on the court, to be a challenge at times. However, these girls are competitive by nature and refused to let this affect them taking out the minor and major premierships again for 2008. I am extremely proud of this team as their results with the juggle of representative and work commitments

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade was graded into the new AR (A-Reserve) division for 2008, in attempt to bridge the gap between the A-Grade and B1 and they found themselves in an increasingly competitive grade to previous years. These young players face teams with many years of experience as individuals as teams and they faced some strong battles during the year. The girls were not able to make through to the final series however they should be pleased with their efforts for the year.

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade would have to be the team of the year with their fantastic turn-around to come in 3<sup>rd</sup> position. This group of players was selected from the 2007 season as some of our most potential players and with some corresponding grading, performed as a solid unit throughout the year. The girls were unfortunate not to be in the Grand Final game, but I hope this only motivates them for 2009.

4<sup>th</sup> Grade were similarly a team carefully picked from us

Once again I am eternally grateful to the Organising Committee for all their hard work throughout the season and beyond - President Tess Havrlant, Vice President Rachael Havrlant, Secretary Angela Brooks, Treasurer Lisa Bates, Umpires Convenor Anika Lalic. These ladies have worked very hard to ensure all commitments were met and that teams were organised to play this season. I am encouraging the

involvement of other members, to join the committee so that the workload and duties can be shared in manageable level. This will not only make the Club run more efficiently but will make the jobs of the Organising Committee more enjoyable.

I must draw particular attention to Rachael's assistance this year; as without her support and capabilities the Club would have struggled to manage this year. Rachael unselfishly stepped up when I was weighted down with work commitments and saw the Club through the second half of the season. Thank you to Rach and the other remarkable ladies on the committee.

Another big thank you needs to go to this year's Managers. They are the organising gurus and without them, it would be very hard to run 4 teams.

- Briars 1 Rachael Havrlant
- Briars 2 Angela Brooks
- Briars 3 Gina Arkell
- Briars 4 Nicole Raheb

This year was a difficult year in organising umpires due to the times our teams played. Many thanks to Anika for her often stressful job of finding umpires. An enormous thank you to those players who assisted throughout the season by umpiring. Many thanks to Em Claffey and Dash for umpiring our teams as well. Without umpires, we're unable to play, so many thanks to everyone who has helped out.

I feel rewarded with the success of the Netball Club in 2008 and hope to see this continue in 2009. This however, does require the support of the committee and players so I would like promote the involvement of anyone interested in being a part of Briars Netball, on any level. I would like to see the Club can not only survive, but continue to grow in members, results and strength.

**Tess Havrlant - President**

## **NETBALL BRIARS 1**

2008 saw us initially register with 9 players and ended up with 13 players in the team due unlucky injuries. Nevertheless, with this great group of gals, we still managed to have fun and be very competitive!! Fingers crossed we have made it back to back titles!!

A big thank you to Claire, Sarah and Jodie for joining the team during the season. It was great to see Tess make a comeback after ankle surgery, and we were very unlucky to lose Alli with her doggy knee. We wish Bec all the best with her wedding and Linda all the best with her pregnancy. Many thanks to Trent for his excellent scoring abilities. It's been a blast and will be interesting to see if we continue on next year!! Good work gals!!

## **NETBALL BRIARS 2**

After a successful year in 2007 Briars 2 were keen to play together again. In fact 2007 was so successful nearly all of that team returned plus two more from the 2006 team and another new player joined. This meant that the girls had to make a decision between having 11 in the team or splitting up. It was unanimous, 11 in the team it would be. Luckily we made that decision because I don't think there was one week where we had 11 players; and we were much more likely to only just scrape in with 7 or even play short. For the weeks we played short we must thank Briars 3 for generously filling in for us.

Our season started well with a couple of wins made and the team picking up from where we left off. The additional numbers meant that some people had to change positions. We suddenly had a surplus of defence players. Our defence team consisted of Sarah Le, Bridget Moore, Amy Elia, Ellen Iu. They all managed to play every position, often all in one game. Stephanie Dash played a great Centre when she was forced out of her beloved Wing Defence position. Alex Claffey moved away from the goals this year (except on a few occasions) to shine in a place where she could use up all her energy at centre. Michelle Brooks unfortunately had many activities other than netball for much of the season but when she was there, she was welcomed in the mid court. Emily Pow remained ever reliable at Wing Attack. Anika Lalic moved to Goal Attack this year where she managed to be very successful. Tina Yum continued her prowess in the goal

circle and both Anika and Tina were supported by Stacey Stephenson who rekindled some of her old shooting strengths.

We started the competition well, but towards the end of the first round we encountered the harder teams. A change in grading meant that this year Briars 2 was playing A Reserve and some of the teams came down from A grade to form the new grade. The games in the middle of the season were beset by a lack of reserves at times as university and work commitments took hold. Unfortunately by the end of the season, motivation for a top 4 position had deserted the team. Still the year turned out to be very enjoyable and the girls remain great friends.

We would like to thank the committee for supporting our efforts this year, all the umpires who helped us out each week and also the narrow band of supporters. It was a fun year and the team enjoyed playing together. Looking forward to 2009 already!

## NETBALL BRIARS 3

**Alex Theodossiou** - the winner of the team's **Best and Fairest Award**. A powerful and enthusiastic centre court player with a 'never say die' attitude. **Susan Walsh** - the winner of the team's **Player's Player Award**. Always played with great enthusiasm and never failed to impress with her skills at both ends of the court, a real asset to the team. **Katrina Arkell** - who did not miss a game all season and impressed everyone with her 'ballerina' skills in the defence positions. **Lisa Bates** - Lisa's height and her ability to get around the opposition was always an advantage in the goal circle. **Michelle Beach** - her skills and knowledge of the game were invaluable, as was her ability to play at both ends of the court. Michelle always showed great commitment to the team, especially towards the end of the season when she travelled up from her new home in Canberra, so that she could continue to play AND umpire. **Sharon Greene** - proved to be a very valuable centre court player. Sharon's intercept skills and her ability to "read" the game was exciting to watch. **Kellie Lane** - A real "pocket rocket". She was another of our strong centre court players. **Emma Silvia** - was always happy to play any position, and was one of the most positive members of the team, who proved to be one of our most versatile players. **Lauren Theodossiou** - our most accurate goal shooter, Lauren had a fantastic season and was very much relied upon in the circle. She also never missed a game. I would also like to mention **Anna Bates**, who unfortunately was only able to play one game due to an injured wrist. I know she was disappointed not to play, but I'm sure she will make a return to netball next season.

The girls finished third, with only 4 losses, which was a great result, considering that 2 of those losses were played when they only had 5 players on the court. All things considered I believe it was a very successful season, the team improved every week and injuries were minimal, although our opponents did not fare so well!! It was fun, thanks girls and good luck for next season.

## BOWLS WOMEN - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am very proud to be able to write this report, as this is my first as President of the Women's Bowling Club. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as President, even though it had some challenging moments.

I would like to welcome our new members to the Club, Mary Southan, Wyn Morrison and a special mention to our newest member, Patricia Seath. Patricia is a Blind Bowler who has won many medals including Gold, Silver and Bronze as well as represented Australia in 1996 at Hamilton, New Zealand and 2001 in Scotland. In order to compete in the game, Patricia requires a Coaching Director and, at the moment, this person plays at Grandviews Bowling Club. However, our Ladies are willing and are waiting anxiously to learn all the techniques required to assist Patricia so that she can successfully continue her game in the New Year.

Ladies, if there is anyone who would like to have a game of Bowls, please do not hesitate to give Gladys Barnes a ring at the Club. We will welcome you with open arms and ensure that you have a great time. If you are unable to play on Thursday due to work commitments etc, there is always Social Mixed Bowls on a Wednesday afternoon and on most Sunday mornings.

Over the past year we have had numerous special bowling days, but I would like to mention three special days which the Ladies held at Greenlees Park. The Veterans Day held in September, was a great success. Approximately 34 ladies attended from the district where some of the ladies received a special over 80's

badge. The District Presentation Day was another great day had by all the ladies. As always Rose provided an excellent lunch.

Last but not least, was the Naming of the Green in honour of Keith Free. It was a great day with the sun shining brightly and Keith surrounded by not only his family but all his great friends that he has made over the years. This honour was shown for his dedication and hard work that Keith, (a lot behind the scenes) has given the Club since its inception over 55 years ago. What a great day.

#### **Club Results**

**Major Singles** was won by Patricia Free and Runner Up was Gai Shirvington.,

**Pairs** were won by Gladys Barnes and Sylvia Gurewitz, with the runner ups as Shirley Duckworth and Shirley Alford.

**Triples** were successfully won by Denva Barber, Janet Cooper and Rosa Caccavo and the runners up were Gai Shirvington, Helen Burton and Patricia Free.

**The Fours** were won by Helen Haggerty, Helen Burton, Patricia Free and Sylvia Gurewitz. The runners up, were Enid Openshaw, Shirley Duckworth, Shirley Alford and Gladys Barnes.

**District Singles** - Gladys Barnes; James Wall Shield District - Helen Haggerty, Helen Burton, Gladys Barnes and Sylvia Gurewitz; Wolinski Shield District - Gerda Pawlitschko, Enid Openshaw, Gladys Barnes, Sylvia Gurewitz.

I must say that this was not a great year for our Pennant side, as we only managed to come third. However, in the coming year hopefully we will show improvement as most of our players will be back on deck.

I wish to thank all committee members for their help and great support. They do a great job and without their tireless work, the Women's Bowling Club would not survive. The Club has only the ANZ Bank as a sponsor now, so we need to raise our money in different ways. One of those ways is with our great raffles provided by Alison Balfour and her committee. On a sadder note, we have just heard that Alison is now moving to North Rocks, so on behalf of myself and all the members of the Ladies Club, I would like to thank Alison for her excellent work over the many years that she has been on the Social Committee. She has arranged all our theatre parties, obtaining excellent seats, (we will miss these), coach holidays and the various social events held throughout the years. We will miss your organizing skills as well as your smiling face around the Club.

I must say that Janet Cooper, our Treasurer has excelled herself in keeping our bookwork up to date. It goes without saying, that Gladys Barnes does an excellent job as Secretary, as well as just being around with her knowledge and experience. To my Vice-Presidents, Patricia Free and Shirley Alford, a job well done. What would I do without you both. To our Match Committee and Umpires who have a thankless job but are always called upon when the Pennants and District games are played.

I must also thank the outgoing Committee for all their hard work. My special thanks goes to Shirley Duckworth who has done an excellent job as Vice President as well as all the other duties she performs. To the various Committees that have worked hard all year so that my year as President went so well. Thank you all.

Additional thanks must also be given to the following:

Glen Taylor, Tess Havrilant (since resigned) and Melissa Simonetta who are always ready to solve any problems that may arise within the Ladies Club.

Ben Williams, our smiling Bar Manager and his Staff.

Peter Neary and his assistant, James and Nathan for keeping our greens in excellent condition.

Neville Day our Coach - he is here most Friday afternoons should anyone like to see him regarding coaching lessons or even to rectify any faults that they may need to correct in their game of bowls.

Best Wishes to everyone, Good Health and Good Bowling in the New Year.

**Helen Burton - President**

## BOWLS MEN - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As our Club year has now drawn to a close, I take this opportunity to thank you, the members and supporters for your trust and your own acceptance of some of the new innovations that were introduced this year. 2009 offers us more opportunities to progress, with the introduction of more variations to our social calendar.

As most clubs (including ours) have their weekends full with tournaments, pennants, zone games and club championships, I believe that it is now time to concentrate more on utilising our greens weekdays. To this end, we have already secured a qualifying round of the NSW Poker Machine Cup (formerly Lotto Cup) which will be played in September and be known as the Keith Free Triples.

At a suggestion from Kevin Brady (Burwood Diggers) the first steps to align GPBC with the RSL Bowling Association (NSW) has been put in place. Once acceptance has taken place, it is hoped that in the near future RSL Tournaments will be allocated to Greenlees, which will help with the utilisation of our Greens on weekdays.

To my dedicated and hard working committee who unselfishly volunteer their time and energy in the running of our Club. My heartfelt "Thank You". Tony Cribb, our Bowls Secretary who dedicates endless hours to ensure that the paperwork and reporting to the Zone is up to date so that we, the bowlers, can enjoy our game hassle free. Thank you Tony.

Dearly would I love to see us, in 2009 enter a fourth pennant grade. We have been fortunate to recruit several high quality bowlers to our club this year, which bodes well for next year's pennants season, but it is you the members of all grade who are the ones that can make this happen by making yourselves available for pennants, so that all our players have an opportunity.

No club can operate without continued sponsorship, and to this, on behalf of GPMBC, thank you to: Briars at Greenlees Limited, Wayne Allan - Quickfill Toners, John Stewart - Attic Ladders, Keith Free (retired) Club Patron, Burwood RSL Club Limited.

Again our greenkeeper Peter Neary and his staff have ensured our Greens remain the most envied in NSW. Well done Peter.

Burwood Diggers continue to be a truly great asset for us, with their own tournaments, trophy days and social attendance. The union of the two clubs has proved to be a great success. Their camaraderie is truly appreciated.

Zone 11 has taken the first steps in Junior Development, buying a bowls kit which will be introduced into high schools. An academy is in the process of being formed, although this is no quick fix. It is a step in the right direction.

Greenlees Park has also been selected to co-host the prestigious intra zone championships to be played in September. This event brings great prestige to our Club.

### **Social Bowls:**

- Wednesday 1pm (June - Sept 12.30pm) Nominated Pairs
- Saturday 1pm Single Entries (Pairs)
- Sunday 9.30am Pairs

All games in social, mufti dress, jackpot, winning losing rinks, raffle. All welcome along and enjoy and bring a friend.

**No. 1 Pennants:** After a slow start with a lot of new players, our No. 1 pennant grade performed extremely well, finishing second overall in their section, in front of such noted high performance clubs as Taren Point, Roselands, Grandviews and Double Bay. The experience these newer players gained this year and the confidence that we can still mix it with the best, all goes well for the future.

**No. 3 Pennants:** Our No. 3 pennant side was badly disrupted early in the season mainly due to players having to play up a grade to cover our top side, but somehow just seemed to hang in, scraping into the round robin for the top 2 finishing zone 11 sides in each section of the draw.

We lost our first game to Eastlakes Sports by 7 shots, but fought back in the second game to defeat Maroubra by 37 shots, giving us 2 points + 30 margin. In the meantime Kensington in the first round defeated Maroubra by 2 shots in the second round fortunately for us defeated Eastlakes by 9 shots giving them 4 points + 11 margin, which meant that coming into the final round we had to play Kensington, realistically it was between us 2 clubs who would win the zone, and fortunately we managed to do this winning by 9 shots, giving us 4 points + 39 compared to Kensington's 4 points + 2.

Winning the zone saw us head off to Tumut to contest the state playoffs, where unfortunately we ran into rain on the Friday roll up and the Saturday first rounds which slowed the greens down to about 11 seconds. This pace after being used to 15 second greens did not suit our boys at all, and unfortunately we did not play up to our potential, losing all 3 games to 3 very good sides, Tuncury (the pennant winners), Thirroul and Narrabri. Saying that it was a great experience and the weather was not too cold (except for the pit stops at Yass on both the way down and back). A special thanks to our manager Rohan Brown, you got us to Tumut Waggars, sorry we let you down once we got there.

**No. 5 Pennants:** Our No. 5's had a good year, leading everywhere except at the finishing post, only losing 2 games all season (1 x 2 and 1 x 3 shots), unfortunately both these loses were to Balmain, which gave them enough points to run us down by 1.5 points, with Burwood Diggers running a strong 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Diggers also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the No. 6 grade giving them a fairly successful year.

Thanks to all the players who made themselves available this year, and a special thanks to those who acted as side managers.

## Results

### Club Championships:

Major Singles	John Sneddon 31 defeated Ray Coombes 30
Major Pairs	Ron Kubyk, John Sneddon 24 defeated Garry Chant, Don Coleman 14
Club Triples	Mark Golby, Tony Mandato, Guy Mandato 27 Wayne Comber, Glen Timms, Don Coleman 18
Club Fours	G. Borg, K. Free, J. Loveridge, M Gorlicki 21 defeated R. Williams, W. Comber, W. Goulding, G. Timms 14
Minor Singles	Mark Golby 31 defeated Jackson Boulden 8
Minor Pairs	Jeff Webster, Peter Doherty 26 defeated Robert Williams, Jesse Loveridge 15
Mixed Pairs 2007	Enid Openshaw, Jack Brandt

### Major/Minor Pairs Tournaments:

Trevor Lee and Son Versatile Fours	N. Maresso, S. White, M. Gorlicki, S. Lesslie
Golden Slipper Day	1 <sup>st</sup> - J. Demakaya and R. Goldberg 2 <sup>nd</sup> - W. Comber and T. Mandato
Melbourne Cup Day	1 <sup>st</sup> - G. Green, W. Trapman 2 <sup>nd</sup> - N. Maresso, D. Coleman
Anzac Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> - R. Lackey, T. Cribb 2 <sup>nd</sup> - M. Clifford, G. Borg
Winter Turn Around Triples	1 <sup>st</sup> - D. Lawler, D. Mara, D. Beetson 3 wins + 38 2 <sup>nd</sup> - D. Coleman, A. Gallagher, T Cribb 3 wins + 34
Greenlees Open Pairs	1 <sup>st</sup> - A. Felton, B. Edwards 3 wins + 58 2 <sup>nd</sup> - M. Gorlicki, R. Coombes 3 wins + 54
Quickfill Toners Black Friday Pairs	1st - T. Starr, W. Goulding
Patrons Day	1st - N. Maresso, D. Arnold, D. Coleman
Summer Shield	A grade - Zone Champions C grade - 2 <sup>nd</sup> in their section

**Donald Coleman**

## 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.

This trophy is not awarded this year.

### 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 Mike Denniss. Mike has been Hockey Chairman for the past few years and plays 6<sup>th</sup> Grade as well as manages the side. Mike is also on the committee for amalgamating Men's, Women's and Junior Hockey this year. Well done Mike.

### 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 Mark Smyck. In one of our most difficult years Mark proved to be a great asset being available for all games plus the Under 24's and also having one of his best seasons yet. Mark was always willing to help in the difficult task of laying the covers each week and assisted in other ways when needed. We are very pleased to be able to acknowledge his wonderful efforts with this award.

### 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 Jo Sikkens. Jo played in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade hockey as goalkeeper. She was also the Treasurer of Briars Hockey as well as Vets Co-ordinator and represents Briars on the Sydney Womens Hockey League. Jo also organised a campaign to encourage new umpires within the Club. Congratulations Jo.

## **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 Michael Taberner. Michael played Colts but also played in the senior grades when players were injured on Saturday afternoon. Michael helped set up Rothwell Park on home games. Congratulations Michael.

## **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 Lloyd Smith. Lloyd played 4<sup>th</sup> Grade with the Club and was the Welfare Officer for Rugby as well as organising the Briars Rugby newsletter. Well done Lloyd.

## **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 Monique Imer. Monique played in the Under 15A's team as well as the senior 5<sup>th</sup> Grade team. Monique is a qualified umpire and helps out in the Cintra canteen. Well done Monique.

## **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
Keenness 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 trophy is not awarded this year.



## **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 Park for many years as an administrator and player. The award can only be won once in a lifetime.

This year's winner is Shirley Duckworth. Shirley joined Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club in July 1986. She has occupied positions on Committee for many years, Chairman of catering, President, Vice President, and this year on Committee again. Shirley can always be seen leading by example, assisting new members, assisting with Committee matters, tirelessly working on catering for functions as well as every Thursday on ladies bowls days, and a real willing worker on Children's Christmas parties. Shirley is indeed a valued member of Women's Bowls. Congratulations Shirley.

## **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 Bill Goulding. Bill is a Vice President of the Bowling Club and has been over a number of years. He is always willing to do anything to help out without being asked, such as working on functions, assisting with Friday night raffles and tidying up around the greens. Bill is also a very keen bowler, playing in all the club championships, pennants and social bowls. Congratulations Bill.

# **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ACN::71 001 029 545

*A Company Limited by Guarantee*

## **CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT - 30 September 2008**

### **Relationship of the concise financial report to the full financial report**

The concise financial report is an extract from the full financial report for the year ended 30 September 2008. The financial statements and specific disclosures included in the concise financial report have been derived from the full financial report.

The concise financial report cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of Briars at Greenlees Limited as the full financial report. Further financial information can be obtained from the full financial report.

The full financial report and auditor's report thereon will be forwarded to members on request, free of charge. Please contact the General Manager.

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2008**

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# BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

ABN: 71 001 029 545

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your Directors present their report on the Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 30 September, 2008.

### NAME OF DIRECTORS

The Directors in Office at any time during the year and up to the date of this report are:-

BARNES, Gladys  
CRIBB, Anthony  
TREGEGGLE, Richard  
HOWLE Brett

HUTTLY, Brian  
BLAIR, Ian  
CREW Ray

HICKEY Craig  
PRICE, John  
NORRIS Kylie

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal continuing activity of the Company consisted of maintaining a licensed sporting and bowling club for members.

### MEMBERS

The number of Members of the Company registered in the Register of Members at the date of this report is:

	2008	2007
Full members	762	1,118
Social members	553	682
	<u>1,315</u>	<u>1,800</u>

### OPERATING RESULTS

The net profit from Trading for the year ended 30 September 2008(after no Provision for Income Tax) amounted to \$41,233 (2007- Profit \$ 187,057) after charging depreciation of \$160,199 (2007 - \$128,673).

### DIVIDENDS

The Company is a Non-Profit Organisation and is prevented by its Articles from paying a Dividend.

### REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Movements in significant items of revenue are as follows:-

	2008	2007	Favourable/(Unfavourable)	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Bar sales	659,032	657,380	1,652	0.3%
Poker machine clearances	629,698	795,782	(166,084)	-20.9%
Sports revenue	452,112	491,930	(39,818)	-8.1%
Administration expenses	773,913	716,987	(56,926)	-7.9%

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

Effective 2 July 2008, the NSW State Government introduced a ban on smoking within clubs and hotels. There were no significant changes in the state of the financial affairs of the Company in the year under review. As a result, there has been an impact on Club's revenue, in particular poker machine revenue. The impact on future revenue is uncertain.

### DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

The Company does not have a Share Capital nor does it have any related corporations and hence no Director has an interest required to be declared by Section 307 (c).

### ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

The Company's operations are subject to various environmental regulations under both Commonwealth and State legislation. The Directors are not aware of any breaches of the legislation during the financial year which are material in nature.

## BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

ABN: 71 001 029 545

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

### DIRECTORS' REPORT

#### FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

A significant renovation of the current club house is anticipated to commence in early 2009.. At this point in time tenders have not been called and we cannot estimate the cost of the capital commitment.

#### EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the entity, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the economic entity in subsequent financial years.

#### INFORMATION on DIRECTORS

Name	Note	Position	Meeting Called	Meeting Attended	Qualifications
B. HUTTLY		Chairman	13	13	Environmental manager
A. CRIBB		Director	13	13	Salesman
I. BLAIR		Director	13	12	Retired company Manager
J. PRICE		Director	13	10	Retail consultant
C. HICKEY		Director	13	13	Marketing consultant
R. TREGLEAGLE		Director	13	12	Lawyer
K. NORRIS	1	Director	7	5	Sourcing manager
B. HOWLE	1	Director	7	6	Company director
G. BARNES	2	Director	6	4	Home duties
R. CREW	2	Director	6	6	Retired company director

Note 1: Elected at the Annual General Meeting held 24 February 2008.

2: Retired as a directors following the Annual General Meeting held 24 February 2008.

#### DIRECTORS' BENEFITS

Since the end of the previous financial year no Director has received or become entitled to receive any benefit by reason of a contract between the Company and himself or with a firm of which he has a substantial financial interest.

#### DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS INDEMNIFICATION

The Company has not, during or since the financial year, in respect to any person who has been an Officer or Auditor of the Company:-

- Indemnified or made any relevant agreement for indemnifying against a liability as an Officer or Auditor, including costs and expenses in successfully defending legal proceedings; or

- Paid or agreed to pay a premium in respect of a contract ensuring against a liability incurred as an Officer or Auditor for the costs or expenses to defend proceedings;

Directors' indemnity premiums have been provided for and paid by the Company during the year costing \$1,048 (2007: \$1,200) for Director's and Officers' Liability Insurance. The insurance is in respect of legal liability for damages and legal costs to a maximum of \$1,000,000 arising from claims made by reason of any omissions or acts (other than dishonesty) by them, whilst acting as Directors or Officers of the Company.

#### GENERAL MANAGER

The general manager (CEO) is Mr Glen Taylor and he has occupied the position since 2 March 2006.

#### PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of Briars at Greenlees Limited, or intervene in any proceedings to which the Club is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Club for all or any part of these proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the Club with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

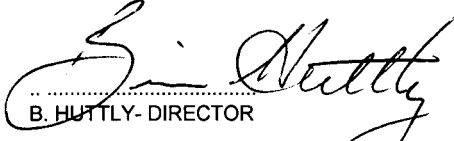
**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENT DECLARATION**

The Auditor's Independent Declaration for the year ended 30th September 2008 has been received and can be found on page 4 of this report.

Dated at Concord this 15 the day of December, 2008

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors

  
.....  
B. HUTTY - DIRECTOR

  
.....  
I. BLAIR - DIRECTOR

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

As auditor for the audit of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2008,  
I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

(a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and

(b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

DATED AT CONCORD  
15 DECEMBER 2008

Harley Russell & Day  
Chartered Accountants

Garry William Day  
Registered Company Auditor

## **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **a) General**

The Financial Report and disclosures in this Concise Financial Report have been derived from the Financial Report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended September 30, 2008. The discussion and analysis is based on those Financial Reports and is provided to assist members in the understanding of the Concise Financial Report.

A copy of the full Financial Report and audit report thereon will be made available to any member upon request to the General Manager.

#### **b) Income Statement**

Like virtually all clubs in NSW Briars at Greenlees suffered decline in profit from operations. This decline was \$145,824 and was wholly the result of the state government introducing a smoking ban within clubs and hotels.. This decline will result in the club being unable to provide a level of service that its members have become accustomed.

Bar revenue remained constant; however there was a decline in the bar profit due principally the increase in prices the club was being charged by its suppliers not being passed on to members for the majority of the year. Bar wages have increased by 5.4% and have increased as percentage of bar revenue from 33.2% to 34.8%.

This year sport result achieved the stated goal of the directors by operating at a break even level. This is a substantial improvement over last year which was a loss so \$52,071. The directors have instituted policies resulting in all sports becoming far more accountable for their financial performance.

Depreciation and amortization charges increased in real terms in 2008 compared to 2007 as a result of the additional new assets acquired during the year amounting to \$674,791. Over 65% of this increase is attributable to the interior refurbishment that occurred early in the financial year. Also, there were assets that during the year reached the end of their economic useful life and accordingly they were written off.

The club's result have been improved by it being able to avail itself of revenue from non operational areas such as rent from properties and interest from its cash on deposits. Should the Club decide to embark on a significant refurbishment, members should be aware that this will result in a diminution in revenue from these non operational sources.

#### **c) Balance Sheet**

The overall strength of the balance sheet increased with net assets increasing by \$41,233 resulting in an increase in members' equity of a similar amount. There was an increase in total assets of \$73,914.

The increase in the value of fixed assets of \$512,000 was offset by a decline in cash and investment of a similar amount that was due to the cost of the interior refurbishment, the details of which have been more deeply discussed elsewhere in the report. The acquisition of additional poker machines amounted to \$86,663 and was due primarily to the installation of E\_Bet and the upgrade of the machines.

Accounts receivables have increased as the club has been able to rent out the synthetic hockey field located at Cintra Park.

Clearly, the club does not have sufficient resources to fund the Stage II of the development plan from internal resources. With this in mind the directors are reviewing various scenarios to ascertain the most optimal scenario to permit the refurbishment to proceed.

#### **d) Cash Flow Statement**

As can be seen from an examination of the cash flow statement, the decline in cash and cash equivalents was due to the funding of the interior renovations from the Club's cash reserves. There was positive cash generated from the normal trading operations of the Club.



**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)***INCOME STATEMENT****For the year ended 30th September 2008**

	2008 \$	2007 \$
<b>Trading income</b>		
Net profit- Bar trading	122,835	140,875
Net profit- Poker machines	511,200	609,019
Net Profit -Sports	113	(52,071)
<b>Total trading income</b>	<b>634,148</b>	<b>697,823</b>
 <b>Other Income</b>		
Membership subscriptions	8,128	10,162
Commission- TAB	8,760	13,156
Commission- Keno	18,445	21,001
Interest	31,531	36,793
Rental Income	83,294	76,940
Other Income	9,800	26,234
GST Rebate	17,184	17,184
Tobacco Revenue	3,856	4,751
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>180,998</b>	<b>206,221</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>815,146</b>	<b>904,044</b>
 <b><u>Less: Expenses</u></b>		
Operating expenses	(773,913)	(716,987)
 <b>Net Profit/(Loss) from operations</b>	<b>41,233</b>	<b>187,057</b>

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)***BALANCE SHEET****As at 30th September, 2008**

	2008 \$	2007 \$
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash assets	147,180	535,874
Investments	266,727	349,608
Inventories	37,745	24,269
Other	59,375	39,793
Total current assets	511,027	949,544
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant & equipment	3,354,918	2,842,487
Intangibles	338,945	338,945
Total non-current assets	3,693,863	3,181,432
<b>Total assets</b>	4,204,890	4,130,976
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Payables	146,776	117,441
Provisions	177,331	176,288
Other	47,000	44,697
Total current liabilities	371,107	338,426
<b>Non-Current liabilities</b>		
Other	-	-
Total non-current liabilities	-	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	371,107	338,426
<b>Net assets</b>	3,833,783	3,792,550
<b>Members' Equity</b>	3,833,783	3,792,550

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY****For the year ended 30th September, 2008**

	Notes	2008 \$	2007 \$
Total equity at beginning of the financial year		3,792,550	3,605,493
Total Briar's equity		-	-
Total changes in equity adjusted in nthe Income Statement		41,233	187,057
		3,833,783	3,792,550

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)***STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****For the year ended 30th September, 2008**

	2008 \$	2007 \$
<b><u>Cash Flow From Operating Activities</u></b>		
Receipts from Member & Guests	1,798,719	2,018,554
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(1,862,562)	(1,916,369)
Interest	18,871	23,001
Rental Income	248,188	195,145
<b>Net Cash provided by (used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>203,216</b>	<b>320,331</b>
<b><u>Cash Flow From Investing Activities</u></b>		
Payment for Plant & Equipment, Poker Machines and Licences	(674,791)	(134,376)
<b>Net Cash provided by (used in) Investing Activities</b>	<b>(674,791)</b>	<b>(134,376)</b>
 Cash Flow from Financing Activities	-	-
Proceeds (Repayment) of Borrowings	-	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (used in) Financing Activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
 <b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash held</b>	<b>(471,575)</b>	<b>185,955</b>
 Cash at 30th September, 2007	885,482	699,527
Cash at 30th September, 2008	413,907	885,482

**Notes to the Statement of Cash Flow****1. Reconciliation of Cash**

For the purposes of this statement of cash flows, cash includes:-

- (i) cash on hand and in "at call" deposits with banks or financial institutions
- (ii) investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months

Cash at the end of the year is shown in the balance sheet as:

Cash at Bank	103,125	480,897
Cash on Hand	44,055	54,977
Deposits at Financial Institutions	266,727	349,608
	<b>413,907</b>	<b>885,482</b>

# **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## **NOTES TO THE CONCISE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 30 September 2008**

### **1. BASIS OF THE PREPARATION OF THE CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT**

The concise financial report is an extract of the full financial report for the full financial for the year ended 30 September 2008. The concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: *Concise Financial Report* and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial statements, specific disclosures and other information included in the concise financial reports are derived from and are consistent with the full financial of Briars at Greenlees Limited. The concise report cannot be expected to provide an understanding of the financial performance, financial position, and financing and investing activities of the Company as the full financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited.

The financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited comply with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS).

### **2. PRESENTATION CURRENCY**

The presentation currency used in this concise financial report is Australian dollars.

### **3. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE**

No matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year to the date of this report that has, or may significantly affect the operation of Briars at Greenlees Limited, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Club in the ensuing or any subsequent financial year.

### **4. FINANCIAL REPORTING BY SEGMENTS**

The Company operates predominantly in the amateur hospitality and entertainment industry. The Company's operations and customers are located predominantly in Sydney, New South Wales. The Company provides food, beverage, gaming, sporting teams, and other facilities to members and guests.

### **5. DIVIDENDS**

Under the Club's constitution a payment of a dividend is not permitted.

# **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

ABN: 71 001 029 545

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

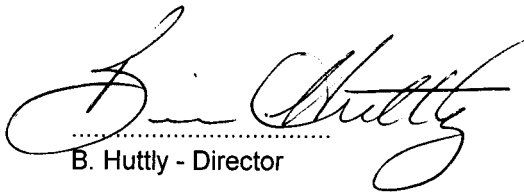
## **DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

The Directors of Briars at Greenlees Limited declare that the concise financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2008 as set on pages 1 to 9 .

- a) Complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Statements; and
- b) Is an extract from the full financial report for the year ended 30 September 2008 and has been derived from and is consistent with the full financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Dated at Concord this 15th day of December, 2008  
In accordance with a resolution of the Directors



.....  
B. Huttly - Director



.....  
I. Blair - Director

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

**ABN: 71 001 029 545**

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF**  
**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

**Report On the Concise Financial Report**

The accompanying concise financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited comprises the balance sheet as at 30 September 2008, the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended and related notes, derived from the audited financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2008, and the discussion and analysis. The concise financial report does not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards.

**Directors' Responsibility for the Concise Financial Report**

The directors are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the concise financial report in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), statutory and other requirements. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation of the concise financial report; selecting and applying the appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the concise financial report based on our audit procedures. We have conducted an independent audit, in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2008. Our audit report on the financial report for the year was signed on 16 December 2008 and was not subject to any modification. The Australian Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report for the year is free from material misstatement.

Our procedures in respect of the concise financial report included testing that the information in the concise financial report is derived from, and is consistent with, the financial report for the year, and examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts, discussion and analysis, and other disclosures which were not directly derived from the financial report for the year. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the concise financial report complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports and whether the discussion and analysis complies with the requirements laid down in AASB 1039: Concise financial Reports.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, provided to the directors of Briars at Greenlees Limited on 15 December 2008 would be in the same terms if provided to the directors as at the date of this auditor's report.

**Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion, the concise financial report including the discussion and analysis of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2008 complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports.

**DATED AT CONCORD**  
**16 December 2008**

**HARLEY RUSSELL & DAY**  
Chartered Accountants

**GARRY WILLIAM DAY**  
Registered Company Auditor