

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB



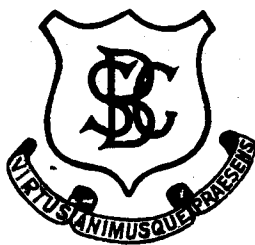
TWENTY - EIGHTH
ANNUAL
REPORT



1945 - 46

*PRESENTED TO MEMBERS AT THE CLUB ROOMS, BURWOOD,
30th AUGUST, 1946.*

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB



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**ANNUAL
REPORT**



1945 - 46

:: PAST PRESIDENTS ::

J. H. Stone	1918/1919
H. W. Whiddon	1919/1920
J. O. Meeks	..	..	..	1920/1921
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1921/1922
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1922/1923
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1923/1924
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1924/1925
E. Love	..	..	..	1925/1926
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1926/1927
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1927/1928
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1928/1929
R. W. May	..	..	..	1929/1930
R. W. May	..	..	..	1930/1931
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1931/1932
H. W. Whiddon	..	..	..	1932/1933
R. G. Herford	..	..	..	1933/1934
R. G. Herford	..	..	..	1934/1935
J. E. Holmes	..	..	..	1935/1936
R. W. May	..	..	..	1936/1937
R. W. May	..	..	..	1937/1938
R. W. May	..	..	..	1938/1939
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1939/1940
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1940/1941
E. J. Siddeley	..	..	..	1941/1942
R. W. May	..	..	..	1942/1943
H. G. Whiddon	..	..	..	1943/1944
H. G. Whiddon	..	..	..	1944/1945

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB

34a GEORGE STREET, BURWOOD

Office - Bearers—1945-46

PATRON:

The Hon. H. W. Whiddon, M.L.C.

PRESIDENT:

H. G. Whiddon

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

The Mayor of Concord.	A. J. Land.
The Mayor of Enfield.	E. P. Love.
G. F. Bevan.	R. W. May.
M. R. Blair.	L. B. Meulman.
R. B. Clark.	P. C. Murray.
J. Cousins.	A. J. Robinson.
L. R. Dunbar.	E. J. Siddeley.
R. W. R. Glasgow.	J. H. Stone.
R. G. Herford.	R. R. Turner.
F. J. Herlihy.	N. G. Wales.
J. Darvall Hunt.	Dr. R. W. Walsh.
J. E. Holmes.	E. F. Watt.
S. Jones.	

TRUSTEES:

R. W. May.	E. J. Siddeley.
The Hon. H. W. Whiddon, M.L.C.	

HON. TREASURER:

L. B. Meulman.

HON. SECRETARY:

R. B. Clark.

HON. ASSISTANT TREASURER: HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

R. Crofts.

R. J. Thomson.

SENIOR STEWARD:

W. Elder.

HON. AUDITOR:

N. G. Wales.

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

W. Elder.	M. Mitchell.
M. A. Hill.	T. Mobbs.
J. Hollands.	D. Walker.



:: LEST WE FORGET ::

In affectionate memory we record the names of our members who paid the Supreme Sacrifice for us.

Neville Austin, R.A.A.F.
Kent Bussell, R.A.A.F.
Chris Daly, R.A.A.F.
Lindsay Dunbar, A.I.F.
Bill Edginton, R.A.A.F.
Roy Farnsworth, R.A.A.F.
Mal Gillies, A.I.F.
Alan Herron, A.I.F.
J. Gordon Lee, R.A.A.F.
Fab. McMaster, A.I.F.
Noel Marshall, A.I.F.
Jack May, R.A.A.F.
Wally Sams, R.A.A.F.
Harry Searle, A.I.F.
Bill Theyer, R.A.A.F.

Whilst we deplore their passing, we will ever remember our happy associations with them and the part they played in upholding the traditions of our Club.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them."



Municipal and Shire (Southern Division) Premiers.

1st XI. — 1945-1946.

A. Lynch, A. Rose, E. J. Siddeley, Esq. (V.-Pres.), A. Leadbeater, W. Elder, C. Mitchell.
 T. Mobbs, J. Mason, D. Prowse (V.-Capt.), C. Nee, L. Hokin, E. Watt, J. Hollands.
 H. Lennartz, L. Davis (Capt.), H. G. Whiddon, Esq. (Pres.), A. Land, J. Whiting.

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE AND HON. TREASURER'S STATEMENT

To the Members of The Briars Sporting Club:

Gentlemen,

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Report of the Club, for the year ended 30th June, 1946, covers a period of recuperation in which action was taken on an increasing scale to provide for post-war development.

We look back over the past year with a four-fold emotion. Firstly, there is a sense of thankfulness at the successful termination of hostilities. Next, we must experience a feeling of pride at the part played by Club members in various spheres both at home and abroad during the war years. Mingled with this is sorrow at the loss of so many good comrades who laid down their lives in the service of King and Country. Finally there is the realisation that we must now prepare for the future, a future which we are sure holds for the Club a bright destiny.

Already, much progress has been made in the way of a return to our pre-war scale of activities. Indeed, the steps which were taken to enter another cricket team in the City and Suburban Competition and to form hockey and tennis teams might well be taken as proof of the Club's determination not only to return to normal but to seek expansion into further fields.

A number of our ex-servicemen members have not yet intimated their intentions in regard to the continuance of their participation in Club activities. This is due no doubt to the entrance of many of them into marital life, the responsibilities of which, in view of present housing difficulties, preclude their giving of definite indications as to future intentions. However, sufficient evidence is available to show that great responsibility will devolve upon your Committee in the provision of adequate facilities for this type of member as well as in catering for that even more important section of the Club membership namely, the young active members.

At the end of the year under review, the total membership was 227, a decrease of 13 on last year's total. Of this number, 45 are listed as honorary members, being those who are still in the Forces.

Complete figures are as follows—

Full	98
Associate	59
Country	12
Junior	11
Honorary	45
Schoolboys	2
Total	227

One necessary item of our post-war programme is forcibly drawn to our attention by the above statistics, and that is the action which must be taken to attract lads who have just left school. The question is a vital one concerning all members and it behoves every one of us to take advantage of any opportunity offering to bring the Club before the notice of suitable youngsters.

In this connection members are reminded as to the provision in the Rules for schoolboy members which was especially inserted to encourage lads in their last year at school to join up so as to enable them to continue their sporting career under our auspices.

In the cricket sphere our 1st XI team was again successful in winning the Municipal and Shires Competition. This is our third win in five seasons in this Competition and the members of the team are to be congratulated upon their splendid performances.

We are pleased to record that as a result of representations made to the N.S.W. Rugby Union, Kentwell and Burke Cup Competitions have been re-established. The Concord Council provided us with training facilities similar to those enjoyed prior to the war on Concord Oval, for which we are very grateful.

All Club members from the Forces desiring to play football have been provided for, and have materially improved our standard. However, our results are disappointing and we look forward to recruits from several of the schools to overcome obvious weaknesses before next season.

The work on Rothwell Park is progressing and it is hoped that the ground will be available for next cricket season. Once again we desire to express our appreciation of the continued co-operation extended to us by the Concord Council. The Club's thanks are also due to those members who assisted with the work on the ground and to Mrs. Tom Brennan for her kindness in providing tea for the workers.

CRICKET

(Sub-Committee: R. Glasgow, J. Hollands, F. Richards, and J. Whiting.)

During the 1945-46 season, the Club entered a team for the first time in the City and Suburban Association. The primary object of so doing was to provide for members being discharged from the Services, who did not wish to be immediately tied down to competition cricket and the two-day matches it involves. This object was only partially successful in that members generally did not receive their discharge as soon as was anticipated. However, there can be no question but that the idea behind the move was a good one and full credit must be given to the organisers and the players who saw the team through its early teething troubles.

The Club also fielded two teams in the Municipal and Shires Competition and one in Third Grade with Western Suburbs Cricket Association. The Municipal and Shires Competition was played in two divisions arranged on a geographical basis. This meant that our two teams were again in the same division, namely, the Southern Division.

As Rothwell Park was not ready for use, the two Shire teams were accommodated on Concord Oval, and we appreciate the efforts of the new groundsman there—Mr. Frank Watson—in providing improved wickets for our use. The City and Suburban team had no regular home ground and our thanks are due to I Zingari Club for their generosity in providing the use of their ground for a number of matches.

The position with regard to material did not appreciably improve during the season and we were hard put to it to cater for the extra team. Continuance of careful maintenance will be essential during the forthcoming year.

We desire to convey our congratulations to Lane Cove "A" team in winning the Northern Division of the Municipal and Shires Competition and to Fivedock Waratahs C.C. in winning the Main Suburban Division of the Western Suburbs Third Grade Competition.

FIRST ELEVEN

For the second successive year, the Firsts won the Shire Competition. More teams competed last year than in the 1944/45 season and, in general, the standard of play was higher.

The team had to fight extremely hard throughout the season, due mainly to the indifferent form displayed by the majority of its batsmen. The main factors which contributed to its success were consistent performances by the bowlers, generally sound fielding, good leadership, and continued keenness and fighting spirit.

Mr. Siddeley also made an effective contribution by acting as scorer at every match and by freely offering forthright but constructive criticism, in his own inimitable style.

Most of the fixtures played provided their quota of excitement, but tussles with Paddington and Randwick deserve special mention.

Against Paddington, our team in its second innings required 31 runs in 15 minutes for an outright win. Prowse took strike and off the first ball bowled hit a beautiful six. Two boundaries and a single off the next three balls made victory certain.

The match against Randwick was the last of the season with the premiership a possibility for any one of the four leading teams. Randwick's innings totalled 171 and in reply we at one stage had lost 7 wickets for 78. Lennartz then scored a forceful 58, but with Hollands and Mobbs together and 9 wickets down, 19 runs were still required. A fighting stand between these two brought the score to 179 and with this win the team became premiers once more.

L. Davis, Captain of the First Eleven for the past two years, has led the team to premiership honours on both occasions. He was the backbone of the team's batting and played a Captain's part throughout the season.

D. Prowse (Vice-Captain) was, for him, inconsistent with the bat but obtained the team's highest score of the season, 72 not out. He gave a classy exhibition of keeping when occupying that position.

C. Mitchell was promoted towards the latter part of the season after good batting displays, including the lone century, in the Third Eleven. He performed creditably in the senior team.

E. Watt was of great value to the team as an all-rounder. He took 18 catches, the most for an individual during the season.

T. Mobbs also recorded good performances with bat and ball.

H. Lennartz is regarded as the Club's most improved cricketer. He should develop into an outstanding all-rounder.

The return to cricket of C. Nee, a graceful and efficient batsman, was most opportune.

J. Mason obtained the best bowling average and was particularly difficult to play on a "sporty" wicket.

A Rose, the man of guile, turned in yet another year of successful bowling.

J. Hollands batted very disappointingly but, on the other hand, came to the fore as a slow bowler.

J. Whiting was wicketkeeper for most of the season and is to be congratulated on his extreme keenness. He was available even when on annual leave.

W. Elder, L. Hokin and A. Land all recorded batting performances far below their proven ability and we hope that next season will see their return to form.

Although the team's performance may be regarded as satisfactory, prospects for the future are not bright unless the batting strength is improved. Possibly the Club's inability to secure a practice wicket last year was responsible for batsmen not striking form and it is hoped that practice facilities will be available this year.

SECOND ELEVEN

The Second Eleven, playing in the same grade as the First Eleven, did not finish in a very meritorious position in the Competition but this could not be taken as a true indication of the team's ability, there being several close finishes which would have made a great difference had they finished our way.

The inconsistency of the team as a whole in the first half of the season was the main reason for its downfall, no wins being recorded until the ninth round of the Competition.

Of the close games, perhaps the one against the Firsts was the most exciting, the latter winning by only one run on the first innings.

The most consistent and best batsman was F. Randle who, although he only began to play with the team half way through the season, succeeded in obtaining 234 runs for an average of 23.4, a really fine effort.

A. Lynch, who also only began with the team late in the season after a spell from cricket, also scored well.

E. Annetts, whilst not as consistent as could be hoped, improved on his last season's performances as a batsman.

H. Lennartz batted very well, exceeding the half century on two occasions. He also topped the aggregate and thoroughly deserved his subsequent promotion to the first team.

R. Fulwood did not meet with his previous success with the bat but was responsible for some useful scores.

T. Brennan batted consistently without hitting the highlights.

The lack of aggressiveness in the team's bowling was its main fault but, as a rule, it was treated with respect.

As an opening bowler H. Lennartz did well, obtaining the highest number of wickets (43), and his value to the team as a trundler was even higher than as a batsman.

J. Walker's return to cricket late in the season was very pleasing, especially so as he showed glimpses of his old form.

The evergreen E. Annetts bowled well to bag 40 wickets at a cheap cost with his medium spinners.

R. Fulwood bowled as accurately as ever but some of the old fire was missing.

We again express our thanks to Mrs. Fulwood who scored for the team during the season.

FIRST AND SECOND ELEVEN RESULTS

(Municipal and Shire Competition)

	Matches Played	W.	W.I.	L.	L.I.	D.	T.	Comp. Pts.	Pos.
1st XI ..	14	4	6	—	3	—	1	89	1st
2nd XI ..	13	3	—	5	2	2	—	40	13th

	Runs for	Wickets for	Avg.	Runs Agst.	Wickets Agst.	Avg.
1st XI	2470	165	15.0	2513	211	11.9
2nd XI	1945	153	12.7	2111	151	13.3

AVERAGES

(First Eleven)

BATTING:

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Avg.
L. Davis	18	4	66	433	30.9
D. Prowse	15	1	72x	347	24.8
C. Mitchell	5	—	35	88	17.6
C. Nee	8	1	34	105	15.0
W. Elder	17	—	31	235	13.8
T. Mobbs	18	3	38	199	13.3
J. Hollands	15	1	66x	185	13.2
E. Watt	18	4	35	179	12.8
A. Lynch	6	—	31	64	10.7
L. Hokin	11	1	26	91	9.1
A. Land	13	1	23	96	8.0
J. Mason	14	7	10	39	5.6
J. Whiting	10	3	15	37	5.3
A. Rose	16	5	13	27	2.5

x Not Out.

Also Batted: H. Lennartz, 2 innings for 70 runs; T. Brennan, 1 for 30; B. McKittrick, 2 for 8; B. Williams, 1 for 4; L. Meulman, 1 for 10; J. Stanley, 1 for 6; A. Leadbeater, 3 for 22.

BOWLING:

Name	Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wickets	Avg.
J. Mason	111	17	377	39	9.3
A. Rose	154	17	587	57	10.3
J. Hollands	41	1	240	20	12.0
E. Watt	126	10	499	34	14.7
T. Mobbs	138	11	488	33	14.8

Also Bowled: W. Elder, 3 wickets for 25 runs; A. Lynch, 2 for 46;
J. Stanley, 1 for 6; R. Williams, 3 for 38; H. Lennartz, 3 for 48.

AVERAGES (Second Eleven)

BATTING:

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Avg.
F. Randle	13	3	45	234	23.4
A. Lynch	9	2	51	154	22.0
H. Lennartz	15	—	58	254	16.9
E. Annetts	13	5	38	135	16.9
R. Fulwood	14	3	28	174	15.8
T. Brennan	16	—	35	200	12.5
R. Ackerman	16	—	27	154	9.6
B. McKittrick	7	—	23	67	9.6
A. Leadbeater	15	4	18	104	9.5
F. Richards	12	1	32	71	6.5
J. Atwill	13	—	14	58	4.5

Also Batted: L. Hokin, 1 innings for 26 runs; A. Land, 2 for 45; J. McCourt, (1 not out) for 20; J. Walker, 5 for 36. E. Stockdale, 5 (2 not out) for 10; B. Williams, 5 (2 not out) for 8; K. Parker, 3 (1 not out) for 5.

BOWLING:

Name	Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wickets	Avg.
J. Walker	33	—	144	14	10.3
H. Lennartz	102	11	448	43	10.4
E. Annetts	97	6	423	40	10.6
R. Fulwood	83	14	258	19	13.6
J. Atwill	49	3	204	11	18.5

Also Bowled: A. Lynch, 7 wickets for 103 runs; J. Stanley, 4 for 42;
R. Williams, 2 for 23; T. Brennan, 2 for 73; R. Ackerman, 1 for 46;
F. Richards, 1 for 73.

THIRD ELEVEN

This year R. Clark and L. Meulman voluntarily joined the lower grade with a view to assisting younger players and, with the addition of several promising juniors, prospects looked particularly bright.

L. Meulman (Captain) was the mainstay of the team with the bat, with that old stalwart C. Mitchell, not far behind him. With R. Thomson reaping in the wickets with his slows, there was every reason to expect a most successful season.

However, three losses in the first four matches dealt our hopes a crippling blow. Recovery of form from then on enabled the team to finish third in the Division. One source of satisfaction was that the only defeat suffered by the Divisional winners, Fivedock Waratah C.C., was inflicted by our representatives.

Young players, in E. Stockdale, R. Atwill, S. Hipwell and Brian Williams, who showed good promise, should make their presence felt in higher grades in future years.

J. Clingan, R. Thomson, D. Walker and R. Goodacre were responsible for some handy scores and the first named, in addition, was the team's outstanding fieldsman.

A. Thomson only played in the last few matches but was well in the limelight with his forceful hitting.

R. Clark and D. Walker felt the toll of years and often lacked their former fire and devil. However, they both showed occasional glimpses of their old form and at such times the batsmen had a far from comfortable passage.

The team was a happy one and will prove a very useful nursery for developing young players for the higher grades.

	Matches Played	W.	W.I.	L.	L.J.	D.	T.	Comp. Pts.	Pos.
3rd XI ..	14	6	4	1	2	1	—	40	3rd
		Runs for	Wickets for		Avg.	Runs Agst.	Wickets Agst.		Avg.
3rd XI		2857	174		16.4	2027	194		10.5

AVERAGES (Third Eleven)

BATTING:

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Avg.
L. Meulman	14	3	95	354	32.2
C. Mitchell	13	1	104	368	30.7
A. Thomson	6	1	90	147	29.4
S. Hipwell	17	4	46x	223	17.2
J. Clingan	16	3	43x	222	17.1
R. Thomson	19	—	52	324	17.1
D. Walker	15	3	52x	182	15.2
R. Clark	16	2	35	182	13.0
R. Atwill	10	4	23	74	12.3
R. Goodacre	19	—	48	232	12.2
E. Stockdale	7	—	27	81	11.6
K. Campling	8	—	24	77	9.6
B. Williams	8	—	17	55	6.9

Also Batted: N. Thomas, 5 innings (2 not out) for 39 runs; B. Curtin, 4 for 36; V. Nee, 2 for 5.

BOWLING:

Name	Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wickets	Avge.
R. Thomson	133	10	570	65	8.8
E. Stockdale	39	7	130	14	9.3
R. Clark	136	31	369	32	11.5
D. Walker	99	13	296	25	11.8
J. McKenzie	33	2	167	11	15.2

Also Bowled: K. Campling, 1 for 0; S. Hipwell, 2 for 14; R. Atwill, 6 for 47; J. Clingan, 1 for 8; C. Mitchell, 2 for 19; V. Nee, 3 for 33; L. Meulman, 5 for 65; N. Thomas, 1 for 29; J. Walker, 2 for 59.

CITY AND SUBURBAN

The team's apparently poor record of successes was due mainly to the fact that it was not possible to mould a regular combination. In all, some sixty different players appeared with the team at one time or another. One useful function performed was the provision of match practice for a number of players who became available after the commencement of the season, prior to their playing with the Club's other teams in competition cricket.

Gordon Lee, although inconsistent, and V. Buzacott were the best of the regular batsmen. R. Glasgow bore the brunt of the bowling with N. Thomas showing signs of developing into a very useful left-hander in his few appearances at the creases at the end of the season.

Matches Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
23	5	16	2

CRICKET MEMORIAL TROPHY

In last year's report reference was made to a trophy given by an anonymous donor for competition among the cricketers along the same lines as those operating in respect of the "Gordon Bevan" Football Shield. The trophy is in memory of comrades fallen in the war and is to be awarded annually to the winner of a competition carrying points as follows—

Value to Team	25 points
Conduct on field	15 "
General keenness as a cricketer	20 "
Value to Club as a member ..	30 "
Neatness of dress	10 "
Total	100 points

The winner of the trophy for the 1945-46 season is R. Thomson. This member's performances with his team were outstanding and his value to the Club as an administrator has been invaluable.

FOOTBALL

(Sub-Committee: R. Crofts, A. D. Friend, M. A. Hill, J. Wallace and G. Wright.)

As stated earlier in this Report, this year marked the revival of Sub-District football after a lapse of four years. The successful conclusion of negotiations in this regard were due in a large degree to the efforts of the Metropolitan Sub-District Rugby Union Management Committee under the able chairmanship of our Patron, the Hon. H. W. Whiddon, M.L.C. This Club's views on the matter were efficiently presented by its delegates, Messrs. R. Clark and D. Walker.

With the very creditable performance of the Fourth Grade team which reached the quarter-finals last season, the Club looked forward to a bumper season this year. A large percentage of ex-servicemen reappeared and two teams were entered, one in the Kentwell Cup and one in the Burke Cup.

The Kentwell Cup team has not performed up to expectations. Attendances at training have been good, but the pre-war dash and fire have been missing, and this fact together with considerable disorganization of the backs through injuries, the number of which has been abnormal, has resulted in the team only occupying fourth position at the time of writing. However, the backs are now becoming more stabilised and we look forward to the team showing considerable improvement during the remainder of the season.

The Burke Cup team has been unable to settle down as a combination owing to the constant necessity to provide replacements for the Firsts and so far have failed to win a game. Here again, however, there has been steady improvement and scores have been remarkably close during the last few games giving rise to hopes of a much better finish to the season.

We are most appreciative of the untiring efforts of the coaches, H. G. Whiddon and R. D. Vanderfield, and the manner in which they have so unselfishly given of their time and not inconsiderable experience to develop the teams.

Also we are grateful to L. Knight for his informative lecture on the rules of the game.

The work done by G. Wright in looking after material and in the way of organisation has been outstanding and he is to be heartily commended upon his enthusiastic efforts in the interests of Club welfare.

The highlight of the season was a visit to Duntroon Military College on King's Birthday week-end. It was a great honour for the Club to be afforded this opportunity and the manner in which the College authorities went out of their way to entertain the team was greatly appreciated by the players. We are hopeful that similar trips will be arranged every year not only for the footballers, but for the cricketers and hockey players as well.

Unfortunately, the team was outclassed by the College team on the Saturday and lost 54 to 6. On the Monday, however, against Combined Canberra, a considerable improvement was shown. Although the final score was 24 to 11 against us the opposition were given a hard battle and the last nine points scored by them were recorded in the last ten minutes of the game.

GORDON BEVAN SHIELD

This trophy is awarded annually to the footballer adjudged the winner of a competition carrying the following points—

1. Attendance at Training	20 points
2. Value to his Team	20 "
3. Most improved player	20 "
4. General keenness as a footballer . .	15 "
5. Value to his Club as a member	15 "
6. Neatness of uniform	10 "
Total	100 points

Last season's winner was R. Crofts, who was having his first year with the Club. This player fulfilled the above requirements in a highly satisfactory manner, being not only a valuable asset to his team on the field but also a keen contributor to the Club's welfare in the administrative sphere.

HOCKEY

(Sub-Committee: R. Ackerman, S. Hipwell, H. Lennartz and R. Thomson)

Reference was made in a previous Report to the proposal to introduce hockey as a Club sport. A Sub-Committee was set up last February to inquire into the matter with a view to entering a team in the Metropolitan Hockey Association's 1946 competition.

The first task was to ascertain whether there were sufficient members prepared to participate in the sport if it was introduced. Efforts in this direction were not too encouraging at first owing to the natural reluctance of members to take on a game about which they knew nothing. However, with the approach of the season and the consequent necessity to reach an early decision one way or the other, it was decided to take a bold step and accordingly the Association was asked to consider the Club's application to enter a team.

The Association advised in reply that the competition was only open to district teams and the movement appeared to have received an early death-blow. However, through the good offices of Alex McNaught, an old member, contact was established with Western Suburbs District Hockey Club which came to the rescue with a suggestion that a Briars team be entered under its banner on the understanding that our Club was to have full control of its own team in the way of selection, collection of fees and all internal arrangements.

West's generous offer was accepted and our team was entered in the Fourth Grade Competition under the name of Western Suburbs 4B. It was not possible of course to use our own Club name and colours.

The keenness displayed by the players was amazing and our first misgivings at having only the bare eleven men for the team were completely allayed after a few matches when it was found that a full team was always available. As a matter of fact, the addition of two recruits later in the season caused the selectors a few headaches in selecting the team.

Second only to its enthusiasm have been the remarkable performances of the team. All novices at the start of the season, the players immediately displayed native ability and, much to the delight of all concerned, proceeded to chalk up a succession of victories which, to date, has been interrupted by only one defeat.

Three drawn matches have also cost us points, but at the time of writing the team is running in third position, three points behind the leaders. As the system of competition is that the first four teams play off in semi-finals and finals to determine the premiership, your representatives are optimistic regarding their chances of making the final four.

This Report would not be complete without an expression of appreciation of the whole-hearted co-operation and assistance afforded by Western Suburbs District Hockey Club and others. An invitation extended to Wests to send along half a dozen or so members to our Wednesday night practices was accepted and the experience and tuition so generously given to our players on those occasions proved invaluable.

In this regard also our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Andy Fraser of the Umpires Association who, at considerable inconvenience to himself, delivered a most instructive lecture to the team on the rules and tactics of the game.

Experience to date indicates that hockey as a Club sport has come to stay and will be productive of ever-increasing interest among the members.

TENNIS

A new departure in this sport was the entrance of two teams in the Sunday Morning Men's Winter Competition with the Western Suburbs Hardcourt Association. The teams were entered in B1 and C2 Grades and even though they have no chance of winning the premiership, they have made their presence felt, being almost certain to be placed in the first four in each case.

Two doubles handicap tournaments were held during the year at the Strathfield Recreation Club's Courts, and, as usual, some enjoyable and keen tennis resulted. The first tournament was not played out but the winners would have come from T. Mobbs and W. Elder, and R. Clark and C. Mitchell. The second tournament was divided into two sections—the "A" Section being won by H. Lennartz and R. Thomson and the "B" Section by E. Stockdale and Brian Williams.

With the lifting of restrictions on tennis balls and equipment we expect to be able to arrange tennis functions during the forth coming year along pre-war lines, and to venture upon a larger and more attractive programme.

GOLF

(Sub-Committee: M. Mitchell and C. Mitchell)

Owing to the shortage of balls and the difficulties of transport it has not been possible to revive our golf outings. However, it is hoped that the forthcoming year will see us able to resume these most enjoyable functions.

EX-SERVICEMEN AND OLD MEMBERS' REUNIONS

(Sub-Committee: J. Dinning, S. Jones, R. E. McLaughlin, M. Mitchell, D. Rossell and J. Walker.)

With the return to civilian life of many of our ex-servicemen members, a Reunion of Ex-Servicemen and Old Members was held at the Club Rooms on 25/3/46. There was an excellent attendance and the appearance of many old-timers made the occasion a memorable one. Matches were replayed and numerous "off the field" incidents recalled.

During the evening a Sub-Committee to arrange future functions and outings was elected.

Two further evenings were held and although not as well attended as the first they were none the less convivial.

It is realised that members sometimes find it inconvenient to attend the reunions. Consequently, the Committee considers it advisable to hold the functions as frequently as practicable. For the time being, therefore, it is proposed to have the gatherings every five or six weeks.

CLUB ROOMS

With our ex-servicemen once again in a position to avail themselves of the Club amenities, combined with the unfailing interest of quite a number of the younger members and, of course, the small team of die-hards who worked so hard to carry the Club through the difficult past five years, we are happy to report a much more constant and increased attendance at the Club Rooms.

Another welcome circumstance is the increase in the supply of such luxuries as chocolates, salted peanuts and other goods for which we have to thank the initiative and Club interest of M. Mitchell and M. Hill. Supplies of cigarettes and tobacco are still short.

It would be gratifying to us if we were to see more of the older members, for now they can be assured of meeting many old friends so long absent from the Club.

BILLIARDS

(Sub-Committee: T. Mobbs and N. Thomas.)

Billiards was once again mainly confined to social games and several of the junior members showed a great improvement in their play.

The usual Xmas Handicap Tournament brought forth some very keen contests. It was eventually won by A. Land after a severe tussle with W. Elder in the final.

A quarterly service rendered by Helron and Smith ensured the maintenance of the equipment in good order and condition.

LIBRARY

During the war years, owing to the scarcity of new literature and soaring prices, little action was taken with regard to the Library. There still has not been any material improvement in the position. However, the Committee is ever mindful of the importance of the Library and will seize the first opportunity to restore it to its rightful place among Club Room facilities.

TABLE TENNIS

The past year has seen the release of table tennis balls and although no tournaments or matches have been played, the table is never left unused for long on Friday nights.

It is hoped that we will now be able to go ahead with a view to arranging tournaments and matches with other Clubs.

ENTERTAINMENTS

(Sub-Committee: P. Crocker, R. Crofts, D. Walker and J. Wallace.)

The programme for the year was somewhat disorganised by the electricity restrictions and the continued shortage of supplies. However, several functions were arranged and were well up to standard.

The special object was to cater for the younger members as well as the older ones and with this end in view a dinner followed by a dance was held in the Club Rooms at the conclusion of both the football and cricket seasons. The attendance at these functions was ample evidence of their popularity and it is hoped that they will continue to be a feature of the Club's activities.

Another innovation was a picnic held at Garie Beach in February, an outing which we hope to repeat next summer.

During the year a cocktail party for the older members was held in the Club Rooms. These functions were introduced during the war years as a means of raising funds for the War Comforts Fund and have always been enjoyable.

The first peacetime dance was held at the Croydon Masonic Hall and was so successful as to encourage the Sub-Committee to arrange a Ball in June. On this occasion, 195 members and friends attended and the spirit of conviviality reigning during the evening was quite up to pre-war standards.

We are most appreciative of the efforts of those ladies who attended to the catering for the various entertainments and the thanks of the members are due to J. Wallace, P. Crocker and R. Crofts for their untiring work to ensure the success of the functions. It is to be hoped that more of the younger members will follow the example set by these men. New ideas are always welcome and there is great scope for them in this sphere of the Club's activities.

The greatest contribution was that made by D. Walker in the organisation and management of the work done by the Sub-Committee and the Club owes him a great debt on this account.

CLUB HISTORY

(Sub-Committee: R. Clark, S. McGregor, L. Meulman, E. J. Siddeley, R. Thomson and D. Walker.)

The action which is being taken towards the compilation of the history of the Club has in view the production of the work upon the occasion of the Club's thirtieth anniversary.

A large volume of data has been collected and in this connection we are most grateful to S. McGregor whose remarkable memory has enabled him to provide us with a detailed and most interesting narrative of the Club's football career from its first entrance into competition in 1923 up to 1935.

It is hoped that this example will be followed by other members, particularly the older ones, who may be in a position to recount important incidents in the Club's life.

WAR COMFORTS FUND

On 31/3/46, in accordance with a direction from the Australian Comforts Fund, N.S.W. Division, the affairs of the Club's War Comforts Fund were wound up.

In July 1940, a Ladies' Committee was formed to raise funds and provide comforts for the ever increasing number of Club members who were joining the armed forces.

Under license from the Burwood Branch of the Australian Comforts Fund, the Briars War Comforts Fund was established and until it was closed comforts were despatched regularly to our services personnel.

A brief statement of receipts and expenditure covering the period that the Comforts Fund existed is as follows—

RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS			
	£	s	d		£	s	d
Ladies' Committee Efforts	124	0	9	Comforts	441	19	1
Briars Club Efforts	236	11	0	Donations to A.C.F.	3	3	0
Donations (Ordinary)	30	3	0	Stationery, Etc.	4	3	9
Donations (Special Appeals)	151	18	6	Balance (paid to A.C.F.)	101	0	11
Bank Interest	7	13	6				
Total	£550	6	9	Total	£550	6	9

A total of approximately 600 individual parcels was sent and, in addition, an issue of specially packed chocolate was despatched.

Goods which were held at the time the Fund was closed were sent to the "Food for Britain" headquarters.

The expressions of appreciation received from our boys in the Services have clearly indicated that the purpose for which the Fund was inaugurated has been fully realised.

Its success was made possible by the ready and whole-hearted support of all who were asked to assist and, in particular, the Briars Committee extends its sincere thanks to the office bearers and members of the Ladies' Committee and the many friends who responded to the appeals for financial assistance.

BRIARS LETTER

(Editor: D. Walker.)

With the termination of the war, the need for the news letter ceased and only one letter was despatched during the year. The comments of members upon their return from war service gave ample evidence of their appreciation of this wartime innovation.

COMMITTEE

Your Committee has met on 14 occasions during the year, with the following attendances—

R. Clark	14	L. Meulman	11
W. Elder	10	M. Mitchell	12
R. Crofts	7	T. Mobbs	7
M. Hill	9	R. Thomson	13
J. Hollands	10	D. Walker	9

The Sub-Committees appointed to administer specific functions performed their duties in a satisfactory manner but it is hoped that younger members will play a more prominent role in future on these bodies.

The onerous duties of Hon. Treasurer have been carried out by L. Meulman in his usual efficient manner, ably supported by R. Crofts as the Asst. Hon. Treasurer.

The important position of Senior Steward was again capably filled by W. Elder.

FINANCES

Following are extracts from our Hon. Auditor's Report—

After providing for depreciation on Furniture and Fittings at 5%, the net profit for the year amounted to £64/9/1, compared to £39/7/1 last year when depreciation was omitted owing to the low book value of assets.

Clubroom Trading Account: The gross profit from the sale of Cigarettes, Confectionery, etc., has increased from £17/9/4 to £50/2/4 while the turnover has risen from £113/7/8 to £257/9/0—more than double last year's figures.

Cricket: This sport showed a loss of £75/10/4, compared with £49/17/3 last year. A further team was included in the competition, necessitating the purchase of additional material.

Football: This item shows a deficit of £27/5/8, compared with £1/4/8 last year, but this includes an amount of £8/0/0 for the 1945 season's registrations and also an amount of £7/10/0 for hire of ground for training.

Tennis: The purchase of balls for competition matches accounted for a loss of £2/18/9 against this heading.

Hockey: This is an innovation among the Club's sporting activities, and the loss of £11/2/0, which is shown, was mainly brought about by the purchase of initial equipment.

From the above, it will be seen that a deficit is shown in all branches of sport, and to maintain an even keel the members must support the Club's social functions and participate more frequently in the Club Room activities.

Billiards: It is a matter for regret to see the decline in revenue from this source—£18/15/9 as against £26/9/3 last year.

Entertainments: Income under this heading decreased by £41/3/3.

Dances: These functions—the first since the War—resulted in a profit of £21/10/11, a very good result, bearing in mind the high rate of taxation and inflated charges at present operating.

Annual Subscriptions: Despite a slight reduction in membership, receipts are higher by £14/18/1, which has been brought about by the transfer of servicemen from honorary to active membership.

Summarising the income and expenses, it will be seen that the actual increase in the profit made during the year practically represents the gross profit on the Club Room Trading Account.

Bank: The bank balance has increased by £102/8/3 from which must be deducted £45/0/0 due to Concord Council for ground fees, leaving an available balance of £176/13/0.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Eric Siddeley, whose engagement to Miss Barbara Smith is announced.

The following members are also congratulated on their entry into marital bliss— Ron Stephens, John Kerr, Darcy Fraser, Doug Page and Laurie Jarvis.

It is with delight that we note another busy year for Dr. Stork. The proud fathers are—Les Davis (a daughter); Doug Prowse (a son); Tom Brennan (a son); Ray Ackerman (a daughter); Maurice Hill (a daughter); Olaf Osterman (a son); Bob Coote (a daughter); Bob Williams (a son); Fred Richards (a daughter); and Mal Blair (a daughter).

We feel that the above list is incomplete, and would like to hear from any members who are not included.

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow that we record the passing of Donald (Togo) Vowles last February, after a long illness. Don, except for the period of his illness, had been an active member in cricket for almost 20 years, during which time his amiable disposition and keen sportsmanship endeared him to all his associates.

CONDOLENCES

We offer our sincere sympathy to Russel Goodacre, Harry Haigh, Norman Fisher, Jack Hollands and Laurie Nossiter, each of whom lost his father during the year.

APPRECIATIONS

Our thanks go to the following—

Dr. Geoff Vanderfield for his attention to injured footballers.

Messrs. Bjelke Petersen, and particularly Mr. Bill Turner, for looking after our players.

Mr. L. R. Dunbar, who provided the Club with a first aid kit which has been most useful this season.

Those members, who have assisted with their cars the transport of players in the various teams.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

H. G. WHIDDON, President.

R. B. CLARK, Hon. Secretary.

ADDENDUM

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the work performed throughout the year by R. B. Clark (Hon. Secretary); L. B. Meulman (Hon. Treasurer); R. J. Thomson (Asst. Hon. Secretary); R. G. Crofts (Asst. Hon. Treasurer); W. Elder (Senior Steward); N. G. Wales (Hon. Auditor); also members of the General Committee and various Sub-Committees.

H. G. WHIDDON, President.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB

CLUB ROOM TRADING ACCOUNT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED—30th JUNE, 1946.

	£ s d	£ s d		£ s d	£ s d
1945—June, 30th—			1946—June, 30th—		
To Stock on Hand—Cigarettes, Tobacco, Etc.	5 2 3		By Sales—Cigarettes, Tobacco, Etc.		257 9 0
1946—June, 30th—			„ Stock on Hand—Cigarettes, Tobacco, Etc.		4 17 3
„ Purchases—Cigarettes, Tobacco, Etc.	207 1 8				
		212 3 11			
„ Gross Profit transferred to Income and Expenditure Account		50 2 4			
		£262 6 3			£262 6 3

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED—30th JUNE, 1946.

EXPENDITURE	£ s d	£ s d	INCOME	£ s d	£ s d
To CRICKET—			By GROSS PROFIT FROM TRADING ACCOUNT		50 2 4
Hire of Ground, Umpires, Etc.	83 9 3		„ CRICKET—		
Material, Etc.	62 5 6		Fees, Etc.	71 9 11	
Photos	6 0 0		Photos	4 14 6	
		151 14 9			76 4 5
„ TENNIS		4 10 9	„ HOCKEY		7 4 0
„ FOOTBALL—			„ CLUB ROOM AMUSEMENTS—		
Registrations, Etc.	19 9 0		Billiards and Library	18 15 9	
Jerseys and Socks	21 13 0		Entertainments	154 8 3	
Training Fees	7 10 0				173 4 0
Materials	3 7 0		„ DANCE		61 13 5
		51 19 0	„ FOOTBALL—		
„ HOCKEY		18 6 0	Jersey and Socks	21 10 0	
„ CLUB ROOM AMUSEMENTS—			Registrations	7 4 0	
Billiards	2 19 10				28 14 0
„ ANNUAL MEETING	31 16 1		„ ANNUAL MEETING		5 0 0
„ DANCE	40 2 6		„ TENNIS		1 12 0
„ ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLUB ROOM EXPENSES—			„ ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS		95 6 10
Rent	84 10 0		„ SUNDRY INCOME—		
Lighting and Heating	13 18 10		Interest	2 5 2	
Repairs and Maintenance	1 3 2		Donations	4 2 0	
Stationery, Stamps and Telephone	14 14 7		Telephone	0 9 6	
Insurance	9 7 4		Exchange	0 0 6	
Sundry Expenses	3 3 0				6 17 2
Donations	1 1 0				
		127 17 11			
„ DEPRECIATION ON FURNITURE & FITTINGS		12 3 0			
BALANCE being Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year		64 9 1			
		£505 18 11			£505 18 11

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE, 1946.

LIABILITIES	£ s d	£ s d	ASSETS	£ s d	£ s d
SUNDRY CREDITORS		45 0 0	FURNITURE AND FITTINGS AT COST		
DEPOSIT ON CLUB ROOM KEYS		0 19 0	Less Depreciation		232 0 0
SURPLUS OF ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES—			STOCK ON HAND AT VALUATION—		
Balance as at 30th June, 1945	354 16 2		Cigarettes, Tobacco	4 17 3	
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	64 9 1		Badges, Etc.	6 13 6	
		419 5 3			11 10 9
			SUNDRY DEBTORS	10 0 6	
			Less Reserve for Doubtful Debts	10 0 0	
			COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK		221 13 0
		£465 4 3			£465 4 3

L. B. MEULMAN, Hon. Treasurer.
R. F. CROFTS, Hon. Asst. Treasurer.

I hereby certify that I have examined the Books of Account and Vouchers of the BRIARS SPORTING CLUB for the year ended 30th June, 1946, and the above Balance Sheet, in my opinion, presents a true and correct view of the Club's activities at this date to the best of my knowledge and belief and according to the Books and Vouchers inspected by me

NORMAN G. WALES—A.A.P.A.,
Public Accountant and Auditor.