

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB

34a GEORGE STREET, BURWOOD.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 8th AUGUST, 1930.

Presented at the MASONIC HALL, CROYDON, 7th August, 1930.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

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General Committee:

M. R. BLAIR.

N. WALES.

J. HOLMES.

G. WHIDDON.

Club Room Stewards:

G. ARTHUR.

F. M. FARRELL.

A. HIGGS.

R. McANALLY.

S. McGREGOR.

M. MITCHELL.

W. STEPHENS.

D. VOWLES.

G. VOWLES.

H. WATSON.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are happy to present to you this evening the Twelfth Annual Report of The Briars Sporting Club.

It has been a period of outstanding progress, due mainly to the acquiring of Club Rooms in a very central position in Burwood, which were opened in October last.

CLUB ROOMS.

These rooms, the ambition of your Committee for a number of years, were secured after extensive inquiries had been made for suitable premises around the district, and after negotiations with the owners of the building itself extending over many weeks. We consider ourselves fortunate in finding quarters at a rental within our means, and, although at the time it was expected that the membership fees would have to be drawn upon to meet expenses, we are pleased to say that this has never, at any stage, been necessary; in fact, the rooms are more than paying their way.

The equipment is all that could be desired. We started off with one billiard table, but very soon this was found to be insufficient, and a second table was purchased by means of a loan of £80 raised through members. Half this amount has already been repaid. Ping pong, cards, dominoes, chess and draughts, together with a library, wireless and gramophone, complete a wide variety of amusements.

Yet, despite your Committee's efforts, it is with some regret that we remark on the fact that little more than one-third of the members are regular in their attendance at the rooms, and we are unable to supply a reason for this apparent indifference.

Some of the fathers are frequent visitors, and we are pleased to see them take part in the various games, but this year we hope a larger number will display a similar interest in the Club's activities.

An exhibition of billiards was very kindly given by Messrs. L. Hayes (Empire Amateur Champion) and J. Turner last November, and members were supplied with a very fine game, Mr. Hayes compiling three breaks of over 100.

A football lecture was delivered recently to a good gathering by Messrs. T. H. Bosward and C. Towers, and this proved both interesting and instructive. We thank these gentlemen for their kindness.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership now stands at the record figure of 97, which shows an increase of 28 for the year.

We have had a satisfactory year in our sporting activities at cricket and football, and, although our various teams have not had the necessary finish to win a competition, they have all had a fair measure of success, and generally finished the season in a prominent position.

CRICKET.

Last season two teams were again entered in the Western Suburbs Junior Cricket Association's Competition, one in Second and the other in Third Grade.

The Firsts played 14 matches, winning 10 and losing 4, finishing up in third position.

K. Jenkyn, F. Mitchell and N. Wales each passed the century mark, while L. Meulman reached the nineties on two occasions, and carried off the batting average with 491 runs at 30.68, closely followed by N. Wales with 548 runs at 30.44 runs per innings. P. Murray bowled best with 66 wickets at 10.27.

Poor catching on occasions let the team down badly, and this fault affected the Second team to an even greater extent, yet they recorded 9 wins out of 14 matches played, and completed the season in second position.

C. Cameron, with 222 runs at an average of 31.7, N. Fisher, with 223 runs at 22.3, and W. Evitt, 318 runs at 31.2, batted consistently. Cameron and Evitt each recorded centuries. N. Pardoe bowled wonderfully well to record an average of 5.5 for 58 wickets, including the hat-trick on one occasion.

A very pleasing presentation of a gold pencil was made to Mr. J. McGregor by the First XI. at the commencement of the season, in recognition of his splendid services as scorer for that team.

FOOTBALL.

At the time of my report last year we were approaching the end of the 1929 season with both of our teams well out of the running for final honours. The Firsts finished up in fifth position and the Seconds were seventh in their respective grades.

This year there was a big influx of new blood, and we found ourselves with sufficient men for three teams, which were entered in the First, Second and Third Grades respectively of the non-district competition controlled by the N.S.W. Rugby Union.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB

The Firsts started off with a very fine team in a convincing manner, but owing to lack of match practice later on, due to a number of teams defaulting—at one period they were a month without a game—and the loss of some of our best men, notably J. May and J. Fenton, who have gone to positions in the country, D. Rossell, the captain, with sickness, and J. Holmes with injuries, were not quite good enough against the strong teams. However, they have performed very creditably, and although there is little prospect of them winning the competition they should finish in second position.

Their record so far is 12 matches played for 9 wins and 3 losses.

The Seconds have done well, too, and at present are in third position, with 6 wins, 3 draws and 3 losses.

The Thirds commenced very well, but their form was not maintained, due mainly to the better players being taken for the higher teams. Nevertheless, they have managed to break even so far with 5 wins, 5 losses and 1 draw. They stand in third position.

Although we have no prospect of winning any of the grades, the Non-District Club Championship pennant should come our way.

Twenty-two members made a very enjoyable trip per parlour coach to Bathurst over the King's Birthday week-end, and had a splendid time there, which was enhanced by two easy victories against local combinations.

TENNIS.

With the object of reviving interest in this sport, a team was entered in a Sunday morning competition controlled by the Homebush-Flemington Tennis Association. However, the experiment was a failure, as little interest was taken by members, and the team is meeting with poor success.

SOCIAL.

The Annual Meeting last year was a very enjoyable event, and we were pleased to see so many parents present. We trust they all enjoyed the evening.

Three dances have taken place since our last report, and each was a splendid success, both socially and financially. That held last September was attended by a record gathering of 252, and the three events helped considerably to augment the Club funds.

A ballet comprised of eight members made a very popular appearance at two of these functions, and evoked much merriment with their displays. We are grateful to the Misses Jane and Mollie Vowles for their splendid assistance in making the costumes.

A billiards handicap was conducted recently and attracted a good entry. After some interesting games, J. Holmes and J. May reached the semi-finals, but unfortunately the latter had to leave for the country before the final could be played.

We extend our congratulations on their marriages to Mr. J. Stone and to Mr. A. Lane. Also to Messrs. N. Pardoe and D. and G. Ross on their engagements.

COMMITTEE.

Your Committee has met on 17 occasions during the period under review and has done good work in looking after your interests. The Stewards, too, have been far from inactive, and have combined well in effecting smooth running at the rooms. Both bodies were particularly busy for some weeks prior to the opening of the premises, and your thanks are due to them for their strenuous and unselfish efforts. We feel that too little appreciation altogether is shown by members of the work performed by the Committeemen, whose efforts alone make the existence of the Club possible.

BEREAVEMENTS.

The Club deeply regrets to record the bereavements sustained by A. Campbell and N. Fisher in the loss of their father and mother respectively, and extends its deepest sympathy.

Our thanks are due to the many parents and friends—too many to mention here—for their generous assistance in connection with the supper arrangements at our dances; also to our President, Mr. May, and Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Holmes, Love, McGregor, Patrick, Siddeley and Whiddon, for their helpful presence at Committee Meetings and in numerous other directions.

In conclusion, we desire to thank Mr. P. C. Murray for his valuable work as Treasurer in handling well over £850 during the year, and in producing such a creditable balance. Also Mr. J. Stone for once again auditing our books, and Mr. N. Pardoe who ably assisted him.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

R. W. MAY, President.

R. CLARK, Hon. Secretary

