

1955

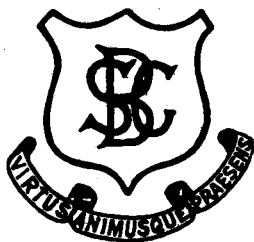
37

The Briars  
Sporting Club Limited  
Burwood



1954-55

**THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED**



# **The Thirty-Seventh Annual Report 1954-55**

**Presented to Members at the Club Rooms, Burwood,  
9th December, 1955.**



### **The Late Hon. Horace William Whiddon, Patron**

Mr. Whiddon has always been our Patron. The Briars has always been his Club.

It is not necessary to laud him for the tremendous job he has done; he would not have liked that. His work, to him, was not for financial gain, but for the good of his fellow men, the greatest ambition one could possibly achieve.

In 1918-19, the years of the birth of the Briars, Mr. Whiddon, with characteristic enthusiasm and wisdom, took over the position of mentor, guide and friend. The membership at that stage was only a handful of boys whose ages were from eight to thirteen years, and they came to respect him as their leader.

Several times President, particularly in the formative years, and upon creation of the office of Patron, was elected to that office which he held until his death. When the Club leased its present rooms in 1930, he, together with Mr. E. Siddeley, Snr., and the late Mr. R. May, acted as trustees. He was elected as a Life Member in 1948. For many years he was a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales.

Serious competitive sport was commenced by the Club in 1923, and to-day we have Mr. Whiddon's name perpetuated in the form of the Whiddon Cup for Sub-District Rugby Union competition.

His passing, on May 11, is deeply mourned by the Club.

# THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

OFFICE BEARERS <sup>1954-55</sup> 1955-56

## Life Members:

R. B. Clark

E. J. Siddeley

## President:

R. S. Jones

## Vice-Presidents:

The Mayor of Burwood

The Mayor of Concord

G. F. Bevan

M. R. Blair

R. B. Clark

W. A. Elder

R. G. Herford

M. A. Hill

J. D. Hunt

H. G. Whiddon

A. J. Land

S. J. McGregor

R. E. M. McLaughlin

L. B. Meulman

P. C. Murray

A. J. Robinson

E. J. Siddeley

J. H. Stone

R. J. Thomson

N. G. Wales

D. P. Walker

R. Walker

E. F. Watt

## Board of Directors:

R. B. Clark

H. C. Ford

L. B. Meulman

D. V. Prowse

R. J. Thomson

D. R. Way

E. F. Watt

H. G. Whiddon

## Honorary Secretary:

E. G. Stockdale

## Honorary Treasurer:

R. E. Kerr

## Senior Steward:

A. G. Stevenson

## Hon. Asst. Secretary:

C. J. Jones

## Hon. Asst. Treasurer:

W. L. Routley

## Asst. Senior Steward:

R. B. Tasker (Resgd. March)

R. Elvery (Apptd. November)

## Honorary Auditor:

C. W. Magrath

## Management Committee:

A. C. Reid

P. R. Tanner

I. R. Vanderfield

S. J. McGregor

C. G. Jones

B. E. Trevenar

D. A. Walker

A. G. Stevenson

R. W. Thomas

## Stewards:

D. Walker

D. McKeown

I. Thompson

D. Hotten

J. Wade

F. Payne

## PAST PRESIDENTS

J. H. STONE .....	1918-1919
H. W. WHIDDON .....	1919-1920
J. O. 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. HERFORD .....	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. F. WATT .....	1948-1953
R. S. JONES .....	1954-1955

# THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

To the Members of the Briars Sporting Club Ltd.

Gentlemen:

The Board of Directors and the Management Committee present for your consideration and adoption, a report of the activities of the Club, and a statement of account for the year ended 30th September, 1955.

We may justly claim this year to be one of administrative rather than sporting success, without suggesting a fall in the high standard of our teams on the field.

A qualification of this statement may be made by viewing the problems, seemingly minor in their importance to the major portion of members, but which warrant a great deal of thought by the Board and Management Committee.

Of primary importance to the Briars, besides the overshadowing item of **finance**, is membership, closely followed by that of administration itself. The administrators of the Club, firstly introduced to the Club by the members, then placed in office at the request of the members, whilst being only honorary workers, have achieved a standard which we believe will hold the Club's name and aim to the forefront of sporting and community life. Naturally membership cannot at any time be passed off as being satisfactory. Every Annual Report of this club from the time of its inception, contains comment on the life blood of the Club, the sponsoring of new members.

The success of our efforts to obtain members may be gauged by the presence at this Annual Meeting of a host of new faces. The fact that we have new members does not conclude there: to be just a member is not sufficient, we have to absorb them into the club life. In providing for the great need for member entertainment, the Board and Management Committee have approved plans for the complete renovation of the existing Club Rooms. Plans are proceeding and it is expected that early 1956 will see a completion of the alterations. Shower, washrooms, equipment cupboards, a more economic use of space, kitchen and refreshment installation, up-to-date appointments and modern decoration will be adopted.

To bear the brunt of such an attack on financial resources, we are of the opinion that the greater incentive, created by the provision of exclusive club rooms, for us to put back into the Club as much as is gained will eliminate the possibility of incurring monetary debt. Towards this end, the issuing of a provisional liquor licence by the Licencing Commission should be of great assistance in meeting the increased financial responsibility so incurred. Your Executive feels certain that members will endorse their efforts in this matter, and will continue their enthusiastic support of the Management's endeavour to provide a more modern and flexible outlook to club life.

Without doubt, the most pleasing feature of our activities, is the great comeback of our footballers, who, having all but reduced our standard to nothing the winter before have returned to put the Briars back upon the Rugby ladder again, displaying determination, not so much to win at all costs, but to provide our opponents with a good game.

The "A" grade hockey side, which incidentally had to recruit practically fifty per cent. of the 1954 "B" team, continues to prove

superior to all the clubs in the Minor Division Competition. This is the sixth premiership in succession, and must surely raise the subject of negotiation for an opportunity to test our ability against teams in the Major Division.

The "B" grade cricket side has another Premiership to its credit, whilst the A', C's and City and Suburban teams have managed to provide keen competition.

The N.S.W. Cricket Association have expressed great pleasure and commendation for the presentation of a handsome trophy, to be recognised as the R. B. Clark Cup, for annual competition between those clubs who have entered in the "A" Division of the Municipal and Shire Cricket Competition. In sustaining our aim to foster all forms of amateur sport, we are pleased to discover some form of reward for our Bob Clark, whose record we all know so well.

We desire to express our appreciation of the sporting bodies with which we are affiliated and with whom we associate. We offer our good wishes to the N.S.W. Rugby Union, the Metropolitan Sub-District Rugby Union, the N.S.W. Cricket Association, the City and Suburban Cricket Association, the Western Suburbs Cricket Association, the Sydney Hockey Association, and the N.S.W. Table Tennis Association.

We offer our thanks to the Burwood and Concord Councils for their work and co-operation in our widespread activities.

One important aspect of our administration is the work carried out by Bob Clark and Ted Stockdale. Apart from the duties required by the Briars Club, these two stalwarts are important officials of the Metropolitan Sub-District Rugby Union. Bob is Chairman and Ted is Secretary of that body, thereby promoting more so, the aim of the Club.

## THE J. H. STONE TROPHY

The J. H. Stone Trophy is awarded to a member under the age of twenty-five who contributes to the best of his ability and time available to club welfare.

The winner this year is Colin J. Jones. As Assistant Secretary, Colin carried out his duties in a very capable manner. He did not allow matters to end there. Colin organised the Annual Ball when the Chairman of the Social Committee was posted to the country. He is also on the Hockey Sub-Committee and at present is supervising the publication of the club magazine.

To Colin "Hockey" Jones, we say thank you for a job very well done.

## CRICKET

Four teams represented the Club during the 1954-55 season—one in both the "A" and "B" Divisions of the Municipal and Shires Competition, one in the Third Grade Competition Division 2 conducted by the Western Suburbs Cricket Association and a team with the City and Suburban Cricket Association.

Although the "A" Shire team collapsed after the Christmas break and failed to qualify for the semi-finals the "B" team recorded a very creditable win in their competition after being Minor Premiers. The system of semi-finals and finals again maintained interest and it appears that it has now become a permanent feature of the competition.

The Third Eleven finished second in their competition after a rather slow beginning and their defeat of the ultimate winners towards the end of the competition augurs well for next season.

As always the City and Suburban side had another very enjoyable season and seems to be growing steadily more popular among club cricketers of all ages.

We offer our congratulations to Pennant Hills on their first win in the "A" Division of the Municipal and Shire Competition and also to Enfield Raymond Cricket Club on being successful in the Western Suburbs "C" Grade Competition.

Our thanks are once more due to Mr. W. Hollis for the capable way in which he again carried out his various duties as groundsman at Rothwell Park.

Finally, we should again like to draw attention of all cricketers to a matter which is still proving very disturbing to the Committee, namely the continued failure to take care of their equipment. Cricket gear is now an extremely expensive item and while the Club endeavours to ensure that each team has sufficient material it cannot hope to cope successfully with the various requirements of the teams unless there is greater co-operation from the players. We trust that there will be a marked improvement in the attitude of all players to this matter during the coming season.

### **CRICKET MEMORIAL TROPHY**

The Cricket Memorial Trophy was donated to the Club as a memorial for those members who lost their lives during the war and is awarded annually to the cricketer obtaining the most points calculated in accordance with the following scale:

Value to team .....	25 points
Conduct on field .....	15 points
General keenness as a cricketer ..	20 points
Value to the Club as a member ..	30 points
Neatness of dress .....	10 points
	<hr/> 100 points

The winner for the 1954-55 season is again Ted Stockdale, our popular Secretary, who won the trophy for the previous season. As well as the tremendous job Ted does for the Club on the administrative side, he is also one of the key members of his team and accordingly is a very worthy winner of this coveted trophy.

### **"A" Grade**

Though somewhat disappointing for our own team, a pleasing feature of the season's cricket from a general viewpoint was the higher standard of most of the teams, thus providing greater interest and enjoyment. Still more important for the well-being of Shire cricket, there emerged two or three new contenders for premiership honours, and from them came the ultimate winners, Pennant Hills, to whom we offer hearty congratulations.

The "A" Grade started off badly as we could only manage a draw against Auburn in the opening round and in the following round succumbed to the accuracy of Sutherland's bowling and the inaccuracy of their wicket.

However, a succession of wins brought us back into the picture and when the Christmas break was reached Burwood was nicely placed in second position and seemed likely to reach the semi-



finals once more. This optimism was badly jarred when we resumed hostilities as we were soundly beaten by Bexley and then just scraped home against Ryde off the last ball of the day in a most exciting game. Following this we failed against Pennant Hills and entered the match against Auburn knowing we must win to make the final four, but once again fell victim to our hoodoo team.

Though our fall from grace could be explained by a lowering of our batting standard and less devil in our attack, the real cause lay in the poor fielding of the team as a whole and quite often a simple but important chance went begging. Our chances of future premiership honours are not bright unless there is a considerable sharpening in this department.

Once again we thank our scorer, Mr. Reg. Walker, for his constant attention to an irksome job and at the same time we extend our appreciation to Mr. "Put-a-man-on-the-drive" Siddeley for his staunch support.

To the ladies, our thanks for their helping hand with the afternoon tea and washing-up; and in conclusion a word of praise to the team members carrying out the duties of treasurer, kit steward, preparing afternoon tea, transporting the cricket gear etc., and a reminder that some new faces are about due at these tasks.

**NEIL WALKER (captain):** Despite lack of co-operation from some members of the team Neil performed the difficult task of captaincy very capably. In his unselfish endeavours to please all players he continually sacrificed his own interests with the result that he had a comparatively poor season.

**RON THOMAS (vice-captain):** Only batted in eight matches and his irregular appearances at the crease gave Ron limited opportunity to show form, but against Auburn and Roseville he batted well. Possessed of a sound defence, Ron only needs to give his lack of confidence a pep talk to get amongst the runs.

**DAVID WALKER:** Though still a little impetuous, was one of our batting mainstays and had several forceful innings to his credit in which he displayed a strong straight drive. Kept wickets efficiently and his twenty-seven victims included some skillfully executed leg-side dismissals.

**DOUG PROWSE:** Maintained excellent form until the seventh round, aggregating 327 runs in this period including a match-winning century against Roseville. Doug threw caution to the winds in this match, much to the annoyance of a Rothwell Park householder. Faded away after Christmas which helps to explain the team's failure.

**IAN MACKIE:** A newcomer and early in the season consolidated his position with two or three good knocks highlighted by his 62 at Randwick. A sound batsman with a good range of shots and the right temperament. Ian should do well in Shire cricket.

**JOHN HOLLANDS:** Could never settle down as he was the unfortunate shuttle man between the two Shire teams, but despite this disadvantage he proved his ability more than once, particularly in an aggressive 63 against Canterbury. Bowled little but we all remember the beauty (?) that got Auburn's captain.

**TED WATT:** Snared 44 wickets for the season and was the backbone of our attack. Bowled accurately at all times and against Canterbury recorded the splendid figures of eight for 25.

Saved his best batting effort for the dramatic Ryde match and no doubt will long treasure its memory.

**BILL RUDD:** Secured 22 victims during the year and subdued most batsmen with his immaculate length for few Shire cricketers have the necessary ability or courage to go down the wicket against accurate slow bowling. Bill's keenness is unquestionable and his team spirit worthy of emulation.

**COLIN JONES:** Playing his first season with this team acquitted himself creditably and netted 20 wickets with his slow off-breaks. Inclined to drop them short if attacked but should overcome this with experience. A bright and breezy batsman with a cheerful approach to the game.

**TOM MOBBS:** Returned to the "A" Grade after a tremendous start in "B" Shires which included three centuries and went on to break the Club record with an aggregate of 830 odd runs. Tom's modest acceptance of the congratulations offered on his outstanding performance will lose him no friends. Still retains his ability with the ball.

**KEN ASTRIDGE:** Ken seemed all set for another good year but unfortunately missed four matches during the middle of the season and never quite recovered his form of previous years. Nevertheless he took 26 wickets and was usually treated with respect for he has built up a high reputation in our competition.

**LES DAVIS:** Les missed a few matches and lack of practice prevented him from really getting into his stride but had several sound twenties to his credit. Again proved useful with the ball, and against Auburn captured 9-52 in the two innings and with a little support in batting and bowling could have played us into the semi-finals.

Matches Played	W.	W.1	L.	L.1	D.	T.	Minor Position	
							Prem.	Final
14	2	5	—	4	3	—	6	6
Runs for	Wkts. for		Avg.		Runs Agst.	Wkts. Agst.		Avg.
2548	126		20.2		2797	184		15.2

#### AVERAGES (Batting)

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average
D. Prowse .....	15	3	100*	411	34.3
D. Walker .....	16	1	58	379	25.3
T. Mobbs .....	10	—	62	250	25
I. Mackie .....	16	3	62	298	22.9
L. Davis .....	12	3	26*	174	19.3
C. G. Jones .....	7	2	46*	95	19.0
R. Thomas .....	11	2	56*	165	18.3
E. Watt .....	11	2	50*	163	18.1
J. Hollands .....	10	—	63	136	13.6
N. Walker .....	11	2	30*	104	11.5
W. Rudd .....	10	4	7*	39	6.5
K. Astridge .....	6	2	6	17	4.3

(Also batted: R. Kerr 2 innings for 24 runs, F. Randle 2 for 31, G. Tweeddale 2 for 2, B. Cardwell 1 for 11, B. Adcock 1\* for 18, E. Annetts 1 for 4, N. Milne 2 for 6, R. Clarke 1 for 2, R. Atwill 1 for 45, A. Land 1\* for 21, J. Wade 1 for 1, G. Thompson 1 for 4.)

\* Denotes Not Out.

## BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Average
G. Tweedale .....	47	10	149	14	10.64
T. Mobbs .....	53	8	174	14	11.71
L. Davis .....	50	2	204	15	13.60
E. Watt .....	181	20	621	44	14.11
K. Astridge .....	113	10	380	26	14.62
W. Rudd .....	85	3	363	22	16.50
C. G. Jones .....	70	4	335	20	16.75

(Also bowled: J. Hollands 2 wickets for 87 runs, B. Cardwell 3 for 119, N. Walker 2 for 97, B. Adcock 7 for 88, D. Prowse 1 for 1, E. Annetts 0 for 8.)

## "B" Grade

The B's this year were able to continue the run of success that this team has enjoyed over the last few seasons, and were able to win the competition by defeating last season's winners, Lindfield, in the final.

The team played consistently well throughout the season, being defeated only once and averaging 23 runs per wicket as against 12 by its opponents. While every member of the team played their part, and the victory was a team victory, we must concede that our success was due, in no small way, to the splendid start given to us by Tom Mobbs and the magnificent bowling of Geoff Tweedale towards the close of the season.

The teams batting was quite fair, as was the fielding. The batting standard was raised above mediocrity by some solid opening partnerships, and by aggressive run scoring by down the list batsmen. The bowling attack throughout the season was strong, and on only one occasion did an opposing team (Bexley) really get on top of the attack. The superiority of the bowling was evidenced by the fact that on only three occasions were opposing teams able to total 150 runs or more in an innings.

Once again we extend our thanks to Mr. A. J. Robinson our scorer, barracker and unbiased critic. Robbie did a grand job; he didn't miss one match despite the distance he had to travel. His score book was, by far, the best kept in the competition, and he provided an example of keenness that could well be adopted generally.

BILL MAGRATH had the honour of leading the team to victory, but did not have a particularly good season with the bat. Always attacked the bowling but got himself out too often by carelessness, when apparently set. Bowled usefully at times.

BRUCE TREVENAR (vice-captain) bore the brunt of the bowling and was rewarded by obtaining the greatest number of wickets. Accurate and always commanded respect. A stout hearted bowler and a fine example to younger players.

TOM MOBBS played magnificent cricket during his short stay with this team, before being promoted to the A's, and laid the foundation for our premiership win. Scored three successive centuries, and when he left this team he had a batting average of 113 and was also our leading wicket-taker. It was certainly Tom's season.

HAM. LENNARTZ returned to the B's after a season's absence and was most successful. Hammy is a most useful cricketer, capable of big things on his day, and he had quite a few of them this season, and an asset to any team. Batted

very well in his usual aggressive manner, bowled successfully, and was the team's best field. Established himself during the season as the club's best slip field.

JOHN WADE had his first season with the Shires and created an excellent impression as a batsman. A definite prospect who should get a lot of runs in Shire cricket. Gives an impression of carelessness when batting and fielding, but as far as his batting is concerned, it is apparently a false one. Not the keenest member of the team.

ROGER KERR showed improvement in his second year with this team. Plays pace bowling stylishly and well, however, is rather at sea against slow bowling which he attempts to play from the crease. If he could infuse more power into his game his technique against slower bowling should benefit. Could improve his fielding.

NEV. MILNE batted consistently throughout the season without reaching great heights. Nev. needs and deserves to have a really good season which would make a tremendous difference to his game because of the confidence it would give him. Keen and a good field.

GEOFF TWEEDDALE joined us in the latter half of the season, much to the dismay of our opponents, for he bowled magnificently and it is primarily Geoff whom we can thank for our victory. Was almost unplayable at times and excelled in the semi-final and final. Obtained a hat trick and took the bowling average.

ALAN ROSE was our best stock bowler and although he didn't obtain as many wickets as he has in past seasons, he was still the most useful bowler in the team. Always on the spot, Alan very rarely bowls a bad ball.

RON EADIE kept wickets and carried out his job very well. Was safer than in the past and is developing into a good keeper. Had a fair season all round as his batting also showed improvement.

BARRY CARDWELL joined us during the season and proved a worthy acquisition. He scored a lot of runs in quick time and got us out of trouble on several occasions. Barry has a good eye and hits the ball very cleanly. A splendid field and a useful bowler who had limited opportunities.

BRIAN ADCOCK also joined the team after the season had got under way and although he did not enjoy great success, he contributed towards the all-round strength of our bowling attack.

Although primarily a bowler, Brian could get a lot of runs with a little more patience and concentration.

ERIC ANNETTS had probably his most disappointing season ever. He just couldn't get going with the bat. A great pity because Eric has been one of our mainstays for many years, and without doubt, will be again.

#### AVERAGES

Matches Played	W.O.	W.1	L.O.	L.1	Minor Prem. Position	Final Position
13	3	9	—	1	1st	Premiera
Runs for	Wkts. for	Avg.	Runs	Agst.	Wkts. Agst.	Avg.
2843	121	23.5	2136	173	12.35	

### BATTING

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average
T. Mobbs .....	5	—	163	566	113.2
B. Cardwell .....	8	2	54	257	42.8
J. Wade .....	17	4	91	356	27.4
H. Lennartz .....	16	3	72	343	26.4
N. Milne .....	12	1	51	210	19.1
R. Eadie .....	12	4	31	146	18.2
W. Magrath .....	15	—	50	260	17.3
R. Kerr .....	12	—	41	177	14.7
B. Trevenar .....	10	2	28	98	12.2
A. Rose .....	6	4	10	22	11.0
B. Adcock .....	8	1	12	45	6.4
E. Annetts .....	7	1	14	36	6.0
G. Tweedale .....	5	2	5	13	4.3

(Also batted: R. Thomas, 1 innings for 31 runs, L. Cutler 2\* for 31, J. Rudd 1 for 21, J. Hollands 3 for 49, C. G. Jones 2\* for 16, C. J. Jones 1 for 16, B. Nix 2 for 7, D. Fernon 1 for 6, E. Stockdale 1 for 1, A. Land 1\* for 16, K. Astridge 1\* for 8, K. Asbury 1-0.)

\* Denotes Not Out.

### BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Average
G. Tweedale .....	43	10	128	23	5.6
T. Mobbs .....	50	7	167	18	9.3
A. Rose .....	96	19	293	28	10.5
B. Trevenar .....	138	20	480	39	12.3
E. Annetts .....	36	8	105	8	13.1
H. Lennartz .....	51	6	258	18	14.3
B. Adcock .....	34	1	164	10	16.4

(Also bowled: W. Magrath 7 wickets for 47 runs, K. Asbury 3 for 29, K. Astridge 4 for 52, J. Wade 4 for 96, C. G. Jones 2 for 64, B. Cardwell 2 for 92, L. Cutler 0 for 7, N. Milne 0 for 9, D. Fernon 0 for 12.)

### "C" Grade

As in most years, there was a large turnover of players. It was unfortunate that most of the younger ones just did not have the ability to retain a regular place in the team; if they had shown some fielding ability then their opportunities would have been much greater. There were several exciting games and the team finished the season justifiably certain that it had the strength to master any of its opponents. The outstanding weakness was the lack of hostile and accurate pace bowlers.

RON THOMSON (captain) continued to take advantage of his position. As a result, he broke the Club's all-grades record for most wickets in a season of two-day matches by taking 89 as against Ken Astridge's 81. On three occasions he took nine wickets in an innings. With the bat he improved, coming second in the averages.

TED. STOCKDALE (vice-captain) again scored his share of runs although not quite the same assurance as previously. His effort with Jack Lang against the eventual premiers, Enfield Raymond, was probably his best. His running between wickets, particularly when partnered by Dick Atwill, was a lesson to his team mates.

JACK LANG continued to be the team's mainstay as a batsman, winning the average and the aggregate. The bags he calls hands also served him well, netting him the most catches for the season. Scored the only century. Many a bowler tired of his broad blade and many a 'keeper of his broad bottom.

DICK ATWILL, as debonair as ever, added class to the team's batting and, despite his marriage, seems to have many years good cricket in him yet. Handy as a bowler but best when the ball is like a sponge. Much more reliable now in his fielding.

GRAHAM THOMSON started well with the bat but then had a lousy run of outs. Would do better with more aggression without being reckless. When he bowled "sundries" scored well. Quite safe in the field, taking a number of good catches. Inclined to wander from his position in the field but in this respect has a lot of mates.

RAY ELVERY did not get good figures but deserves the highest praise for his keenness and perseverance. Towards close of season showed signs of developing into quite a handy bat. Took several good catches without apparent detriment.

COL JONES (Sisseck) was inclined to clown a bit at first, but then settled down to register some good performances with the bat. Can field much better than he did. Has possibilities as a slow bowler, but Thompson is in his way.

ALAN PRICE came into the team as a bowler with a reputation but never seemed to settle down although one occasion he took a few cheap wickets. Tries for far too much variety and would do better at this stage to concentrate upon control of length and direction.

BILL ZEALL missed several matches but even so proved himself to be a very vital part of the team's attack. Was generally economic and now and again struck a purple patch. His "windy wooshing" gained for him a respectable position in the team's batting averages.

BERT THOMSON had a strenuous time as Aunt Sally and acquitted himself well considering the standard of the "bowling". Can do very much better with the bat and would do well to revert to his former aggressive style.

IAN THOMSON helped to save the side's batting on many occasions and his figures are not a true reflection of his worth. Took a number of useful catches. His keenness and reliability made him one of the most valuable members of the team.

HENRY (John) BEAN showed plenty of promise as a medium pace bowler, but due to his own fault, had a broken season. If he will persevere he will develop into quite a useful new ball bowler. Main difficulty in field is apparent inability to bend.

RAY YOUNG spent the first half of the season in the Army and the soft life so affected him that he was but a shadow of his former self as a bowler. However, the rigours of civilian life will no doubt toughen him and next season he could well be one of the Club's best medium pacers. Batting improved considerably and is now entitled to be rated as an all-rounder (as well as physically!).

BRUCE TASKER again showed that he has tons of natural ability. His fielding improved vastly, mainly due to the elastic insert in the seat of his pants. Only bar to his becoming a competent cricketer is his tendency to lose interest when his efforts are not crowned with success.

## STATISTICS

Matches Played	W.	W.1	L.	L.1	D.	T.	Points	Comp. Position
14	2	5	1	2	2	2	35	2
Runs for	Wkts. for		Avg.	Runs Agst.	Wkts. Agst.		Avg.	
2914	157		18.56	2961	197		15.03	

## AVERAGES

### (Batting)

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average
J. Lang .....	18	3	109*	490	32.7
R. Thomson .....	14	2	85*	287	23.9
E. Stockdale .....	20	1	58	392	20.6
C. Jones .....	10	2	35	159	19.9
R. Atwill .....	16	—	44	316	19.8
W. Zeall .....	8	5	14*	41	13.7
G. Thompson .....	17	2	62	165	11.0
I. Thompson .....	14	1	34	137	10.5
R. Elvery .....	12	3	20*	68	7.6
H. Bean .....	6	—	24	34	5.7
A. Thomson .....	12	2	23	55	5.5
A. Price .....	10	5	9	19	3.8

\* Denotes Not Out.

(Also batted: L. Davis 1 innings for 96 runs, A. Hansen 2 for 20, J. Harmer 3 for 15, S. Hipwell 1 for 19, J. Hollands 2 (1 n.o.) for 32, K. Mostyn 4 (1 n.o.) for 23, J. Small 2 for 21, B. Tasker 4 1 n.o. for 105, G. Tasker 2 (1 no.) for 54, J. Wade 2 for 23, P. Wherrett 2 for 2, R. Young 4 (1 n.o.) for 61.)

### (Bowling)

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Average
R. Thomson .....	185	10	988	89	11.1
W. Zeall .....	71	10	237	21	11.3
A. Price .....	70	9	296	23	12.9
R. Young .....	54	9	197	11	17.9
H. Bean .....	59	12	238	9	26.4
R. Atwill .....	38	7	165	5	33.0

(Also bowled: R. Elvery 1 wicket for 16 runs, A. Hansen 1 for 0, J. Harmer 0 for 57, J. Hollands 7 for 44, C. Jones 1 for 42, J. Lang 0 for 1, K. Mostyn 4 for 47, J. Small 3 for 118, B. Tasker 0 for 3, G. Tasker 2 for 43, G. Thompson 4 for 127, A. Thomson 0 for 5, J. Wade 2 for 104, P. Wherrett 0 for 9.)

## City and Suburban

A very satisfactory and enjoyable season was experienced by the City and Suburban players.

As usual, some twenty-eight fixtures were arranged by invitation and the balance by the Association. We are most grateful to those clubs with their own grounds who provided hospitality and pleasure to our members. Few opportunities occurred to reciprocate and these were mainly due to I Zingari Club which made their ground, Concord Oval, available to use on a few occasions. We appreciate this gesture and extend our thanks.

Last season, despite the quite impressive line-up of players available, our cricket was weaker, due primarily to the loss of Geoff Tweeddale and Barry Cardwell to the "Shires". Since these two had been our opening bowlers and each exceeded 50 wickets in the previous season and, in addition, Barry was the star bat in 1953/54, they left a gap that was never adequately filled.

Strange to say, our batting, rather than our bowling, was the real weakness and, due to the absence of a consistent run-getter, we were usually struggling to obtain a respectable score.

C. MITCHELL was in improved form and played some useful hard-hitting innings. He loves the leg side.

G. BENNETT was a most welcome addition to the team and although his appearances were limited his all-round ability made its presence felt. Worth a position in any team, if only for his beautiful fielding.

B. WILLIAMS: An attractive all-rounder whose batting lacked some degree of concentration and as a consequence was inclined to develop into wild hitting. Despite this, his aggregate was the second highest. He also claimed most wickets with his slow to "fasties". An active and safe field.

S. HIPWELL: One of the team's sheet anchors who should have scored far more runs than he did. Just as he appears to be set for a good score he gets out in a simple manner.

J. RUDD had difficulty in settling down and always appeared to be uncomfortable. Played his best innings in the last match and we hope this augurs well for 1955/56.

W. SMITH: Made a very welcome return to cricket after a long absence from the game and showed glimpses of his pre-war form, particularly in the bowling department.

R. McLAUGHLIN: Unfortunately, Bill could not make himself available early, but when he appeared late in the season his experienced and competent wicket-keeping improved the team's out-cricket immensely.

A. LEADBEATER had a most disappointing season, and his lack of usual success with the bat adversely affected the team's run-getting capacity. We look forward to a return to form from Alec.

DOUG GUEST is a batsman who could really get a lot of runs if he set his mind to it. A useful slow bowler who snares his share of wickets with his leg spinners.

V.NEE was another to make a welcome return to cricket and his good length off-spinners proved hard to score from. Also a handy bat and slip field.

H. SEFTON made infrequent appearances and as a result he found the going a bit tough.

B. NIX bowled very well on occasions, but his batting was most disappointing. He can do far better in this department with the right approach.

L. MEULMAN is a useful bowler who can be relied upon to keep a length.

Runs	Wkts.		Runs	Wkts.	
For	For	Average	Against	Against	Average
2368	186	14.6	2416	182	13.0
15.					



## AVERAGES

### (Batting)

Name	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average
R. Clark	11	7	64*	130	32.5
C. Mitchell	14	—	59	266	19.0
G. Bennett	8	3	31*	89	17.8
B. Williams	18	1	47*	274	16.1
S. Hipwell	20	1	42	285	15.0
J. Rudd	14	—	30	192	13.7
W. Smith	13	3	37*	125	12.5
R. Clarke	7	—	36	85	12.1
R. McLaughlin	5	—	46	60	12.0
A. Leadbeater	14	—	48	146	10.4
D. Guest	10	1	32	94	10.4
V. Nee	12	3	17	92	10.2
H. Sefton	9	—	22	87	9.7
B. Nix	15	2	32	120	9.2
L. Meulman	11	5	11	48	8.0

(Also batted: R. Ackermann 1 innings for 1, G. Tweeddale 3 (1 n.o.) for 34, R. Elvery 1 (n.o.) for 17, J. Parsons 1 for 1, J. Hollands 2 (1 n.o.) for 6, I. Mackie 1 for 2, J. Wade 1 for 47, I. Thompson 1 for 1, S. Bailey 3 (1 n.o.) for 9, W. Jones 1 for 1, F. Payne 1 (n.o.) for 2, D. Walker 2 for 7, R. Thomson 1 for 6, B. Cardwell 2 (1 n.o.) for 10, T. Mobbs 1 for 53, A. Thomson 2 for 29, R. Young 1 (n.o.) for 0, D. North 1 for 25, R. Thomas 1 for 20, R. Anstey 1 for 5.)

### (Bowling)

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Average
V. Nee	64	10	294	24	12.2
R. Clark	61	4	248	18	13.8
B. Williams	93	5	413	29	14.2
D. Guest	32	1	213	15	14.2
W. Smith	67	2	281	18	15.6
B. Nix	53	3	266	15	17.7
G. Bennett	33	1	159	9	17.7
L. Meulman	47	—	235	13	18.0

(Also bowled: G. Tweeddale 8 wickets for 109 runs, C. Mitchell 3 for 56, J. Wade 1 for 21, J. Rudd 1 for 31, S. Bailey 0 for 15, T. Mobbs 2 for 14, B. Cardwell 3 for 21, R. Thompson 0 for 26, R. Young 5 for 12.)

## FOOTBALL

Sub-Committee: S. J. McGregor (Chairman), D. Hotten, R. Elvery, C. Dawkins, B. Darragh, D. McKeown and P. Tanner.

Having plumbed the depths last year, club football in the 1955 season showed a marked improvement; this came from the lower grades, as the Kentwell Cup side did not improve on last year's performance.

The Burke Cup side's record, in spite of the fact that it was beaten in the final, is the best ever. The last Briar side to win the Burke Cup was in 1934, winning ten matches, losing three and drawing one as against this year's team winning eleven, losing two and drawing one. Also for the first time on record, this team went through a competition first round undefeated.

The Whiddon Cup side, after a poor start, showed distinct improvement in the second round. This enabled the club to finish third in the Club Championship, quite a good effort considering that the club, which finished ahead of us fought out the Kentwell Cup Final.

The overall picture is as follows: During the season the club teams played forty competition matches, winning twenty-one matches, losing eighteen and drawing one. Four social matches were also played, two being at Bathurst, and all these matches were lost.

There was a slightly better average attendance at training and a greater number of players showed real keenness.

The coaching this year was in the capable hands of Doug Guest (Kentwell Cup), Brian Williams, playing coach (Burke Cup) and Geoff Tweedale (Whiddon Cup). Geoff was assisted by Bill Marshall.

Both Geoff and Bill sustained injuries while playing for the Whiddon Cup Team, when military training, injuries and "Car-Trials" left the team temporarily short of players. It is pleasing to know that both Bill and Geoff have now recovered. If the keenness and club spirit of these two veterans could be inculcated into all the club footballers next year, a big 1956 season should be expected. Doug Vanderfield and Sel Lamb acted as non-playing selectors and helped to grade the teams at the beginning of the season.

Our thanks to Rex Lamb who helped with Rothwell Park ground gear and to our ambulance officer, Gordon Young, who has been a tower of strength in this sphere for quite a number of years. Thanks also to Ian McGregor who again acted as ball boy for the fourth year in succession.

Once again this year the three sides were well served by their captains, Peter Hotten and John McKay (Kentwell Cup), Geoff Stevenson (Burke Cup) who was a solid forward leader, and Steve Keir (Whiddon Cup), a new-comer who showed promise as a player, has the makings of a good leader and would be a valuable asset to the football committee next year.

We regret that lack of suitable dates prevented us from playing our annual matches against Hawkesbury College. This was partly brought about by the fact that our "free days" were occupied by the Sub-Districts' Carnival and a country trip to Bathurst on the Queen's Birthday week-end (where a good time was had by all, including a number of visitors who accompanied the team and helped in the transport arrangements). A good deal of the success of this trip was due to the work of Brian Darragh.

A number of our players were selected in the "Rep Teams" at the Sub-Districts' Carnival:—Ray Young (Kentwell Cup), Johnny Thom, John O'Brien and Warwick Bruce (Burke Cup), and Ray Roberts (Whiddon Cup). Serious injuries were again limited to two—David McKeown (dislocated shoulder) and Johnny Thom, who was unlucky enough to sustain a bad shin injury in the last match of the season.

During the season two very informative and enjoyable lectures on "Training and Tactics" were given. The first by State Selector Bill McLaughlin and the second by Rex Larnach Jones, an ex-International, and member of the Referees' Appointments Board. Both speakers used the Magnetic Demonstration Board given to the Club last year by Doug Vanderfield. These talks proved of great value particularly to the younger players, and on both occasions those who attended showed their interest by the number of inquiries they made at "Question Time."

Thanks, Bill and Rex, we hope that you are both available to repeat the dose next year.

In conclusion, our congratulations to the Competition winners, Colleagues, Strathfield and Hunter's Hill, and Colleagues for their success in winning the Club Championship for the first time.

### KENTWELL CUP

Played	Won	Lost	Byes	Pts. For	Pts. Agst.	Position
12	3	9	2	56	155	5th

### BURKE CUP

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Pts. For	Pts. Agst.	Position
14	11	2	1	154	59	2nd Div.

Won: Semi-final against St. John's, 14-11.

Lost: Final against Chatswood, 3-11.

### WHIDDON CUP

Played	Won	Lost	Byes	Pts. For	Pts. Agst.	Position
12	6	6	2	87	79	4th

Played one non-competition game against Drummoyne Thirds.

### GORDON BEVAN SHIELD

Geoff Stevenson, who last year won the J. H. Stone Trophy, has this year crowned his career by coming out of retirement to win the Gordon Bevan Trophy.

This able and inspiring Captain of the Burke Cup side is in part responsible for that team's great showing, for Geoff is a very tough and vocal forward leader and has the ability to nurse the younger players along.

Geoff is a worthy successor to that fine band of Briar men who have previously won the Bevan Shield. Congratulations, Geoffrey!

## Kentwell Cup

Some close and hard-fought games were played early in the season, but the strain of constant defence nearly always proved too much for the team.

Lack of penetration, even in the few games when there were attacking opportunities presented to it, was the outstanding factor behind the team's defeats, the occasional overlap and cut through being sadly missed.

The forward pack was seldom outclassed, but good work done in loose rucks and cover defence could not compensate for erratic lineout play and scrummaging.

The backs had little opportunity to settle down, and it was rare indeed for the same back line to appear in consecutive matches.

Attendance at training was disappointing, and this is reflected to some extent in the competition table points.

**R. MURRAY** (full back): Safe handler with long and usually accurate clearing kicks. Could move a shade faster when being pressed.

**B. COMMENS** (wing): A speedy winger capable of winning matches by sheer pace alone, but had few chances of running with the ball during the season.

**D. McKEOWN** (wing): Unfortunately forced out through injury early in the season. Fast with a most useful cross-kick.

**G. PAYNE** (centre and wing): Tackled and ran hard when he had to, but was never in top condition. He could be a very good footballer if he felt inclined.

**K. ROBERTSON** (centre and wing): Handling and defence could improve, but fast and tricky when running with the ball.

**P. WEST** (centre): Only played a few games before he went back to school. Good in defence and able to move off either foot. We hope to see more of this neat little player next season.

R. AITKEN (centre and wing): Condition and speed are not what they could be, but played some good games, particularly in defence.

I. MIDDLETON (five-eighth and centre): On his day threw fast accurate passes to get his back line moving well. Had a bad season with injuries.

J. McKAY (captain, five-eighth): Excellent in defence, led the team capably and gave an object lesson by the way he went down on the ball to break up toeing rushes. He is inclined to run back into the forwards.

H. HATCH (half): Maintained his usual high standard behind the scrum until his retirement early in the season.

S. BAILEY (half): Unfortunately was absent early in the season because of Naval duties. A versatile player who tackles and runs well. Passing from scrum base long and accurate, but service could be speeded up.

J. LEWIS (breakaway): Excellent positional play resulted in some amazing tackles. Big hearted, he played well beyond his weight. A useful man in any team.

P. DARRAGH (lock): Improved with every match he played. Honest, tireless and hard-working. With the extra speed he should have by next season will prove a particularly useful forward.

I. McLACHLAN (breakaway): A fast breaking forward, deadly in defence. Uses his head and is always on the ball.

P. HOTTEN (second row): His captaincy and experience in the early matches proved most helpful to the team. Injury forced out a player we could ill afford to lose.

J. COMMERFORD (second row): A hard-working and tireless forward, always in the thick of the play and fought well for the ball in line outs.

D. HOTTEN (second row): Handicapped by being unable to train because of study. Big and powerful, a good line out man, and really worked in the tight play.

R. YOUNG: Kept improving throughout the season. Intelligent and non-stop play combined with his experience probably made this player our best forward.

J. PARSONS (hooker): Started well, but inclined to rest a bit towards the end of the season. Not a hooker by trade, but improved in this department with each game.

R. ELVERY: Defence and positional play very good, but did not show the form we have come to expect from this capable forward.

## **Burke Cup**

The 1955 season was a very happy one for the Burke Cup team, not only because it was a fairly successful one but also because each member of the team pulled his weight and joined in the spirit of team play unhesitatingly. There was no star in the side and it cannot be said that either forwards or backs let the team down on any occasion.

The team to a man is worthy members of a club with traditions of fair play and sportsmanship such as ours. This side must be one of the youngest fielded by the Club in Burke Cup for some years and the experience gained by all members of the team should result in successful seasons in the future for themselves and for the Club.

As a general hint to the backs, I suggest each of them practice a short kick with either foot and to the forwards, master the short quick pass and virile rucking.

W. BRUCE (full-back): Good handler and kicker. Positional play could improve. Played some good games.

R. PLUMMER (centre and wing): Always dangerous in possession. Backing up very good and was rewarded for this by a number of tries.

D. HILL (wing): Very fast but handling needs improvement. Some determined runs he made showed promise of many tries in the future.

R. ANSTEY (centre): Excellent in defence. Very reliable in feeding his outside backs. Handling was safe but not quite quick enough in taking and passing of the ball when opposition standing up.

G. MEADOWS (centre): A particularly tricky runner who plays 80 minutes attacking football. Will mature into a very fine player.

D. WILKIE (half): Gave good service to his backs all the season. Never wilted under pressure.

C. DAWKINS (lock): An energetic player always in the tight work. Cover defence improved consistently during the season. Line out work steady.

G. MINOR (breakaway): Played many good games but showed a tendency to tackle high on occasions. Will worry many five-eighths in the future.

B. DARRAGH (breakaway): A hard experienced player. Upset opposing backs consistently. Passing needs attention.

L. ROUTLEY (second row): A fine team man prepared to play any position and acquits himself well in all positions.

R. ROBERTS (second row): Played well throughout the season. Always on the ball particularly in attack.

J. O'BRIEN (front row): Hard-rucking forward revelling in tight play. Won a good share of the ball in line outs. Takes no nonsense from opposition.

I. BRABANT (front row and hooker): One of the best conditioned players in the Club. Very keen and harrassed the opposition with non-stop play. A bit out of touch with hooking.

P. RICHARDSON (hooker): Won more than a fair share of the ball some games but lapsed in others. Played well in the open.

J. THOM (breakaway): Always a worry to the opposition. A very heady player in the open and backed up well. Played hooker towards the end of the season and won a feast of the ball on most occasions.

R. STEPHENS (second row): Unfortunately only available in the early part of the season and his good line-out and ruck work was missed later in the season.

G. STEVENSON (front row): Captain of the team and was an inspiration at all times. A fine experienced player whose knowledge of the game helped the team in many tight spots. Can teach our younger players a lot in scrum and ruck work.

B. U. WILLIAM (playing coach): Played half the season and was a tower of strength at full-back. A mature player whose guidance and experience was a big factor in the team reaching the final.

## Whiddon Cup

This team was rather unfortunate not to do better, due to the fact that early in the season they were playing sound football but just not putting the finishing touches to enable them to win the matches. In the last three games they showed they were capable of much better football than seen in many a Whiddon Cup team for quite a number of years. During the whole season they showed great enthusiasm at both training and in their matches. With these facts in mind we can expect much better performances from these players in the future.

**STEVE KEIR** (captain and full-back): He led the team very capably and was a great inspiration to them. He showed good speed in the open, and should play much better football in the future.

**PETER WHERRETT** (winger): Played well up to average in all matches, and with tuition should improve next year. Very fast in the open.

**BILL McADAM** (centre): Considering his weight, Bill played well above it and was always ready to tackle men much heavier than himself; a very determined player, and showed a good burst of speed.

**JOHN HARPER** (winger): Always one looking for the ball, and when in possession showed good determination. He scored quite a number of tries before his promotion to Burke Cup.

**JEFF STINSON** (centre): Came into the team late in the season but still showed good condition and positional play. If he had been able to play the whole season he would have been of much greater assistance.

**BARRY CARDWELL** (centre): Although out of condition the whole season due to lack of training, nevertheless when called upon to assist the team late in the season, he still showed that he was a player who was capable of doing the right thing at the right time.

**BILL MARSHALL** (winger): After being called upon to assist the team he played well above average in this competition. He also assisted a great deal in the coaching of younger players, for which the Club is very grateful, as he has the knowledge to impart—those who saw him play in past years will fully realise this fact.

**FRANK PAYNE** (centre): A player who is very enthusiastic and played some very good matches. A very good tackler even against men much heavier than himself, and another player who could, with experience and tuition, improve very rapidly.

**BRUCE WIGGINS** (five-eighth): Before being forced out due to injury, he played some very good matches and showed a good turn of speed when required to do so. His tackling is a little weak at the moment, but with his enthusiasm and capability this weakness should soon be overcome.

**DAVID BRUCE** (half-back): A very tricky player, and always depended upon to get his team out of trouble, but tends to hang on to the ball a little longer than he should. He kicked the team to victory on quite a number of occasions, and must develop during the coming season.

**BRIAN BELL** (breakaway): One of the best tacklers in the team, but due to minor injuries could not play his best on all occasions.

**JOHN LOVE** (lock or breakaway): A good hard-rucking forward and quite fast in the open. A better performance should be seen from this lad next season.

**MAX CONNERY** (breakaway): One of the best breakaways in the competition but unfortunately his true position was not found until late in the season when he gave some excellent displays.

**TONY HOLDEN** (breakaway): There was no player in the team as enthusiastic in training or at playing as this young chap. He is quite a light player, and seemed to improve with every match.

**PERCE SMITH** (breakaway and lock): Before his departure to Melbourne he played very good football, even though it was his first season at this code.

**PETER TANNER** (second row): Due to lack of training, he could not show his best form, but on the day was one of the best rucking forwards in the team.

**COLIN BUTTENSHAW** (second row): Although coming into the team late in the season, he improved with every match, and was one of the best prospects for developing into a tough second row forward.

**BOB SWINNEY**: A player who, due to studies, could not play every Saturday, but when he did was a big asset to the team in his rucking and general play amongst the forwards.

**CARL FELDMAN** (front row forward): A good tough forward, always in the thick of play, and played well in every match. "The rougher the better" was his attitude.

**WAYNE JONES** (hooker): Developed with every match during the season, and soon realised that good short passing was the way to win matches.

**LIONEL FOWLER** (half-back): Helped the team out on two occasions, and even though quite a small player still went down on the ball.

**DON COWDERY**: Before his departure to New Zealand he played very good football, and was improving with every match. Has a good sense of anticipation, and was one of the best cover defence players in the team.

## HOCKEY

(Sub-Committee: B. Trevenar Chairman; C. Jones, D. Walker)

The Club fielded two teams, one in each grade of the Minor Division competition conducted by the Sydney Hockey Association. For the sixth successive season the "A" Grade won the Premiership and although beaten in the semi-final, defeated Ryde-Hunters Hill in the grand-final, three goals to nil. The "B" Grade finished third in the Minor Premiership round and were defeated in the final by Ryde-Hunters Hill, who went on to defeat the Minor Premiers, Gladesville, in the grand-final. We take this opportunity to congratulate Ryde-Hunters Hill on their fine effort and success.

The Barton-Briars Shield was contested at Rushcutters Bay Oval and the match ended in a win for the visitors, Barton, three goals to nil. The score was a true indication of the match as Barton played very good hockey to defeat us in every department of the game, but it is hoped that the Club will send a strong team to Canberra next season to bring the shield back to the Club Rooms; it is up to our players to get some early training as they have a tough job ahead.

This season the Club entered the St. George carnival but was not very successful. We also entered a team in the Bathurst Carnival "C" Division with better results as we reached the quarter-finals being defeated on penalties. This trip looks like being an annual event for our hockey teams.

Burwood Park was again used as our home ground, its surface was superior to most grounds we played on during the season; for this condition we owe a vote of thanks to Burwood Council.

Concord Oval was once more made available by courtesy of the football committee for which we were very grateful, but, the hockey players did not take advantage of the training nights, had they, the season would have been more successful and a very much happier one. By training we can hope to build up combination and incentive to play as a team, thereby strengthening the individual play.

## FIRST ELEVEN

The success of the first eleven in winning this year's premiership for the sixth successive year was due to the determination of its players to make good. We started the season with a complete new forward line and combination had to be built up. Without the usual strong club spirit this achievement would not have been possible. It is a pleasure to play with such fine fellows as nothing asked of them is too much.

The team played sixteen matches (including the semi-final and grand-final) winning eleven, drawing three and losing two. Goals were forty-three for with eighteen against.

This years the "A" Grade held a barbecue at Sam Beadsworth's home to celebrate the six-year run of success. We take this opportunity to convey our thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Beadsworth for her fine effort to make the celebration the success that it was.

**B. TREVENAR** (captain, right-back): Continues his run of outstanding successes. Experienced serious injuries mid-way through the winter, from the wrong end of a stick. A secret of his ability is his complete absorption of all instructions given by his charming wife.

**D. WALKER** (vice-captain, left-back): David was elected vice-captain upon the retirement of Ray Ackerman and on each occasion he had to lead the team he did a very good job. The captaincy had no effect on his general play. As usual, he played good hockey throughout the season. The understanding built up between the left and right backs has made a strong defence.

**C. JONES** (centre-half): Colin playing his first season in the "A" Grade as centre-half, had the job in front of him as his predecessor, R. Ackerman, set a high standard. Colin's game in no way lowered the standard as he was in perfect condition and was able to play a full seventy-minute game at top pace. The harder the game the better he played. His positional play was very good and the team is building up strength around him and should prove a "tough nut to crack" in future seasons. One of Colin's outstanding games was the grand-final.

**S. BEADSWORTH** (left-half): Sam as in past years played excellent hockey, always in position and giving the forwards plenty of the ball. He is solid in defence and a hard man to pass, but has developed the habit of obstructing when tackling a player for which he was penalised freely.



**J. BROWN (right wing):** John was moved to right wing after being tried as inside-left, and he now has found a natural style for that position; a game player not frightened to attack the opposition defence and when in the circle has a very quick hit. He is the most improved player in the "A" Grade this season and with his inclusion will keep the team up to strength in future seasons.

**E. LANDER (inside-right):** Ted, a newcomer to the club and, after only two games in the "B" Grade, he found himself a regular first grade player. Ted's style added a difference to the forward line from past seasons. When the forwards settled down there was some very good hockey played and although Ted only scored four goals he was responsible for opening from which goals were scored. His outstanding game was in the grand-final in which he scored a very fine goal.

**M. HILL (goalie):** Maurie's effort this year as goalie was equal to the past. The number of goals allowed is always a good indication as to the standard of a goalie's play. It was a pleasure to have a player in the team like Maurie as he can always be relied upon. Maurie has the distinction of being the only "playing grandfather" in the club.

**J. CASSIDY (right-half):** Jack as right-half was always a tower of strength in the team. He is always in the thick of anything and never lets his opponent run with that ball. If beaten he always tackles back or gives support to the backs. Jack is a useful player as he can play in any defensive position.

**J. ENGLISH (centre-forward):** Jim in this position had a very high scoring standard set for him by his predecessor, D. Prowse, and with E. Lander they had the Prowse-Mobbs combination as a goal. Although Jim didn't score as heavy as D. Prowse, he scored twenty-one goals out of a total of forty-three scored for the season.

**P. PATERSON (inside-left):** Peter as a newcomer to the club was tried at many positions but the selectors decided to try him as inside-left and with last season's experience he will prove a tower of strength in future seasons.

**J. BEADSWORTH (left wing):** John, as left wing repeated his fine effort of last season and was always a danger to the opposition when the team was on attack, as proved by the fine goal scored in the grand-final from a well-timed back stick drive, giving the goalie no hope.

**M. SMITH:** Mal played eleven games in the "A" Grade in many positions as a utility man, although not fair as far as the player himself is concerned, but that showed true club and team spirit when filling in any position that became vacant through injury. His general play was quite sound.

## SECOND GRADE

With the retirement of a number of the first grade team many of the seconds were taken up to fill in the vacancies. This inevitably resulted in the second grade team being very short of players for the first part of the season, but with the acquisition of a few new players, and the comeback of N. Ellis from the sick list a good team was eventually moulded. We were unlucky not to have been Minor Premiers, only being troubled by one team (Teachers) during the last two rounds of the competition. The team lacked players who could capitalise on a scoring opportunity within the circle. This fact contributed greatly to our defeat in the final by the ultimate Premiers, Ryde-Hunters Hill, when several opportunities were not followed through.

A. PRICE (captain, inside-left): Demonstrated exceptional keenness in accepting the position of Captain after only one season at hockey. Improved considerably in play, but did not devote enough time to executing the necessary duties of the Captain.

N. ELLIS (vice-captain, centre): Chief goal scorer for the team, started late in the season after undergoing a serious operation and proved that he hadn't lost any of his dash by scoring in his first match. Played brilliantly in the semi-final when he scored the only two goals of the match against Gladesville.

J. FRIPP: Came to us from Wests and proved a valuable asset to the team in both defence and attack. A versatile player.

K. JACOBS (right wing): Started playing hockey at the beginning of this season and surprised everybody (including himself) by scoring in his first match. Improved remarkably and on two occasions played with the "A" Grade team.

W. TURNER (right half): A forceful player who never seemed to tire. Used a combination of hockey and football to baffle the opposition.

M. SMITH (centre half): Played the first half of the season with the first grade then used his experience to help the second grade on to success. He was always a stumbling block for the opposition and could be relied upon to do the right thing.

P. WILSON (left half): "The human tank", had never held a hockey stick before the first match but soon proved that he could handle one like a veteran. Noted for his aggressive tactics, the most improved player of the team.

T. PATERSON: Missed the first few matches but soon settled down to good team work and could always be relied upon to put up a good performance.

R. ATWILL: Always aggressive and always in trouble. A good player who never missed an opportunity of being injured.

M. SPENCER: Only "on-side" when playing in goal, in which position he performed his most useful work. However, did not play as well as he is capable of doing.

J. HOLLANDS (back de luxe): The brains of the team. Consistently out-smarted the opposition and could always turn defensive play into attack.

L. DAVIES: Ran the first few games in the forwards and then dropped back to partner J. Hollands and proved a formidable stumbling block for any attacking forwards. Surprised many by his speed and proved a great encouragement to the new players.

J. SMALL: Played a few matches as right wing and showed a lot of promising talent. We would have liked to have had much more of him.

## GOLF

(Committee: D. Walker, Chairman; C. Mitchell)

The insistent clamour of "When is the next golf day?" heard from our enthusiastic eighteen (not to mention nineteen holers) prompted the Golf Committee to arrange four outings this year.

All the Sundays saw the usual dawn gathering at the Strathfield island green, from where the trek to the Leura green set forth. To all the members whose covered waggons transported the players, the Committee extends its heartfelt gratitude. This gratitude also encompasses all the participants for their punctuality, and for their forbearance granted to the organisers in their oft repeated dilemma in arranging last minute foursomes

and in correcting "burglar" handicaps.

Before passing onto an account of the outings, it may be noted that the competitions held were mainly of one type, an aggregate stableford pairs event. Much consideration was given to changing from this type, but it is felt that the aggregate stableford competition gives each member a share of interest in the game, even though he be playing poorly. Also the long marker group, into which most of our players fall, have a better chance of success when pitted against "below fifteen" men. The organisers are susceptible to influence by pressure groups, and if sound reasons for a change can be advanced, then at our next outing we may see a "sixsome" event.

As well as the just rewards for skill, many novelty prizes are awarded for sundry feats. These range from accolades for the best and worst drives off the first tee, to the honour of wearing the gaudiest shirt, or, as in one case, the greyest hair. Many of these efforts, however, result in no addition to the trophy stocks to the member concerned.

Regardless of prizes, and of disparities in handicaps, all members appear to gain most enjoyment purely from the pleasure of playing with friendly companions in ideal surroundings, and it is to this end that functions are arranged.

In most respects our jaunts resembled one another. The number attending remained fairly constant at approximately forty, whilst perfect mountain weather prevailed at all times. The latter we welcomed with relief, as the mid-winter date had been viewed with some apprehension due to our previous experiences of the mountains' winter.

The change from Kirkham Lane to Leura for this date proved very popular, and appears to be the solution of our problems as to a venue for our winter golf. However, any alternative suggestions as to suitable course will be carefully considered.

Very pleasing features have been the full roll-up of our younger members, and the appearance of good and bad players alike in the winning lists. In the competitions all finishes have been very close, with only few points separating many pairs. Thus it appears that the keeping of records of members' rounds of previous days is resulting in more equitable handicapping, with an inherent increase of interest by competitors.

The list of winners is rather too long to include in this report but for anyone desirous of studying the prize list, we refer them to editions of Half Time or to members of the Golf Committee.

## INDOOR ENTERTAINMENTS

Incessant hordes of members still throng the billiards and table tennis tables on Friday nights and even the "dry" months when our attendances did not dwindle, the tables were in constant use.

No competitive billiard play ensued during the year, and indeed, members appear to have little inclination to a more serious interest, but rather, prefer the friendly, jovial and rowdy game. The tables were as usual, maintained in fine form by the service of Messrs. Heiron and Smith, and the bi-weekly brushings of Bob Clark, whose services we appreciate.

The thrill of competition is well and truly imbued in our table tennis exponents, with the regular entry of teams in the competitions of the N.S.W. Table Tennis Association. Nearly a dozen members participate at one time or another in these affrays. In the 1954-55 summer competition, as we had lost one or two good players, we stepped down a grade into the "D" Division. Here

the team battled well, and had not holidays interfered with the team complement, could have finished high in the list. The team stunned the sceptics, and proved they could at least twice beat a team of girls. In the winter competition, owing to a clash of the "D" grade playing nights with our training nights, we were compelled to enter two teams in "C" Grade. The No. 1 team fared moderately well, but the other team found the way too hard, and the successes it did enjoy were due mainly to forfeits and to two-man teams. Regardless of success, in either team, all players willingly made themselves available at inconvenient times, and the fine spirit which prevailed in victory or adversity was in true Briar tradition.

For the bulk of members, only three tournaments were held. The record of one has been lost, but the remaining two were a Singles handicap event and a Doubles handicap event. The winners were Ian McLachlan, and that triumphant pair John Thom and Ian Brabant. The gallant losers were Ian Mackie and Ted Stockdale.

With the granting of a liquor licence to the Club, the role of indoor entertainment will increase in importance. A closer liaison with the functions of the Social Committee will be necessary and this co-ordination of services will be of benefit to members.

## ACCIDENT FUND

(Secretary, G. Miller; Treasurer, E. Stockdale)

The Accident Fund was run on similar lines to last year. The footballers paying into the fund whilst the cricket players paid direct to the Association. The Cricket Association team insurance is compulsory whereas the footballers' contribution is voluntary.

In an endeavour to obtain more football members, the fees were reduced from ten shillings to five shillings. Every member was canvassed and twenty-one players joined out of an approximate sixty. The reason given by most for not joining being that they were covered by medical benefit organisations.

Receipts from contributors amounted to £5/5/0, a decrease of £9/11/0 on the previous year when the fees were 10/- per annum.

Claims paid during the year amounted to £14/5/6, of which £9/15/6 was outstanding from the previous year making £4/10/0 for the current year. It was a very lean year for claims and fees exceed payments of claims by 15/-. There are no outstanding claims. The sum of £5 to N.S.W.C.A. is a recoverable item.

A donation of £3/3/0 was made to St John's Ambulance Brigade.

We express our appreciation to Dr Roger Vanderfield, Dr. Geoff Vanderfield and members of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade for their attention to injured players. In particular we would like to sincerely thank Gordon Young, a member of the St. John's Brigade, who was always available at "home" and "away" matches. Gordon's "patching up" of players after the game was greatly appreciated.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts:			Payments:		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance B/F .....	142	11 10	Claims Paid .....	14	5 6
Members' Fees .....	5	5 0	St. John's Ambulance	3	3 0
Bank Interest .....	3	8 9	N.S.W.C.A. ....	5	0 0
			Balance C/F .....	128	17 1
	<u>£151</u>	<u>5 7</u>		<u>£151</u>	<u>5 7</u>

## SOCIAL

Committee: P. Tanner (Chairman), I. Thompson, R. Elvery, W. Turner, C. Dawkins)

The social activities of the Club have been curtailed somewhat by the uncertain position of the negotiations toward the renovation of the Club Rooms, and consequently only two functions took place—an extraordinarily successful ball and a social.

The success of the ball was mainly due to two factors: Colin Jones who organised it in the absence of Peter Tanner, and the general enthusiasm of the club members, particularly the younger ones.

As all members are now aware, the club has been granted a conditional liquor licence, and extensive alterations to the rooms are being made and it is now, at this time in the Club's history that we should all try and patronise the Club more fully, and thereby help make a success of our functions, both financially and socially.

## CLUB ROOMS

Senior Steward: A. G. Stevenson

Assistant Senior Steward:

R. B. Tasker (rsgnd. Mar. '55), R. Elvery (appt. Oct. '55)

Stewards:

D. Walker, D. McKeown, I. Thompson, D. Hotten, J. Thom, J. Wade, F. Payne.

Unfortunately this years' report, as compared with the last five years is disappointing. For the year the profit from the Club Room trading was approximately three-fifths of the previous year.

Club Room attendances in the latter part of 1954 were poor and a general deterioration set in, resulting in poor takings. However, in 1955 attendances improved remarkably and sales soared, raising hopes of a record year which however, was not realised.

Two things were mainly responsible for the poor Club Room takings:—

1. The poor attendance at the Club Room on Saturday night during the football season—usually only two or three members being present. Consequently Club Room takings virtually ceased for five months, sales being dependent on Friday night trading alone.
2. The ready availability of local brands of cigarettes from other sources which has resulted in a very definite decline in sales.

However, this state of affairs will not continue as the Club has now been granted a conditional liquor licence which will ensure satisfactory Saturday night trading.

In view of the facts the profit realised is really very satisfactory. However, because of the expenses involved by obtaining a liquor licence and the necessary alterations, Club Room tradings and their subsequent profit assume a much more important place in Club affairs. It is now more necessary than ever that members patronise the Club Rooms and avail themselves of the amenities provided. Without the patronage the Club could be facing unsurmountable financial liabilities, so it is up to you, the members.

Co-operation from the Stewards, Asst. Senior Steward, and assistance from the Secretary were important factors and helped considerably in the smooth and effective running of the Club Room.

## HALF TIME

The publication of Half Time continues, not as regularly as is desired, but with the difficulties encountered, we believe that such an essential part of the Club should be maintained, no matter how irregular the publications become. The work carried out by the Editor, Col. G. Jones, and the Assistant, Rex Lamb, considering the lack of a major item, time, helped to keep the production of Half Time as fluent as possible.

Few members are aware of the great deal of organisation necessary. To secure the services of reporters, edit their work, collate the articles, print and then distribute the magazine, requires hours of patient concentration and it is only by the efforts of the few, that the doings of the Club are circulated.

We are having a little trouble with the RONEO machine, an essential to production, but the energies of Geoff Stevenson, Col. Jones, Bob Clark and Ted Stockdale have overcome the trouble.

The reporting of Cricket, Football, Hockey, and Table Tennis games was up to standard, and as an added feature, the Secretary's Column gave all the information of what happens inside the Club, from that person's angle. Lack of unbiased editorials did not help to "finish" the magazine. We wish to thank the reporters who so willingly gave of their best, and trust that the same support will be forthcoming during 1956.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to offer our heartiest congratulations to the couples who entered into partnership along the life road:

George Miller	and	Pat Muir
Maic. Pettrick	"	Margaret Rankin
Brian Adeock	"	Janet Broadfoot
Nev. Thomas	"	Valerie Chidgey
Don Guest	"	Elizabeth Eaton
Spencer Hipwell	"	Elizabeth Wilson
Barry Nix	"	Betty Jones
Haydn Slatyer	"	Julia Musgrove

Also we have to mention "Curly" Clifford, John Walker and Barry Scrivener are to be congratulated for doing the right thing.

For those who have become engaged may we offer our best wishes:

Barry Cardwell	to	Bettina Wood
Ray Chegwyn	"	Leila Baume
Brian Dobson	"	Gloria Firth
Herb Garling	"	Judy Pengelly
Laurie Routley	"	Jeanette Collum
Brian Simpson	"	Barbara Bonney
Dave Walker	"	Elaine Campbell

Of course the list would not be complete without the publication of the names of the proud fathers of the year:

To Alan Searle	a daughter	To Alan Reid	a son
" Jim Alford	"	" Doug Prowse	"
" Neil Walker	"	" Ian Mackie	"
" Norm Ellis	"	" John Moller	"
" Rus Murray	"	" Ken Astridge	"
" Rog. Vanderfield	a son	" Nev. Milne	"
" John Crawford	"		

The Board of Directors met on 15 occasions, attendances being as follows:

R. S. Jones .....	14	H. G. Whiddon ..	11
D. Prowse .....	12	E. Watt .....	9
H. Ford .....	11	R. Thompson ...	1
R. Clark .....	13	D. Way .....	13
P. Meulman ....	10		

The Management Committee met on 13 occasions, and the attendances were:

R. S. Jones .....	11	I. Vanderfield ..	10
S. McGregor ....	10	R. Thomas .....	9
A. Reid .....	9	D. Walker .....	10
P. Tanner .....	9	C. G. Jones .....	4
A. G. Stevenson ..	7	B. Trevenar .....	9
E. Stockdale ...	11	R. Kerr .....	8
D. Way .....	2		

## FINANCE

The Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended September 30, 1955 together with a Balance Sheet as at that date and the report of the Auditor thereon are appended.

Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year amounted to £102 after providing £134 for the redemption of debentures.

The Redemption Reserve Fund now stands at £1150 and of this amount £900 has been invested outside the Club.

It is considered that approximately £3,100 will be required during the present year for the purpose of carrying out alterations and improvements to the Club Rooms. A liquor licence will be granted only if these improvements are carried out, and your Directors have been informed that bank accommodation will be made available for approximately half of this sum for this purpose. It is proposed to issue to members additional interest-bearing debentures, the details of which will be furnished when an accurate estimate of the cost of the alterations and improvements is known.

Comments from the Honorary Auditor's Report are as under:

The net income represents an overall decrease of £126 on the results of the previous year, and is almost entirely due to a drop of £123 in income from entertainments. This was perhaps to be expected, and should be remedied in the current year.

There is no significant movement in other revenue items with the possible exception of the gross profit from Club Room trading which increased by £20, although the sales were lower. Half Time showed a surplus of £26 this year as compared to a loss of £3 last year.

## ADDENDUM

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the work performed throughout the year by E. G. Stockdale (Hon. Secretary); C. J. Jones Hon. Asst. Secretary; R. E. Kerr (Hon. Treasurer); W. L. Routley (Hon. Asst. Treasurer); A. Stevenson (Senior Steward); C. W. Magrath (Hon. Auditor); and also members of the Committee and various Sub-Committees, and the Stewards.

R. S. JONES, President.

# BALANCE SHEET as at 30th September, 1955

30/9/54	Liabilities	£	£	30/9/54	Assets	£	£
£				£			
	ACCUMULATED FUNDS .....		483	4750	LAND & BUILDINGS (at cost)		4750
205	Balance, 1/10/54 .....	381			30-30a George Street, Burwood .....		
176	Excess of Income and Expenditure for year .....	102	2216	414	FURNITURE & FITTINGS (at Cost less depreciation) .....		438
	RESERVES				SHARES IN RUGBY UNION CO-OP. TRADING SOCIETY LTD. ....		5
1066	General Reserve .....	1066		700	DEBENTURE REDEMPTION FUND INVESTMENT: £900 - 4½% Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board 1968 Loan (at cost) .....		900
950	Debenture Redemption Reserve ....	1150	3315		STOCK ON HAND (at valuation)		
	DEBENTURES			62	Cigarettes, Chocolates, etc. ....	146	
925	185 £5 - 5% Debentures .....	925		16	Metal Badges .....	12	
2360	478 £5 Interest Free Debentures ....	2390		7	Cricket Caps .....	7	
				9	Football Outfits .....		165
50	N.S.W.C.A. SPECIAL GRANT .....		50				5
27	SUNDRY CREDITORS .....		137	17	SUNDRY DEBTORS .....		
17	SUBSCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE .....		30	28	COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK OF AUSTRALIA (Current Account)		19
288	COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUST. (Secured by Mortgage)		116	61	PREPAYMENTS .....		65
	R. S. JONES, Director				Fees outstanding at 30th September, 1955, amounting to £152 have not been taken into account.		
	D. V. PROWSE, Director						
	R. E. KERR, Hon. Treasurer						
£6064			£6347	£6064			£6347

I report to the members that I have examined the Books of Account and Vouchers of THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED for the year ended 30th September, 1955. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required and in my opinion, the attached Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs at that date, according to the best of my information, the explanations given to me, and as shown by the Books of the Company. In my opinion, the Register of Members and other records which the Company is required to keep under the Companies Act, 1936, or by its Articles of Association, have been kept in a proper manner.

DATED AT SYDNEY, 14th November, 1955

C. W. MAGRATH, A.S.T.C., A.A.S.A., Public Accountant and Auditor



# CLUB ROOM TRADING ACCOUNT

For the Year Ended 30th September, 1955

30/9/54	£	30/9/54	£
133 Stock on Hand, 1/10/54 .....	63	784 Sales .....	603
652 Purchases .....	604		
<u>785</u>	<u>667</u>		
63 Less Stock on Hand, 30/9/55 .	146		
<u>722</u>	<u>521</u>		
62 Gross Profit trans- ferred to Income and Expenditure Account .....	82		
<u>£784</u>	<u>£603</u>	<u>£784</u>	<u>£603</u>

