

59th ANNUAL REPORT
AND
BALANCE SHEET
1976 — 1977

The Briars
Sporting Club Limited
Burwood



J. Alford.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

LIFE MEMBERS

C. R. Davis

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mayor of Chesham

H.W. Lumsden

S.J. McClelland

R.E. McClelland M.B.E.

L.S. ...

Fifty-Ninth

Annual Report

and Balance Sheet

1976 - 77

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

C. R. Davis

J. H. Edwards

M. Edey

H.C. Ford

E.I. Richard

E.G. Strickland

HON. TREASURER

J.F. Ockden

HON. ASSISTANT TREASURER

HON. ASST. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

E. Halsey

HON. SOLICITOR

H.C. Ford

Presented to members at the Club Rooms

30A George Street, Burwood,

on Friday, 2nd December, 1977.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

Office-Bearers 1976-77

PATRON

R. B. Clark, B.E.M.

LIFE MEMBERS

R. B. Clark, B.E.M.

E. G. Stockdale

PRESIDENT

C. K. Dennis

VICE-PRESIDENTS

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J. Balmforth

L.J. Davis

W.A. Elder

H.C. Ford

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C.J. Jones

R.S. Jones

A.J. Land

Mayor of Concord

H.W. Lennartz

S.J. McGregor

R.E. McLaughlin M.B.E.

L.B. Meulman

C. Mitchell

M. Mitchell

T. Mobbs

P.C. Murray

Mayor of Strathfield

D.V. Prowse

A.C. Reid

A.W. Rose

B.E. Trevenar

I.R. Vanderfield O.B.E.

D.P. Walker

R. Walker

D.A. Way

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J.F. Alford

J. Balmforth

I.G.S. Blair

C.K. Dennis

J.H. Edmonds

M. Elder

H.C. Ford

R.I. Richard

E.G. Stockdale

HONORARY LICENSEE

B. E. Trevenar

HON. TREASURER

J. F. Crockart

HON. ASSISTANT TREASURER

G. Nicolls

HON. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I.G.S. Blair

HON. ASST. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

C. Hickey

HONORARY AUDITOR

C.G. Jones, F.C.A.

HON. SOLICITOR

H.C. Ford

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

T. Parker (Cricket Chairman)

I. Blair (Exec. Officer)

J. Boyle (House)

J. Crockart (Treasurer)

B. Ferguson (Social)

K. Gray (Senior Steward)

C. Hickey (Football Chairman)

G. McPhee (Personnel)

R. Pontifex (Squash Chairman)

R. Streeter (Hockey Chairman)

PAST PRESIDENTS

J. H. STONE	....	1918-1919
H. W. WHIDDON	....	1919-1920
J. C. MEEKS	....	1920-1921
H. W. WHIDDON	....	1921-1924
E. J. SIDDELEY	....	1924-1925
E. LOVE	....	1925-1926
H. W. WHIDDON	....	1926-1928
E. J. SIDDELEY	....	1928-1929
R. W. MAY	....	1929-1931
E. J. SIDDELEY	....	1931-1932
H. W. WHIDDON	....	1932-1933
R. G. 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	....	1953-1957
A. J. LAND	....	1957-1960
R. J. THOMSON	....	1960-1962
W. A. ELDER	....	1962-1965
B. U. WILLIAMS	....	1965-1967
H. G. WHIDDON	....	1967-1969
H. C. FORD	....	1969-1972
R. D. VANDERFIELD	....	1972-1973
D. A. WALKER	....	1973-1976

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

Gentlemen:

Your Board of Directors and Management Committee have pleasure in presenting for your consideration and adoption the fifty-ninth annual report of the Club for the year ended September 30, 1977.

Our participation and contribution to the sports of our choosing, continues to be significant and is a role all members can be proud of.

More than 200 active members fill the ranks of our cricket, rugby, hockey and squash teams, and despite the pains of growth, the sporting and club administration is capably managed.

Our major success during the year was provided by the growing band of "squashies" who pinned two pennants on the wall, and it has become commonplace for them to provide premiership success from each pennant season.

Rugby and cricket both improved in numerical strength which has its benefits, but still failed to come up with a small nucleus of players with the extra skill and talent, that is the real catalyst for premiership honours.

Our association with Croydon Cricket Club is our first link with junior cricketers and we expect to benefit quite handsomely from year to year as well as play our part in providing continued assistance to the Croydon Club.

Moves are afoot for a similar junior Rugby affiliation next season, and this must be an absolute priority for the football chairman and his team. The issue has been side-stepped for far too long.

What a pleasure to see the A Grade hockey side become a grand finalist. They picked up form mid-season and carried it through a torturous semi-final and final circuit into the big one, going down to Glebe 3-2.

Attendance at the hockey grand final highlighted the very poor support and inter-action between our sporting bodies and your management committee have highlighted this as one of the important priorities.

The coming Athletics Day, which will be the first Athletics Day in nearly 40 years, is specifically designed to develop that friendship and association.

Again in this respect, the complete social activity of the Club must continue to be designed with integration of the sports in mind. And certainly during the year a very complete calendar of social events were held providing all members with a greater opportunity to mix than we have probably had in past years.

In developing Club spirit few more positive steps can be taken than going on tour. The Rugby

boys again toured New Zealand which is now the fourth time that has been undertaken and plans are under way for a tour to North America at the end of the 1978 Season. This ambitious project has already got underway to a good start in financial terms, and all members are encouraged to support the activities of the football committee in raising money for what will be a marvellous tour.

The cricket trip to Taree was a specialty for the season. And was again a significant contributor in getting players together particularly some of our new young members who journeyed away for the first time.

All tours, even if they are just a long week-end, take an immense amount of planning and detail. But Committees from all sports must be encouraged to plan for them each year. And both active and non-playing members have a duty to find some way to support these efforts.

The work of the planning committee in developing a new ground or grounds for the Club has run into that specially sticky web woven by bureaucrats. Only time, care, immense patience and Ian Richard's dedication will see some positive results.

Critics and sceptics of the Planning Committee's activities must understand that our growth has halted and will remain stationary until we can secure additional playing areas. Longer term, there is the prospect of having to reduce our playing capacity if Rothwell Park is our only available venue.

Discussions at management have made us all realize how important communication between members is, and the value of focus cannot be over-estimated. The Club's Newsletter has gone from strength to strength and it's pleasing to see it developing into a members' forum.

Financially, the year was quite outstanding. Revenue from bar trading and rental produced our best profit result which of course is necessary to allow for the increased costs of administration.

For the second year an advertisement was used to attract new members, specifically footballers, and the interest and enthusiasm it created both from our own members and from the rugby fraternity in general was very satisfying. Beyond the ability to pull some new members, it served as a useful aid in combating relegation from the Kentwell Division, and everyone should remember that the cost of some \$2,800 was raised from voluntary subscriptions plus a small donation from the Club's funds necessary to cover a few defaulters who can still pay up when this paragraph again jogs their memories.

Advertising is only a short term panacea and must not be considered in any other light. Personal contact and persuasion with prospective players is the only answer and every member has an obligation to pursue the quarry. Never miss an opportunity.

The Management members and directors of the Club are listed in the front of this report and they have all managed to find that extra bit of time and commitment to make the place work for the 59th year. And to see that it is in quite good condition to enter another decade.

I both acknowledge and thank them for their support and in particular I would like to record my special thanks to Ian Blair and John Crockart for their dedication to the Club's two most important portfolios.

Our membership stands at 468 compared with 452 last year, and consists of the following:—

	1976/77	1975/76
Full Members	354	335
Junior Members	9	8
City Associate Members	58	59
Country Members	<u>47</u>	<u>50</u>
	<u>468</u>	<u>452</u>

In conclusion we wish to record our appreciation for the support that we have always received from our Municipal authorities, namely Burwood, Concord and Strathfield.

In addition, we wish to thank the Clubs we compete against and the undermentioned sporting bodies for their assistance in making competitions possible:

Sydney Rugby Union

N.S.W. Cricket Association

Metropolitan Sub-District Rugby Union

Council of Municipal and Shire Clubs

Rugby Union Referees Association

City and Suburban Cricket Association

Sydney Hockey Association

Squash Racquets Association of N.S.W.

Sydney Hockey Umpires Association

COLIN K. DENNIS

President

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CRICKET REPORT

Sub-Committee:	Chairmen:	J. Balmforth	(Up to 6/12/76)
		T. Parker	(From 6/12/76)
Treasurer:		J. Kemp	(Up to 1/12/76)
		D. Sterry	(From 1/12/76)
Under 16's and Gear:		K. Holley	
Practice:		J. Jarratt	
Publicity:		M. Sterry	

The last cricket season has been of great value to the Briars Club. Firstly, we put on the field the "Briars Croydon" Under 16 side, which had been organised by Jack Balmforth and Kevin Holley. Secondly, due to inviting new players through the local "Aeroplane Press" newspaper. The value of the Under 16 players to the future is inestimable, which it is found that in our annual double wicket competition held during last February, two of the four finalists were from the Under 16's. Also, the value of the Briars Club to these Under 16 players shall be great. Already mention has been made at the Croydon Club's Annual Meeting, how much the coaching management, etc. has been productive to the Croydon boys.

The newspaper article brought immediate response, with fifteen new players finding their way into our selection trials. (To cope with the extra players in the 1977/78 season, the Club shall be fielding two C Shire teams. Also, we shall be helping to support the Croydon Under 14's.)

The season saw two retirements from the committee. John Kemp has shifted to Wollongong with his employment. Jack Balmforth felt that a change was necessary. Thanks from the Briars to Jack for the carrying out of his duties during the long time he has been chairman.

The season completed saw, after initial confusion, quite a good improvement throughout the teams:

a)	Club Championship	9th	Unchanged from last season
b)	A Shire	Equal 5th	Improved by two places
c)	B Shire	Equal 7th	Unchanged from last season
d)	C Shire	3rd	Improved by 1 place
e)	"C and S"		Played 17, Won 6, Lost 10, Drew 1. (Not as good as the previous season).

During the last season we saw the retirement of the Club's most successful all rounder, Tom Mobbs. I would like to congratulate Tom on his magnificent innings with Briars Cricket. Almost twelve thousand runs and approximately 900 wickets is Tom's record. Tom retained his Cricket association throughout the season as one of our roving selectors. (Jack Balmforth being the other).

The Double Wicket Competition was run this year by Mike Sterry. A most enjoyable day was had by all. We had older ex-Briars' Cricketers, guest stars from Western Suburbs, and of course, our Under 16's. Congratulations to the winners, Bart Pozuelo and Kevin Holley.

Congratulations to the leading rungetter and the leading wicket taker for Briars during the last season. Trevor Whittaker spent the first half of the season in B Shires, and due to his success was promoted to the A's after Christmas. All told, Trevor scored 441 runs from 17 innings with 2 not outs for an average of 29.4 runs per innings. His highest score was 100 not out in the A's. Craig Smith, not only having his first season with the Briars, but also having his first cricket season ever, was the Club's leading wicket taker. Playing in the C Shire side, Craig took 34 wickets, at 11.50 runs each, from 130 overs (22 maidens and 391 runs). Also, I would congratulate each team's wicketkeepers for their application throughout.

Other outstanding performances were Craig Hickey's 90 odd before lunch during an all day game. (Even more interesting perhaps was the fact that Craig's mates also scored 90 odd at the same time). Ian Blair's 122 during a Club record partnership with Peter Mansford. Pat Fitzgerald was A Shire's leading wicket taker with 33 wickets. Col Dennis' consistent batting in the B's. Barry Williams' 98 and John Magrath's great opening bat contributions in C Shires. Also, Lyn Williams equalled his own C Shires catching record of 14.

Dave Brooks took over from Tom Mobbs as C and S Captain. Unfortunately he looked after a side that was chopped and changed throughout the season.

The Club had a most successful trip to Taree on the January long weekend. Whilst it did not rain, the heat certainly made up for it. Nevertheless, Briars won the match against some strong opposition. Socially we were entertained to our liking.

The Club congratulates Lindfield on winning the A Shire Competition, Canterbury the B's, Epping the C's and Wentworthville—Blacktown the Club Championship.

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'A' SHIRE CRICKET REPORT 1976—1977

The cricket plan for this season was to promote youth and this was done in two ways:—

- (a) form a junior side to play in the Saturday morning competition, and
- (b) find younger players, by advertising, to fill gaps in the senior sides. Both these objectives were fulfilled and our rebuilding was underway. The places that had to be filled were cricketers who had been mainstays to the A's for the past few seasons, David Scoble, Max Astri, our opening attack, Graeme Corderoy, opening batsman and to a lesser extent Don O'Connor. Also an early loss due to injury was Nigel Sterry who had performed well in Grade Cricket.

The season started off with four losses but after the team sorted itself out we won three out of the next four games, and it was mainly due to inexperience and application that we failed to win more.

Another problem which arose during the year was the unavailability of players for various reasons, once this starts in the top side it causes problems all through the Club.

Our batting let us down more times than the bowling and it is in this area that more application is needed. Our bowlers given a good score to bowl at did a good job.

Our fielding was 'patchy' but on some occasions good performances were put in especially against Lane Cove.

Practice again was well organised by Jeff Jarratt and the attendance was better than in previous years from A Shire players but still not good enough. Nothing would please me more than 'No train no play'.

Thanks again to Rhonda Schomberg for scoring and the various women for making that 'cuppa'.

A club record was set for the third wicket partnership between Peter Mansford and Ian Blair scoring 188 against Roseville.

Overall it was a hard but encouraging season and with more application the A Shires will finish further up the ladder.

IAN BLAIR — Captain. A complete change from previous years where players virtually picked themselves. This year with an inexperienced side Ian had to apply himself a lot more and was rewarded with a good season with the bat. Although the side did not finish well up the ladder Ian gained a lot of satisfaction in being captain.

PETER MANSFORD. Being recalled to the A's after a three year absence Peter had a good season his concentration and determination were a good lesson to the younger players in the side. Fielded well in slips.

TREVOR WHITTAKER. Trevor joined the A's half way through the season after good batting performances in the B Shire side and was rewarded with a fine century the last game of the season. If he shows the same keenness this season, he will be a good asset to Briar's cricket.

MICHAEL STERRY. Did not have a good season due to being moved between A's and B's and could not settle down. Helped in our first victory for the season against Pennant Hills by taking 3—4 off six overs. Must apply himself more in the field.

ROSS PERRIN. Ross started late in the season and again was a valuable asset. If Ross would make himself available all season he would be a great help to cricket in general. Took some fine catches during the season.

ALDO CANTORI. His first year with the Club and showed a fine temperament. Did not score many runs but his 72 against Ryde confirmed his talent. Fielded very well.

ROD SMITH. Had a poor year with the bat but his spin bowling was one of the highlights of the season. It has been a few years since a slow bowler has 'put down' more than 100 overs in A Shires. A little fitness would not go astray for this talented cricketer, his fielding fell away compared to other seasons.

JEFF JARRETT. Jeff through sheer persistence has worked his way up through the grades to be A Shire keeper and did a fine job. A little inexperienced keeping to slow bowling but held some fine catches off the medium pacers. Should concentrate a lot harder when batting.

KEN O'BRIEN. His first year in A's and started off well with a 49 against Canterbury but lost form at the end of the season. Although he did not get many chances to take catches his ground fielding was first class and he cut off many runs. His run out at Auburn was a good example of his high standard.

DEREK NIX. First year out of school and played most of his cricket in A's. A player of potential but must apply himself a lot more by attending practice and concentrating a lot harder while batting and fielding. Has a good future in the Club.

DAVID GUILLE. David's return to competitive cricket was well rewarded by taking 27 wickets. Showed a lot of keenness during the season which all goes well for the coming years. Gives the impression that he should move up the batting order.

STEVE SCHOMBERG. Could not settle down during the season and had a poor season with both bat and ball. A lot more effort will have to be applied if he is to stay in the top side.

PAT FITZGERALD. Pat's first year with the Club and was the leading wicket-taker with 33 after missing a few games with injury. His best performance was 7-45 off 17 overs against Ryde. He fielded well taking a brilliant catch against Canterbury. A good bowler and a fine acquisition to the Club.

'A' SHIRE STATISTICS

Matches Played	Won O/R	Won 1st	Lost O/R	Lost 1st	Drawn	Points	Position
13	—	6	2	5	—	36	6th
Runs for	Wickets for		Average		Runs against	Wickets against	Average
2330	143		16.3		2480	131	18.9

BATTING (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average	Catches
T. Whittaker	7	1	100 x	219	36.5	1
I. Blair	16	3	122	354	27.2	8
R. Perrin	12	1	52	275	25.0	6
P. Mansford	16	1	79	306	20.4	7
M. Sterry	8	2	40	74	12.3	3

BATTING (Contd.) (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average	Catches
A. Cantori	14	—	72	171	12.2	5
R. Smith	13	2	51	131	11.9	3
J. Jarratt	16	1	45	155	10.3	16.3 ST
K. O'Brien	11	—	49	90	8.2	1
D. Nix	7	—	20	53	7.6	5
D. Guille	10	5	12 x	35	7.0	3
S. Schomberg	13	1	13	57	4.8	3
P. Fitzgerald	9	4	5	15	3.0	6

Also batted:	M. Astri	5 for 160	J. Hazelwood	5 for 45
	K. Holley	2 for 22	G. Delagarde	1 for 4
	N. Sterry	1 for 0		

BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
M. Astri	67	14	217	15	14.5
P. Fitzgerald	133	16	503	33	15.2
D. Guille	144	23	556	27	20.6
S. Schomberg	71	14	271	13	20.8
R. Smith	103	9	420	20	21.0
J. Hazelwood	56	8	203	6	33.8

Also bowled:	T. Whittaker	2 for 5	M. Sterry	5 for 31
	K. O'Brien	3 for 47	R. Perrin	2 for 37
	N. Sterry	1 for 21	I. Blair	0 for 5
	K. Holley	0 for 20	G. Delagarde	0 for 41

'B' SHIRE CRICKET REPORT 1976-1977

The hardest part of preparing a Cricket review is providing a statement or comment on the overall performance. Easy to do if you're the Premiers or finish last. Not so easy when the side finishes mid-way.

Neither good nor bad.

And that's the way it was last season. But at least our star was rising as the side fought its way to mid-position after a poor start that had us pointless after four matches.

A very new and reconstructed side stepped out against the '76 Premiers, Epping, in round one.

Seven of the side were in 'B' Grade for the first time and a number of untried, promising young players were having their first taste of shire cricket.

It proved to be too big a task and later success coincided with the selection of a more mature (old) eleven. Six wins were posted out of the remaining nine games and a semi-final spot only just eluded us in a dog fight for the fourth position. With a little more stability in the middle order batting and improved performance with the new ball the '77/78 season will push us further ahead.

Some thirty players contributed to success and failure. Here are some comments on those who contributed regularly one way or the other.

PLAYERS WHO CONTRIBUTED REGULARLY

DAVID WALKER. Still maintains the maximum competitive spirit which always makes it worthwhile having him around.

Take away a few points for agility and close to the wicket catching (including in front of the wicket, near the batsman and just before the bowler).

Add back points for stumping, glove work and keeping the batsman worried at all times, and you still have the king of Briars' wicketkeepers. Long live the King!!!

From here, David will either have to grind out an innings with care and patience or thump the first one over the fence. The decision will rest with David and his future position in the batting line-up.

If other players can fill the early positions, then the latter alternative is David's best go in the future. Made no contribution to failure.

KEVIN HOLLEY. Had a lean season with the bat, but in a couple of innings of 37 and 33 showed some really fancy work, and must be positioned in the line-up in future to take advantage of the opposition's slow bowlers.

Was the most competent batsman in the side against slow bowling.

Switched to spin bowling to fill a big gap in our line-up. Had 79 overs in a full season which is hardly enough to allow a trainee to blossom. This doesn't entirely reflect on Kevin's ability, but more on the Captain's courage.

Although a few slipped through his fingers, took the most catches with 7, and still enjoys the pressure of the slips cordon.

CRAIG HICKEY.	Best batting average —	Craig Hickey	30.5
	Highest score —	Craig Hickey	92
	Highest aggregate —	Craig Hickey	397

Had a wonderful season with the bat. Rarely failed. And figured in three of the highest partnerships of the season. His 92 before lunch was a masterpiece.

Fielded well, although I'm happy to report his throwing was not up to standard. Something had to go wrong!

Also, fortunately Mitchell and McLaughlan usually only arrived when he failed.

PETER WALLACE. One of the young ones who really came through.

Although his bowling statistics are not world beating, he performed well enough on many occasions, particularly against Auburn in the last round when he opened the bowling, pushed through 16 overs and took two wickets for 46.

I have no doubt he will see a lot more of the new ball next season and he can look forward to many seasons of 'A' Shire cricket in the near future.

Needs advice and assistance from the older players coupled with lots of practice to build his defence technique. He is sometimes "out to lunch" in the field, and counting the number of balls in an over, or keeping a mental tally of the score would help to improve his concentration.

A really good acquisition and a really nice bloke.

COLIN BLAIR. I cannot understand why Colin only totalled 9 wickets in the season (and I'm supposed to know).

He bowled accurately, and consistently attacked the batsman and not once was he savaged or attacked with confidence.

An identical performance next season could see him with 30 wickets and no-one would be surprised.

Perhaps Colin bowls a little too fast for maximum benefit at times.

Most certainly can improve on a top score of 27 and to get the benefit of a good eye and a nice fluency in his shots must reconcile himself to sticking around for quite a few overs at the start of his innings.

Nice in the field, alert, quick to a ball. Hard to do much more as Vice-Captain when the Skipper ignored him.

NOEL YOUNG. Best bowling average	—	Noel Young	12.2
Most wickets in season	—	Noel Young	22
Most wickets in innings	—	Noel Young	6

I have visions of Noel losing some weight and getting fit. Several times during the season I pretended he was.

And on one memorable occasion against Pennant Hills, he hurtled (slight exaggeration) through 19.5 overs to take 6 for 60. Without complaint but with plenty of moaning and groaning the next day.

Noel has always played his cricket actively and enthusiastically and 1977 was no exception.

COLIN K. DENNIS – The Captain. Under the watchful and guiding hand of Craig Hickey, shared in many useful opening partnerships and finally, after twenty years, managed to score some runs.

Obviously all that early training with Don Williams has finally paid off.

Was a member in four of the ten best partnerships and generally had the time of his life with the bat.

A few flashes of skill with the ball and a few flashes of skill with the temper.

NOW FOR A FEW COMMENTS ON THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED LESS REGULARLY

TREVOR WHITTAKER. Batted like a run away train, and only contributed less regularly because the 'A' Shire got their hands on him.

Played 5 matches and scored 222 runs.

GRAHAM IRELAND. "Age shall not weary them" is not one of Graham's favourite statements. Appeared at the crease 6 times for 138 runs and usually got out when he was tired of running up and down.

I would like to be able to say that about all our batsmen.

Graham has mellowed like an all-in wrestler, and it's a fearsome sight to see him run out.

BOB STREETER and BARRY CARDWELL. Grouped together because neither played until round 9 and suffered obviously from the lack of cricket.

This effected Barry more than Bob, who settled into his Geoff Boycott style and scored quite a respectable total of 137 runs from 5 innings.

Barry needs to be involved right from the start and will surely perform quite well next season if he does.

Still patrols the outfield as if he owns it, and all knowledgeable batsmen were cautious of the right arm that has lost very little sting.

PETER BURT. I also have visions of Burty. They are ethereal expectations that Peter will participate in a full season of Shire cricket.

Not that he does not provide great value in his sorties between Shires and C & S. It would just be nice to have him available as an opening bowler full-time instead of as a locum.

Still potentially the most dangerous bowler in the side. But found it difficult to sustain a good line. Can bat, can catch, can field, and should be there full-time.

Comments on players who participated in less than 4 games are confined to the statistics at the end of this Report.

'B' SHIRE STATISTICS

Matches Played	Won O/R	Won 1st	Lost O/R	Lost 1st	Drawn	Points	Position
Runs for	Wickets for	Average	Runs against	Wickets against	Average		

(figures not available at time of printing).

BATTING (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average	Catches
C. Hickey	14	1	92	398	30.6	4
R. Streeter	5	—	57	137	27.4	3
T. Whittaker	10	1	80	222	24.6	3
G. Ireland	6	—	44	138	23.0	2
C. Dennis	17	2	63	333	22.2	6
K. Holley	13	1	37	193	16.08	7
D. Walker	14	2	30	188	15.6	14
						(Stumpings 7)
B. Cardwell	7	2	16	67	13.4	3
D. Nix	7	—	32	88	12.5	1
C. Blair	11	1	27	103	10.3	4
P. Wallace	14	5	22	90	10.0	3
N. Young	7	2	10	37	7.4	1
M. Sterry	6	1	15	36	7.2	3

Also batted:

M. Carroll	4 for 18	D. Jamieson	6 for 7
S. Ingui	3 for 0	K. O'Brien	5 for 73
D. Young	5 for 11	D. Sterry	2 for 1
A. Cantori	1 for 21	G. Delagarde	1 for 0
N. Sterry	3 for 10	J. Magrath	5 for 58
W. Poulden	3 for 38	M. Webber	3 for 3

BATTING (Contd.)

Also batted:	B. Williams	2 for 3	P. Burt	4 for 75
	L. Williams	1 for 19	T. Burke	1 for 11
	J. Price	1 for 4		

BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
N. Young	97	20	269	22	12.2
P. Burt	65	19	142	11	12.9
C. Dennis	62	3	247	15	16.4
M. Sterry	67	11	224	13	17.2
P. Wallace	72	6	301	17	17.7
K. Holley	79	9	332	14	23.7
C. Blair	78	13	260	9	28.8

Also bowled:	J. Price	2 for 27	M. Webber	4 for 67
	D. Young	2 for 40	K. O'Brien	6 for 124
	G. Webber	1 for 22	S. Ingui	2 for 51
	C. Hickey	2 for 55	G. Delagarde	2 for 70
	N. Sterry	2 for 103	D. Sterry	0 for 19

'C' SHIRE CRICKET REPORT 1976-1977

The season just completed was one during which the heights of leading the competition were reached, and the dismal disappointment of not being Premiers was felt.

All told 22 players participated in this team throughout the season, and whilst this did not allow a complete combination to be retained for long periods, nevertheless the basic standard in the batting and bowling orders were maintained at all times.

The need for not only winning the toss, but also to make the correct decision, was experienced on occasions, when the captain tried for maximum competition points, instead of "playing safe" and making sure of a first innings win. The result of all this was felt, when in the weather-affected semi-final Burwood (who ended 4th in the minor premiership) played Epping I (who led at the end of the rounds), and a draw was the outcome, and so Epping I automatically went into the final.

Our congratulations to Epping I on their Premiership success, and we look forward to "doing battle" with them again next year.

The captain would like to thank all players for their application and performance throughout the season, and thanks especially Lyn Williams who captained the side on two consecutive occasions to register outright wins each time.

JOHN MAGRATH. Failed once only, and topped the averages. Opened the batting extremely well during the season, and kept wickets in a very tradesmanlike manner.

BARRY WILLIAMS. Highest run scorer, and member of very successful opening pair. Both Barry and John have lots to contribute to Briars cricket, and should both continue their success next year. Great team man, field anywhere (including wicketkeeper) and bowled spinners at captain's request.

WARWICK POULDEN. No. 3. Best bat in team, full of determination, which was evident in scoring 54 n.o. in semi-final. Fielded well when kept away from Jamo.

DAVID JAMIESON. No. 5. One of the seasoned campaigners in the side; showed great application on occasions; scored well sometimes, and bowled magnificently once or twice. The one member who is both loved and hated by friend and foe, during the one afternoon.

STUART McINTOSH. Untidy but very effective wicketkeeper. Looked after the stumps whilst John was elsewhere. Batted well at No. 4, although tended to dislike batting when quick runs were needed.

DAVID YOUNG. Best fielder in team, both in outfield and at leg slip. Scored magnificent 34 (two 6's) out of 63 against Cant. I. Is ready for No. 4 in the batting order, permanently next season, and with more "front foot" play will have a good season. Bowled well on one occasion, also.

MARK CARROLL. Opening bat, who had trouble settling into turf cricket. Plays matting Saturday morning, which could affect. Excellent close-in fieldsman.

GEOFF DELAGARDE. Opening bowler, who troubled all batsmen due to his height. Excellent team man, who encouraged all team-mates by his approach. Failed only once as middle order batsman.

TONY BURKE. No. 3 batsman. Had mixed season with scores of 43, 31, 26, 29 being his best. However when he failed, it usually was with a score of less than 10. Could be smarter in the field. Also could save professional attention on the captain, by attending more precisely to punctuality etc.

GREG WEBER. Opening bowler. Plenty of speed and zip, needs to upgrade run-up, has ability to produce unplayable ball. Good field, and in last match of season, showed that he can bat.

MAL WEBER. Opening bowler. Beautiful run-up, nice action, fast pace. Unfortunately lacks that "killer" ball which brother Greg can produce. Had some very fine bowling performances to his credit, the best being 12 overs, 2 maidens, 5 wickets, 25 runs, against Lane Cove.

MAL SHORTER. Unfortunately back injury robbed us of Mal's services for most of the season. However, produced magnificent form on two occasions, once with the bat (49) and took 8/8 off 10 overs (6 maidens).

CRAIG SMITH. 1st change bowler. Craig's first season of competition cricket ever. Bowled the most overs and took the most wickets. Congratulations! Will be a very worthwhile Briars cricketer for many years to come, if the same dedication and application prevail.

PETER MANLEY. Blotted his copy book late in the season, but after some mid-season ill health, took some great wickets with his slows. Also hit the best cover drive all year.

LYN WILLIAMS — Vice-Captain. Excellent batting at No. 6 (top score 51). Fielding magnificent. Equalled own record of 14 catches for season.

TREVOR PARKER — Captain. Batted anywhere (rather poorly), but discovered late in season opener's spot suited best. If had been 10 years younger, and had produced corresponding results, Burwood 'C' shire would have won the competition.

'C' SHIRE STATISTICS

Matches Played	Won O/R	Won 1st	Lost O/R	Lost 1st	Drawn	Points	Position
13	3	4	—	5	1	54	3rd
Runs for	Wickets for		Average		Runs against	Wickets against	Average
2431	150		16.2		2319	165	14.06

BATTING (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average
J. Magrath	7	—	61	210	30.00
W. Poulden	8	3	54 x	146	29.20
B. Williams	14	1	98	300	23.07
D. Jamieson	14	4	42 x	198	19.80
T. Parker	13	—	50	255	19.61
S. McIntosh	9	1	59	134	16.75
L. Williams	14	—	51	234	16.71
D. Young	10	3	34	113	16.14
M. Carroll	11	1	33 x	147	14.70
G. Delagarde	6	2	15	55	13.75
A. Burke	15	—	43	189	12.60
R. Huggett	8	1	19	58	8.29
G. Weber	6	2	27	32	8.00
M. Weber	7	1	13 x	41	6.83
C. Smith	12	5	9 x	36	5.14
P. Manley	8	—	13	32	4.00

Also batted:	M. Shorter	5 for 60	S. Ingui	2 for 15
	K. Gray	4 for 15	R. Sharkey	1 for 2
	D. Sterry	1 for 0	N. Sterry	1 for 23

BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
M. Shorter	47	10	91	16	5.69
P. Manley	39	3	112	13	8.61
G. Delagarde	64	8	176	17	10.35
C. Smith	130	22	391	34	11.50
D. Jamieson	95	13	338	26	13.00
M. Weber	85	10	346	20	17.30
D. Young	46	6	170	9	18.88
G. Weber	52	5	195	8	24.38

Also bowled:	S. Ingui	2 for 12	N. Sterry	5 for 70
	D. Sterry	1 for 21	B. Williams	5 for 139
	W. Poulden	1 for 39	T. Parker	0 for 0
	L. Williams	0 for 17	A. Burke	0 for 33

CITY AND SUBURBAN REPORT

(With apologies to the Bard — Chris Mitchell)

The C & S Side did not enjoy the best of seasons, but will live to fight another day. The loss of Don Broomham, John Hanscombe and Tom Mobbs, plus the kidnapping of John Hazelwood, Peter Burt and Graham Ireland proved too much even for this great side.

The C & S sprint was won this year by Ray Huggett in a close finish from Tony McSweeney who was a certainty beaten when he ran into a parked car. The event this year was run for the first time under lights. Thanks are due to Burwood Police for their co-operation in blocking traffic in Burwood Road and George Street whilst the event took place.

They have requested however, that in future years we avoid Thursday evening. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to shoppers and motorists caught in the huge traffic jam that followed.

TOM MOBBS. After four games and only 55 runs short of a magnificent 12000 runs for the Club, Tom's aching body finally rebelled and called "enough". Tom never lost his enthusiasm for the game in all his years with the Club. He was a great competitor and a most consistent performer. Crowned his career as Captain when he made the opposition bowl in pouring rain for two hours and then, when it came time for them to bat called the game off because it was too wet. A model for anyone who aspires to play the game of cricket.

DAVE BROOKS. With Tom's demise, the mantle of captaincy fell on Dave — "fell" being the operative word. Went prematurely grey overnight. Going the way of all C & S skippers, turned into a real Jekyll and Hyde character by the end of the season. Chris Mitchell, who has seen them all come and go, gave him away after only one game.

GRAHAM IRELAND (The Prince). Like good wine improves with age. A model of consistency. His 82 against Paddington was a gem. Unselfishly threw away a "ton" to give others a bat.

LINDSAY CALLOWAY. Was amazed to find that every time he scored runs, he was dropped one place in the order. Woke up in the end and began to fail otherwise would have finished at number eleven. Disgracefully underbowled.

MAURICE CRITCHLEY. Very gutsy bat and a great team man. Generously had a go at wicket-keeping and did a good job.

SAM INGUI. Bowled well on a couple of occasions and dreadfully on others. Shows some promise as a bat. Reckons Brooksie the worst skipper since Captain Bligh.

DEREK STERRY. Tried hard but not the best of seasons. Very keen in the field. Agrees with Sam about Brooksie.

RAY YOUNG. Did not play as many games as normal as he was too busy making money — involved in selling coloured beads to the natives. Bowled very well on a couple of occasions.

RAY HUGGETT. Another gutsy bat. Head down, bottom up type. Good team man.

RAY LYON. All class, beautiful bat, but did not score a lot of runs. It is a long time since we saw a leg spinner in C & S., let alone one getting wickets and economically at that. Took the first slips catch in C & S for fourteen years.

TED STOCKDALE. Would probably rather forget this season. Had a lot on his mind. Will bounce back better than ever next season. Believe he has aspirations to open the bowling. Has developed a slinging action not unlike Jeff Thompson.

GARY KIMBLE. This much maligned fieldsman took the catch of the season against Paddington. Had to retire against Manly (27 N.O.) when they could not get him out.

PETER (MANKAD) BURT. Turned in the **two** most outstanding "performances" of the Season against N.A.P. and Commercial Bank. In the latter, he had the remarkable figures of 9/21 from 10 Overs. Rumour has it, that he is the thirty-fifth player to join Packers Circus.

REG. JONES. A young player (by C & S standards) who looks the goods. A longtime neighbour of Peter Burt — so must have guts and staying power. Has signed a contract to play the rest of his career with Briars.

CITY & SUBURBAN STATISTICS

Matches Played		Won	Lost		Drawn
17		6	10		1
Runs for	Wickets for	Average	Runs against	Wickets against	Average
1674	143	11.71	1863	123	15.15

BATTING (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average
G. Ireland	12	1	82	281	25.55
D. Brooks	12	—	33	161	13.42
S. Ingui	7	3	14	50	12.50
L. Calloway	8	—	32	86	10.75
M. Critchley	13	2	22 x	111	10.09
R. Young	8	3	9	37	7.40
R. Huggett	10	1	20	65	7.22
R. Lyon	7	—	17	48	6.86
D. Sterry	6	1	18 x	34	6.80
G. Kimble	10	2	27 x	43	5.38
E. Stockdale	8	—	10	29	3.63

Also batted:	S. McIntosh	5 for 23	J. McGrath	5 for 78
	G. Weber	5 for 26 xxx	T. Mobbs	4 for 56 x
	D. Broomham	4 for 6	J. Hazelwood	4 for 20 xx
	P. Burt	3 for 46	K. Gray	3 for 19
	B. Williams	2 for 32 x	G. Delagarde	2 for 18 x
	L. Brooks	2 for 17 x	R. Archer	2 for 11
	N. Young	2 for 10	A. McSweeney	2 for 5 x
	J. Crockett	2 for 3 x	J. Carew	2 for 31
	D. Ward	2 for 17	M. Sterry	1 for 45
	T. Whittaker	1 for 25 x	J. Hanscombe	1 for 22
	W. Poulden	1 for 20	J. Drayton	1 for 13 x
	R. Jones	1 for 21	J. Laing	1 for 11
	A. Kiss	1 for 8	B. Cardwell	1 for 8
	M. Carrol	1 for 5	J. Gleeson	1 for 4
	G. Bennett	1 for 2	D. Walker	1 for 1
	T. Parker	1 for 0	J. Cullen	1 for 0
	L. Williams	1 for 4		

BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
P. Burt	29	4	102	15	6.80
G. Delagarde	38	5	124	10	12.40
R. Lyon	44	1	217	17	12.76
G. Weber	31	4	112	7	16.00
S. Ingui	39	2	198	14	14.14
R. Young	29	1	153	7	21.86
D. Sterry	50	5	230	7	32.86

Also bowled:	T. Mobbs	5 for 31	L. Calloway	5 for 53
	J. Crockett	5 for 75	D. Broomham	4 for 58
	J. Hazelwood	4 for 87	L. Brooks	3 for 2
	M. Critchley	3 for 12	N. Young	3 for 40
	M. Weber	2 for 29	M. Sterry	1 for 45
	G. Ireland	1 for 12	D. Brooks	1 for 60
	J. Laing	0 for 0	J. Gleeson	0 for 9
	D. Ward	0 for 9	R. Huggett	0 for 11
	L. Williams	0 for 20	A. Kiss	0 for 14

'UNDER 16' JUNIORS CRICKET REPORT 1976-1977

Coach: Kevin Holley

This being our first attempt at introducing junior cricket in our club seems to have been a huge success due to the amalgamation with the Croydon Cricket Club.

We were defeated by Lewisham in our first match but from then on we were undefeated. Although we did not win the competition the team performed admirably, finishing in third position. I think that we were a little unlucky, as rain washed out the first day's play in the semi-finals and on the second day we were completely on top when time ran out.

Personally I feel we will reap the benefits of these juniors for our club in the future, provided we as a club, place our support behind these and many more juniors as the years go on.

Lastly I would like to thank the boys for their enthusiasm and their great team spirit that continued throughout the whole season.

STEVEN GOSS — Captain. Steven did not show the form this year that he undoubtedly has. Batted well on occasions. Bowled tidily when called upon.

PETER CARUANA. Peter was the opening bat and filled this position excellently. An aggressive bat with a good defence. He must however learn to leave balls outside his off stump alone early in his innings.

DARRYL LEWIS. Started the season as an opening bat, but soon found his spot at No. 4. Possibly the best No. 4 bat in the competition this year. Darryl has a great temperament and concentration and I think he will go a long way in the game.

NEIL POLLARD. Neil is a team man through and through. Opened the bowling this year and he proved to be a huge success. Also he was asked to bat in different positions. Batted at No. 1 to No. 7 throughout the year.

JOHN PRICE. John started the season quietly batting at No. 7 but when asked to bat at No. 3 he soon found his spot. He was also our main off-spin bowler and with plenty of work will develop into a very good off-spinner.

BART POZUELLO. Bart was possibly the best all round cricketer in the competition this season. He had the ability to destroy the opposition with his bowling and the aggressiveness to tear the opposition's bowling to shreds and I think he has the ability to become a first class cricketer.

ADAM BROWN. Adam was our wicketkeeper this year and performed this job extremely well. He has the ability to take catches that most keepers his age tend to miss. Batted well when opportunities arose.

MURRAY LEMBIT. Murray was the best slips fieldsman in the team never letting his bowlers down. He set a good example for the rest of the team to follow. Did not have the chance to improve his batting but must learn not to throw his innings away.

JOHN MEEHAN. John did not show his best form this year but next year maybe John's year. A great team man.

MARTIN McKONE. Martin tried hard all the season but it was not his year although he never stopped trying.

CRAIG TURNER. Craig found things not going his way all of the season. I hope this does not deter him from playing cricket next year.

DANNY JEANS. Danny's first year of cricket and he performed creditably.

CLINTON BRADDICK. Clinton also started cricket this year. He tried hard all of the season with limited opportunities.

'UNDER 16' JUNIOR STATISTICS

Matches Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points	Position
9	6	1	2	39	3rd

BATTING (x not out)

Name	No. of Innings	N.O.	Highest Score	Aggregate	Average
B. Pozuello	8	3	53 x	131	26.20
P. Caruana	10	1	43 x	179	22.37
D. Lewis	10	1	59 x	198	22.00
N. Pollard	9	2	42 x	120	17.14
S. Goss	9	—	52	109	12.11
J. Price	7	—	40	108	15.42
A. Brown	8	1	27 x	80	11.42
M. Lembit	6	2	6	13	3.25
M. McKone	7	2	5	15	3.00
D. Jeans	2	1	5	5	5.00
J. Meehan	7	2	6	13	3.25
C. Braddick	2	—	0	0	0.0
C. Turner	3	—	0	0	0.0

BOWLING

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
B. Pozuello	98	18	249	26	9.59
N. Pollard	81	19	232	20	11.60
J. Price	49	4	161	16	10.06
D. Lewis	36	5	111	11	10.09
P. Caruana	19	5	63	3	21.00
S. Goss	44	6	157	7	22.42

Also bowled: C. Turner 1 for 4 J. Meehan 1 for 32

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FOOTBALL

COMMITTEE: C. Hickey (Chairman), P. England, D. Guille, P. Williams, D. Nix, G. McPhee, G. Peglar, M. Anderson, W. Bryan.

COACHES: B. Larkin, J. Edmonds, D. Watkins, J. Boyle, I. Duncan, K. Harvey.

Well, 1977 really was a season that was! I don't believe that there would be any Briar from last season who could feel that he had been 'left out'. Every person involved was asked, and on most occasions gave, a commitment in some way during the season whether it was on the playing field, coaching, or some of the hundred and one other ways involvement was required. There was so much done during the season that without the 'self help' plan, much head bashing and hair pulling would have been suffered by the organisers. The organisers bow in appreciation to the self helpers!

The season commenced on a rather late and disorganised note, so the Committee was selected carefully and formed for the task which lay ahead. This involved getting Rugby "revitalised" overall, which in turn involved many facets which had to be picked upside down and shaken until the result dropped out, and we achieved results in most things we set out to do.

I am firmly convinced that this season saw the greatest "shake up" the Briars has seen in any sport and proves what can be achieved if parties pull together — something that has lacked in past seasons and it can probably be fairly broadly described as active "Club Spirit".

Football was fortunate to get off to a spirited start, generated by the team which toured New Zealand under the guidance of Ian Richard and Phil England. The touring party did not set the world on fire with winning results, but did return a spirited unit whose football had improved in the time they were away — so had their drinking and mat wrestling!

The tourists returned to find the Club humming with excitement due to a most ambitious full page advertisement that had been placed in the Sunday press. This advertisement called for new Rugby Members and met with resounding success — pulling approximately forty (40) new players directly and indirectly to our playing ranks. The considerable cost of the advertisement was met by direct donations by Club Members and interested parties. To those persons, every footballer offers his thanks. Recruiting in this manner is not the answer to all problems, but we were faced with a short period of time, something like one month, to build up our player strength over the previous season and this was the best short term avenue available.

Not only was our player strength at a critical level but our position in the Kentwell Cup

Division was threatened by a move of the Management Committee of Sydney Sub-District to relegate Briars and Lane Cove to the lower division and promote two Clubs from that lower division. To the Briars, the possibility of relegation tasted sour and a campaign of unprecedented proportion was mounted by Col Dennis and John Bailey which took the Sub-District Council Meeting by surprise because of its thoroughness. To give an idea, before the meeting, every Sub-District Club delegate was contacted and there were well over one hundred, every Vice-President was contacted, even the ones living overseas, all with the idea of giving our proposals and trying to assess the way in which their Club would vote. A close vote was expected and without the concerted pre-meeting effort I am sure that Briars and Lane Cove would have been relegated as the decision was won by only two votes, just too close for comfort.

So we had won our first battle and then knew we had to attack the season with our new players in a solid fashion to assure that no relegation possibility existed at the end of the season. Pre-trial touch Rugby was organised on Saturday afternoons and a new uniform was designed and ordered to create "new look" and "new spirit" Rugby teams. A 'phone call system was devised whereby every player was rung twice weekly in the beginning of the season so that we could be assured of attendances at training. Coach, Barry Larkin, who had devised most of the "go-go" tactics, also instituted two nights a week training. This extra night of "fun" gave our teams a decided advantage at the beginning of the Premiership, as many games were won not on ability, but on better conditioning.

Barry Larkin's report gives more playing details of the season, but suffice for this report to say that after eight rounds were played, Briars were in second position on the Club Championship table, a great relief for all involved. A mid-season losing streak by all teams unfortunately let other Clubs push past us in the Championship race. Possibly that old Briars lack of "Killer instinct" and "let the other bloke go hard while I take it easy" syndrome set in for a period, but happy to report that all teams played good football in the last three rounds. Judd Cup under the Captaincy of Dai Watkins and coaching guile of John Boyle made the semi-finals but lost a very close game. When you read on and see the performance of the teams, you will see a dramatic improvement in the finishing position of all sides. Most importantly, our Club Championship points doubled over the previous season and we finished 7th, only 40 points behind 5th place, so with more wins from Kentwell Cup next season, a much higher position should be attained. Next year the efforts must be sustained all season.

The most ambitious tour by any Briars' Sporting team is planned for the end of the 1978 season when a team will tour the West Coast of U.S.A. and parts of Canada. Fund raising has already commenced and you will be surprised how much money the side will raise to go away. They will need your support.

Once again the cry goes out — bring down players to the Club — not just your mates but work on players from anywhere — it was proven this year what new blood does, but the transfusion is a long way from complete.

I have deliberately left the coaches and the Committee to the end so that their praise would not be lost amongst the seasons happenings.

Let me begin with the Coaches. This year saw the introduction to the Club of a "Dictator Coach" in the large form of Barry Larkin. It is difficult to describe Barry. He soothes his match nerves by drinking copious quantities of soft drink, he eases his training hunger by devouring Kentucky Fried Chicken, he carries his entire nomadic office under his arm, his vocabulary mainly consists of phrases such as — "nice one" or "good one" or "excellent" or "come on Saints" and addresses everyone as "mate" (male or female). Apart from these outstanding qualities of character, he also displayed the typical sadistic pain imparting attitudes of a top

Rugby Coach. Enough cannot be said in praise of Barry's efforts to lift the Briars. Although praise may go to other sections of football, it all stems from his determination, willingness and desire to achieve a goal this season. We were fortunate that he decided to take our challenge, as it would have been far easier for him to continue coaching a winning team at St. Ives. I venture to say that during our "psyc" sessions, Barry has gained something to help his coaching, but not nearly as much as Briars have learnt about themselves in attitudes and playing ability. His thoroughness and time giving is evidenced in the Kentwell and Burke reports. Thanks BAZ, your presence and work was inestimable.

Barry was backed up by two new members in Ian Duncan and Ken Harvey. These two fellas showed such enthusiasm and knowledge that the players responded without question. John Edmonds, John Boyle and David Watkins completed Barry's "coaching panel" and without their help organising Whiddon and Judd Cups, Barry would have had no chance of accommodating the new players. Ask anyone of those three coaches the difficulty involved in fitting 45 players into two sides and keeping all happy. I think you could receive some interesting answers. It was a long, hard, time consuming season for the coaches, but all stuck with it because of the new spirit for the season. Dai Watkins even went to the extent of going home to Wales to get the latest coaching methods for Barry. Good one Dai.

TO THE COMMITTEE

Each member of the Committee knows of my appreciation. Some players will never know the work that is put in for their benefit and I suppose some don't care. Thank goodness I had that Committee around me this year, because they really did care. Everything that was asked of them was performed, always to the best of their ability and no more can be asked. A million unenviable little jobs and big jobs have to be performed during the course of a season and this Committee showed it can be done and done well.

To the many supporters and helpers during the season, the Committee thanks you.

Congratulations to HUNTERS HILL on an outstanding performance to win the Club Championship.

PREMIERS	KENTWELL CUP	—	HUNTERS HILL (undefeated)
	BURKE CUP	—	" "
	WHIDDON CUP	—	" "
	JUDD CUP	—	LANE COVE

Finally, every footballer will miss the presence of Barry Williams, but whilst ever his father Charlie, is a supporter, Barry will not be forgotten. See you next season Charlie.

KENTWELL AND BURKE CUPS

OBJECTIVES:—

The club officials set out to ensure:—

- (1) Sufficient points in the Kentwell and the other grades to avoid any relegation moves in the 1978 season.
- (2) Improvement in the individual and collective skills of the players and a pattern of football which is both enjoyable to play and enjoyable to watch.
- (3) The stimulation of morale and pride in the club, through achieving realistic goals and finding social enjoyment in one another's company. In order to retain the interest of our

talented young players and keep our older players of ability playing the game for a few more seasons.

Through this process, we hoped to also become a more attractive proposition to new players of superior ability and experience for the 1978 and following seasons.

With enough talent, the Club can achieve its present Kentwell Cup ambitions without maintaining two nights a week training (at least until prior to the semi-final round).

ACHIEVEMENTS

We all appear to have done a reasonable job in meeting these collective objectives. There should be no relegation problems next year, and we expect to retain the bulk of those new players attracted this season (thanks to Bob Spedding and Col Dennis for initiating, devising and writing that advertisement).

Our training program kept the players free of serious match injuries, and relatively untroubled by minor injuries.

Unfortunately, it was only in the last 3 or 4 matches that we played anything that resembled an appropriate pattern of football, consistently executed.

The selectors and coaches thank Craig Hickey for his outstanding job as Football Chairman. Craig's administrative efforts in obtaining equipment, arranging trials and grounds and organising with Phil England the continuous phoning of players for training and functions — and the hundred other things required and done so efficiently — were the major reasons that the club got off to such a good start in the 1977 season.

COMPETITION RESULTS

The Kentwell side received 10 points for 5 wins and finished 2nd last behind St. Pats on 11 and Lindfield on 13.

Our first grade team scored 166 points and we allowed 278 to be scored against us — a reflection of our failure to win a reasonable share of line-out ball and second phase possession, plus our defensive deficiencies generally, and also the fact that we did allow a couple of sides to run up some big scores against us.

The Burke Cup team were awarded 20 competition points, came 5th and finished 3 points behind Colleagues on 23. We scored 161 points and had 121 scored against us.

The Kentwell and Burke Cup teams were treated as one squad, and until well into the second half of the season there was very little difference in the standard of the individuals in most positions in Kentwell and Burke. However, eventual improvement by a number of players plus a general maturing of the team's attitude resulted in the Kentwell side playing significantly better football in the last 3 or 4 matches. So that, by the end of the season most of the individuals playing Kentwell and the team as a whole, were superior to their Burke Cup counterparts.

The Kentwell side failed to take advantage of real winning opportunities against Lindfield and NOB's in the first round, Kings in both rounds and St. Pats in the 2nd round. We received hidings from St. Ives in both rounds and from Colleagues in the first round.

The first round match against Hunters Hill, for the first half, was the only top-class performance by the Kentwell side, when 40 minutes of very determined application resulted in a half-time lead against Hunters Hill (worthy Premiers and substantially stronger than any other side in the competition).

The Burke Cup team showed itself to be, on occasions, the equal of any other in the competition, e.g. A very close first round loss to Hunters Hill and a very close win in the second round against the same team (the side which won the Premiership) plus a close first round loss and then a second round draw against the Colleagues (a match we were unlucky not to win), who were runners-up in the competition.

The team was not able to sustain effective performances throughout the season, and after being 2nd towards the end of the first round, dropped out to 5th. Performances were very much affected by the loss of about 17 players approaching mid-season. These 17 players (some of whom for various reasons, retired for 4 or 5 matches, but most of whom retired for good), particularly depleted the teams forward strength. This loss of players left little depth of talent from which to choose both Kentwell and Burke teams.

This mid-season flight by many players was definitely connected to:—

- * the hard work being asked for in the two nights a week training, up to that point,
- * players being asked for bigger contributions during games than they were able or prepared to give,
- * the fact that we faced three very tough matches in three weeks (two against Hunters Hill, the undefeated leaders of the competition in all grades and one against Colleagues who were right behind Hunters Hill in all grades),
- * the Club, as a whole, approaching this mid-season three weeks with a great deal of trepidation (a reflection of our very brittle morale and our early lack of real confidence in one another).

COACHES

BARRY LARKIN — A man of few words with an extraordinary talent for developing players and creating unbeatable rugby strategies and match tactics — or so his mother said! With any luck his mother might find him some other job next year.

IAN DUNCAN — Fortunately for us, he kept a bad knee in terrible condition to coach the Kentwell and Burke forwards. Younger and bigger than any pack we could field, Dunc was also the best indoor wicketkeeper in the club.

KEN HARVEY — Both Dunc and Barry agree that Ken's early coaching help with the Kentwell backs, was entirely responsible for the sides "For" and "Against" record ???

JOHN EDMONDS — As a player at season's (career's ??) end, he completely revolutionised second row and tight forward play, dominating first and second phase play, from the extra 5/8 position. Displayed more conventional approach to coaching the Whiddon/Judd backs. Holder of every world long distance Champagne and Cointreau drinking record.

DAI WATKINS — For a Welshman showed a disappointing lack of stamina in the compulsory Coaches Friday Lunch to Saturday Breakfast Strategic Planning Conferences.

JOHN BOYLE — Provided the only serious challenge to Barry Larkin in all talking competitions. Continues to prevent his kidneys from forcing a long overdue retirement from pre-training touch football. Provided the Ocker cunning that blended with Welsh technique in training Whiddon/Judd forwards.

KEITH WEARNE — Provided early season support with coaching — particularly by keeping his false teeth in, at all times.

KENTWELL PLAYERS

DAVID WESTERMAN FB — the best and fairest back — proved during the season that with enough ability, determination and concern for your team, you can't worry yourself into poor performances no matter how hard you try.

GEOFF HOUSTON W — when available from university studies was a whole hearted trier although the ball in the air did give him trouble. Defense and finishing-off movements were usually good, unusually so for a player who obviously dyes his hair.

TONY HASTINGS W — the most improved outside back — he made the Kentwell scene quite late, fighting his way up from a Judd extra. Has an amusing habit of forgetting his boots if unhappy with his selection.

MAL WEBBER C — a strong and talented footballer who lost his Kentwell spot right at the end of the season due to a continuing run of indifferent form. But how consistent a footballer would you be if your old man owned a pub? Keen to move back to his accustomed back row position regardless of his boyish good looks!!

DARYL COLLISTER C — most improved inside back — moved from the wing steadily closer to the base of the scrum to have an exceptionally good season despite his apprehension. Earns his living modelling children's clothes, but runs and tackles like a talented giant. Could have real potential as a five-eight or half-back next season.

DAVID GUILLE C — regained his lost Kentwell position at the end of the season to turn in his best performance against Colleagues (after captaining the side through the first round). David would play much better if he was opposed every week by a team of coaches and officials, he'd rather beat them, than beat Colleagues or St. Ives.

KEN HARVEY C — the very beautiful but ageing West's centre. Used his experience and confidence to read the game and settle the backs playing with him in the various grades — unfortunately his business commitments kept him from training and thus from playing Kentwell Cup regularly. To get him scoring more tries himself, the Club should hold dollar (\$) bills over the oppositions try line.

BARRY WILLIAMS 5/8 — showed real concern for the club in agreeing to initially try and then to persevere with the crucial 5/8 position, that no one was keen to play in Kentwell Cup. Conquered his early difficulties and won the respect of his team mates by his determination and the competence he developed in that position.

JOHN McGRATH ½ — tested his iron constitution to the limit with his unique off the field conditioning programme. Bung is becoming something of a restrained John Singleton. Although trying to play with enterprise and determination he is now handicapped by having the eyes and reflexes of a man twice his age. Is to be invited to give "bird winning" lessons to most of the footballers next year.

PETER MILLAR BW — likely to be Bung's first and most eager student — in his efforts to win Mark Fitzimmon's girlfriend — pity he couldn't put that much pressure on the 5/8's this year. A little more flash, combined with his steady work rate, could help both his on the field, and off the field, performances.

JOHN BAKER 5/8 — Redback avoided higher honours until mid-way through the season, after some top performances in Whiddon then Burke Cup, particularly against Hunters Hill. Has the distinction of being the clubs only undefeated captain over the season and our best big match

performer, especially when leading the side. His idea of a good time, is talking about what a crook time he's having. With his mortgage and wife and two kids that must be most of the time, but it doesn't interfere with his football or his talking.

PHIL ENGLAND — a completely committed clubman, he played with recurring injuries. Responsible for getting the club side away to and through New Zealand, and was very disappointed that the Kentwell side did not "kick-on" after the tourists return. Led the forwards for most of the season despite his difficulty in providing the type of back row football that was asked of him. His ability to nod his head and say "yep, yep" while not agreeing with anything being said, must have been gained in the personnel and industrial relations field.

CHRIS MURRAY BW — winner of a very intense competition with Phil England for the 2nd full back spot (during every aspect of second phase play). Tied with Glen Shand for the greatest number of rucks and mauls arrived at, but not engaged in. A strong and talented footballer who either enjoys trying to ignore coaches, or else Jim Barrett makes him leave his attention in the office safe at week-ends.

DAVID VAUGHAN BW — the club's best and fairest forward — after some early season injuries, played strongly in Burke to eventually become a permanent Kentwell Cupper. For the first half of a match was probably as good as the best back row forwards we saw anywhere in the Kentwell competition. With application he could make his mark in grade football. Deserves congratulations for his twelve month attempt at mustache growing, a recent count confirms 17½ hairs on his top lip.

CRAIG DAVIES 2R — like the other tight forwards, needed to develop confidence, to eventually discover that he was one of the guys whose authority on the field would enable Briars to win their fair share of possession and so keep the opposition under pressure. By season's end was an effective tight forward and line-out jumper. Craig's lack of on and off field conversation quite un-Briars-like, but a bloody pleasant relief during training and matches.

GABE MA 2R — the winner of the "Player of the Year" award and a worthy one. Played most of his first round football for Burke Cup covering every position in the forwards. Gabe could go further as a hooker if he worked on his technique and striking speed. And to think there is 750 million more like him back home.

KEN GRAY FR — earnt the respect of his team mates on the NZ tour and while his form during the season wasn't outstanding, he did apply himself and stand up pretty well to opposing front rows. To play successfully in the front row you definitely need to be crazy and Kenny is probably too composed — except when he gets that Kodak around his neck.

TONY WOZNIAK FR — was nominated for the "NO FRONT FRUNKS MID-SEASON WANDER" award, but found his way back to the club. By the end of the season, he was using himself pretty well against forwards who often outweighed him by a couple of stone. Added colour to the after-training drinks with stories of his long standing romance with John Howard and other leading University props. He could do a "Howard" job for the Briars.

MILTON HOWELL H — didn't finish far behind Gabe Ma for "Player of the Year". Milton not only made our props look like giants but also played effectively in the "tight" and eventually was able to give us a consistent supply of scrum ball. For a hooker he seems surprisingly normal.

PAUL BEVINS FR — put himself into "cotton wool" to ensure his availability for the Combined Sub-District touring side. His resulting loss of form led him down to Burke Cup. Less attention to the sideline "baggers" and experts, and more attention to his assigned ball-winning tasks would see "Bandshaw" a very effective team member.

BRUCE FERGUSON L & 2R — was another forward who lost his position in the Kentwell Cup mid-way through the season. Bruce was kept out by the improved performances of Craig Davies and consistently good performances of Gabe Ma.

GRAHAM FRUNKS 5/8 — a mythical character, much talked to, and about, but never seen. Has become a legend overnight, due to his ability to never front and his skill in disappearing without a trace. Rumours persist that he is a clever footballer.

BURKE CUP PLAYERS

ROD SMITH FB — this year covered more of the field with his voice or his growing shadow than he did with his legs. With a broken nose he is now definitely ready for the forwards. A good club man, Rod tried to answer the call this year, but looks set for the social football stage of his career where his experience and bursts of effort will still be very useful.

RUSS WILDE FB — was a very capable replacement for Rod Smith in the full back position towards the end of the season.

ROSS THOMPSON W — was up and down between Burke and Kentwell and if he utilises what he learnt this year should get a permanent Kentwell spot next year. Will now have more confidence in taking-on, and beating, his man. It's not true that Ian Duncan beat Ross in a 70 metre match race at the end of the season — it was only 60 metres.

GRAHAM SHARP W — came up from Judd Cup to hold a spot while he was available. Formerly a soccer player, he looked quite out of place to start with, but was keen to learn and has started to develop a lot of the attributes of a capable winger. Everyone looks forward to Graham feeling sufficiently at home on the field and with the club — to pull his first atrocity.

BRUCE FERGUSON — lead the forwards for Burke Cup in the latter part of the season. Won a highly commended in the "NO FRONT FRUNKS DISAPPEARING" awards. Another season without letting anyone know what he does for a living and has maintained his usual 100% lateness record. A guy with all those attributes must be potentially a good tight forward.

TEDDY BARKER BW — unable to get a game in Judd early in the season. Persistence and determined application developed his football to see him in Burke and knocking on the door of Kentwell selection. Teddy was one of the foundation members of the "Mini-Forwards" as opposed to Timmy O'Reilly and Johnny Pope of the "Mini-Backs".

PETER WILLIAMS 2R — wrote himself a page in the record book by breaking his ankle while warming up. Showed a tight forward's necessary lack of commonsense, and sensitivity, by allowing Barry Larkin to bind it for him to play the second half. Was infected by the "What in the HELL am I doing out HERE?" plague, which swept through most of our forwards and some of our backs. Showed improving form upon his return from injury.

IAN STEELE FR — showed great improvement this year and when available to train or play, chucked at least 2 or 3 feet further than he was capable of last year — has probably broken most of "The Beasts" old records. Another bloke on the selectors "If only" list.

CRAIG HICKEY ½ — vindicated Chris Mitchell's judgement of him as an outstanding Rugby player when, with great determination he steadily improved his football, so that it finished up a toss up between him and "Bung" for the Kentwell spot. Throughout his career, an unfortunate victim of a vicious campaign by referees. Typically, with stoic restraint, has refused to be provoked into complaining and talking back, even when in desperation they sent him from the field. With his girlfriend's old man on the Referee's Board, it's about time Craig put one and one together (if you get my drift)!!

TOM O'BRIEN BW — very welcome acquisition and for his size and limited experience, managed to do a lot of damage and keep very involved in the play. Needs to improve his technique. His performance and technique under pressure is suspect generally, as we saw on the "US our Night" at the Rodd Point Aquatic Club.

BOB BISHOP C & BW — ended up playing breakaway after his mid-season operation, although at the selectors' request he started out in the centres. Well known for his outstanding performances in the role of Injury Victim, his wide repertoire includes knocking himself out, at will — during training or matches, plus all known varieties of ankle and knee injuries. Avoids being boring by pulling off the odd crashing tackle and making those occasional 30 or 40 yard bursts with the ball.

TIM O'REILLY W — emerged from the ranks of the "Mini-backs" to hang on to a spot in Burke Cup. Always very determined with the ball in his hands but still learning basic positional play. With this year's experience to give him confidence, we may see him beating 4 out of those 5 guys he usually takes on, after retrieving the deep ball, or while covering for the full back.

RONNY ROBSON C, W & FB — introduced the "NO FRONT FRUNKS" Doll to the club — you wind it up and it disappears! Lacking in condition after a mid-season walkabout, came back to make his contribution to Burke Cup and made a number of useful Kentwell appearances through the season. Has the potential to be a permanent Briars Kentwell back, at least because as a talker he's in the same class as Redback, Guiley and Smithy.

RICHARD HARRISON 5/8 & C — played some Kentwell football and mainly Burke Cup in various positions. It was only at the "US Tour Night" that we realized we'd misjudged Richard and that he didn't have any trouble in "getting up" he only has trouble getting up on his opposition on the football field.

PHIL TWINING FR & 2R — a very welcome arrival on the Burke Cup scene. If Phil was a lot fitter, the club could utilise his aggressive qualities and leadership ability. Judging by the way he likes to be towed around the oval during the squad rope runs, he is a talented water skier.

JOHN JOHNSON H — another player of talent, whose infrequent training and frequent "walkabouts" kept him going up and down the grades, and short of condition. A capable linguist, speaking fluent "FRUNKS" — when he says to the phoning committee, "Yes mate, I'll definitely be there," he actually means, "No mate, I probably won't".

GLEN SHAND BW — An exciting prospect who unfortunately, was a little short on condition and concentration. Played Burke Cup for most of the season until he broke his nose setting a new (54 stairs) diving record at Dimitri's Bar. A frequent ruck and maul watcher — but if you had long hair and wore an earring wouldn't you be careful about allowing guys to put their arms around you, even if you were a Kiwi.

OTHERS

Many who have played in Burke and Kentwell Cups haven't been mentioned — Mark Fitzsimmons and his girl in particular, Johnny Stanneforth and his neck, all there is of Greg McPhee, Peter Stewart, Warren Bryan, Jim Abbey, Greg Taylor, Johnny Zac (both of whom helped us out in Kentwell), Jim Windshuttle and Alan Phillips.

A special thanks to Mike Andersen, the "Flyer" did a very useful job for the coaches and players in handling many of the necessary clerical jobs.

WHIDDON CUP

PLAYED	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST	TOTAL POINTS	POSITION
19	112	107	19	5th

It is always very difficult to sit down and analyse a seasons performance by a team and somehow magically transfer the reasons for success or failure into print for an Annual Report. Traditionally, Whiddon Cup seems to be the grade which suffers most from the dreaded "new team every week" syndrome. This situation was inevitable at the beginning of the season with so many new faces and attached to those faces, bodies which contained varying unknown degrees of football ability and commitment. However, the players realized the situation as it was, accepted it and got on with the job of preparing a winning combination.

As can be seen from the statistics of the season, Whiddon performed with great credit. The closeness of the teams is reflected in the fact that except for the Minor Premiers the next five (5) teams were separated by only six (6) points.

After an exciting start to the season where the Whiddos' put together a series of impressive wins, a mid-season slump experienced by them, eventually cost a semi-final spot. The four teams suffered in this period and the lesson to be learnt is that to succeed we must keep at it for the entire season. Injuries, unavailability etc, do not make it easy for the selectors or the coach or players on occasions, but such is a football season.

As so many players participated in the WHIDDON CUP Team this year, it would be impossible to list them and those players involved know who they are and how much they contributed to the success of the team this year, but I'm sure those players would not forgive me if Ralph Sadler did not get a special mention. Ralph captained the side this year and after his long experience in Rugby, he still displays great determination and younger players would do well to notice Ralph's satisfaction in drinking a winning beer. Ask him — it tastes better than a losing one.

JUDD CUP

PLAYED	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST	TOTAL POINTS	POSITION
19	129	103	23	3rd

There is no doubt in my mind that we could have won the competition this year if we were allowed to play to our full Judd Cup team strength. Unfortunately, the days of thirty players aside have not existed since Thomas Arnold was headmaster at Rugby School and league was primarily a measurement of water. The opposition could have been excused for thinking Ghenkis Khan and his hordes had changed their colours to maroon and gold in an attempt to take over Rothwell Park at 12 noon each Saturday.

Many schemes were invoked to allow the maximum number of players on the field during a match. Although I would dearly like to take credit for the most innovative idea, I feel that the honour must be bestowed upon John Boyle. John established the complex formula that players would be penalised ten minutes for each try scored, two minutes for each item of incorrect gear, would gain three minutes for serving at the Briars food and drinks stall and 'time-on' for good behaviour. Tony Hastings, after scoring three tries against Newington in the first

round, was taken off at half time and limited to a 20 minute half in the next match (Tony eventually played in Kentwell Cup, and is regarded as one of our more promising wingers).

The influx of players did have its problems, not the least being the supply of suitable football colours. This problem did accentuate following the decision to change to a hooped jersey design and maroon shorts. Unfortunately, supplies of such gear ran short and the changing of teams at 1 p.m. resembled a split second performance of Gipsy Rose Lee and her fourteen sisters. Well I remember the exposition of our educated prop forward under the cold showers of the Rothwell changing shed.

'Never in the field of Rugby Football has so little been worn by so many and returned by so few'.

This is certainly the best season that the Juddies have had for a long time and I am pleased I was able to play a part in the 'revival'. It would have been good to have won the cup and established a 'first' in the Briars football history, however the foundations are laid and hopefully the necessary "will to win" is there to complete the job in the future.

The 1977 season provided very much a mixed bag of good and bad football, but provided a lot of enjoyment for most of the players and more than a few laughs along the way. Some matches could have been won with a competent goal kicker; in the last match against Colleagues seven goals would almost certainly have won the match (we lost 20-0), but we have always had problems finding good kickers. We did have our share of two footed kickers in the team, that is, all of our kickers had two feet but few could kick the ball between the posts!

In the later stages of the competition, faced with the dilemma of getting to the Semi's but preserving our Judd Cup status (to the uninitiated, I resisted the temptation to 'stack' the side) we tried many approaches, from replacing the entire team at half time to the advanced management technique of playing four coaches and captaincy by committee. We got there anyway, but lost!

On a serious note, I would like to thank the many players who passed through Judd Cup ranks and those club members who came to support us in the semi-final against St. Ives. Many of our younger players will go through the grades and feature in future Briars victories and I wish them good luck in their Rugby football careers.

Two aspects of the play during the 1977 season caused me some concern. The lack of player discipline on the field in some games became a particular worry. There are two 'voices' in the team, support them in your own way by shutting up during the game and reserving your comments for after the match. Basic skills have yet to be mastered by many players. Passing, tackling and support do require practice, try it!

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the following veteran team members who might never strap on a pair of boots in anger again.

KEITH WEARNE – CAPTAIN/CENTRE. Fleet of foot and keen of eye, fifteen stone of rugged rugby machine in borrowed boots. A devastatingly handsome accountant who prepared my tax return for a minimum fee.

JOHN EDMONDS – CAPTAIN/SECOND ROW/FULL BACK. Masterminded many a ruck and maul from the stand-off 2nd row position. Will be remembered for his versatility in adjusting to either position at split second intervals.

BARRY LARKIN – CAPTAIN/ SECOND ROW. Team penalty negotiator and referee intimidator. Will be immortalised in Briars rugby history for his well known battle cry, 'Lets go Saints!'

BOB HODGSON — OTHER RANKS/HOOKER. What more can one say about Hoddy, gives 80 minutes worth of effort every Saturday, but must remember we only play 50 minutes in Judd Cup.

And just in case I can't find my boots again after the summer I would like to express my gratitude to the club for providing me with four enjoyable seasons of rugby since I became a member in 1974 and I would like to wish everyone the best for the 1978 season.

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HOCKEY

Sub-Committee — R. Streeter (Chairman), M. Sterry, D. Jamieson, K. Holley, E. Wade.

Considering the amount of groundwork laid by the incumbent chairman prior to the commencement of the 1977 season it should have been a smoothly run and successful year both on and off the field. However, Robbie Burns was right again. Only five weeks from game one the chairman accepted a position in Newcastle effectively removing him from the operational side of hockey administration, and concurrently the council extensively modified the Burwood Park playing surface to the extent of making it unplayable in 1977 and in all probability for ever after.

So the season got under way with a tyro chairman and no home ground available, with consequent detrimental effects on club support (both ways).

Even so, the outlook was still bright, with four senior teams and two junior teams entered in the Sydney Hockey Association Second Division and Parramatta — Hills District Junior competitions respectively. Additionally, while not directly under the wing of the Briars Hockey Club, a women's team was formed on an associate basis and entered in the Ryde-area women's competition. This was a (dramatic) first for the club, and the side acquitted itself very well, contesting the grand final of their competition and impressing a lot of people with their keenness and enthusiasm. The "Rosebuds" organised themselves very well, asking only for coaching support from the men, sharing the footballers training ground, and using the club premises for meetings. More strength to them, and hopefully next year we will be able to extend more assistance.

At the season's commencement when a total of sixty names were registered with the S.H.A. as active players, there was no inkling that within two months injury, business commitments and even overseas travel would interfere to the extent that it became a battle to fill forty four positions week by week. In fact the old bogey of doubling up became the norm by season's end, even though more new players were introduced and some old players re-recruited. Junior players filled more and more spots in the senior grades, which was laudable, but introduced transport hassles in moving people from morning junior hockey at Rydalmere or Kellyville to a 12.45pm D grade game at Banksia, Manly, Kensington or Liverpool while the other grades played at Centennial Park, Killara, Ryde or Baulkam Hills! A fully fledged Transport Committee would have had its work cut this year. Mike Sterry, Col Rankin, Warren Widger, Malcolm Shorter (for half the season) and Bob Streeter bore the brunt of the load in this regard, with late season assistance from Dave Jamieson and Paul Mackay.

Top priority for 1978 is therefore the securing of two new home grounds somewhere in the general Burwood locality, and moves are already afoot in this direction.

A good roll-up of 34 players to fill two teams at the Macquarie University pre-season carnival augured well for the club's 1977 prospects, the first side being a little unlucky to finish third on the day.

However, when all sides were comprehensively beaten in the first round of the competition proper composure was tested severely. But traditional Briars spirit came to the fore a week later to show the lower grades the way. In fact the lower grades found the obstacles too much, and it was left to the A grade to fly the flag to good effect, being runners-up to Glebe by a one-goal margin after 210 minutes of high standard hockey spread over three games. The team reports tell the story.

Briars slipped to a lowly 6th in the Second Division Club Championship, a far cry from the heavy heights of being the top club in 1974 and 1975. Another 1977 priority will be the undertaking of whatever action is required to restore our respectability in that area.

Training continues to be a major problem. Admittedly the facilities are limited for night time training but it would at least behave a great many of the senior players to make more of an effort to assist in developing team plays and in coaching and encouragement of the juniors. An innovation this season was Sunday morning training at Queen Elizabeth Park, and these sessions were well attended until just before being cut out prior to the June long weekend. The committee is working on organising a clinic/barbecue day especially directed at developing the ball skills and eradicating developing bad habits in the younger breed of players who will shortly form the nucleus of Briars hockey.

Junior hockey had a mixed season in 1977. As with the men, an apparent early season surfeit of players proved to be deceptive, and weaknesses in key defence positions meant that the forwards could never be sure how many goals were necessary to win a game. Even so, the A grade side managed to make the semi finals and proceeded to play far and away their best game of the season, only being overcome in the latter stages of a most exciting game. The C grade side were limited by inexperience, but they will develop.

The annual Briars-Barton clash in Sydney this year could not be said to have lived up to expectations. As usual the socialising was extremely convivial, but as usual lately the Canberra boys had the best of us. Barton juniors won comfortably 4-2 after having to borrow two local juniors to fill their side - there must be a message there somewhere! Paul Mackay led his B grade side to a 2-1 win to bring a trophy back to its rightful home at 30A George Street in a game distinguished by a fine John Marcus goal, the de-padded goal-keeper scoring what we suspect was his first ever goal in fine style! However, the home A grade side were given the run around by a very controlled Barton team that ended a 10 game winning streak by the locals with a convincing 4-2 win. Three decades of friendly competition between the Briars and Barton Hockey Clubs was then celebrated in fine style in the club rooms after the games.

After winning the 1975 Western Suburbs District Club Carnival the chairman required no persuasion to attempt a repeat in 1977. So on July 10th a team that was the current A grade side less the two usual fullbacks (replaced by Dave Jamieson and Derek Sterry) and complemented by the addition of Lloyd Davidson fronted all comers at the St. Ives Showground. A competitive day's hockey finished on a controversial note when desperately bad luck and a worse carnival rule translated a comfortable final win into a flat champagne second placing a mere ten seconds from full-time. Another second placing! But we'll be back next year (and I bet that they will have changed the rule)!

Official umpires were noticeable by their absence for the majority of the season. The burden then fell on Dave Jamieson, John Kemp and Mike Sterry to blow the whistle for any game in which they were not actively participating. Thanks are extended to those fellows for their unstinting efforts in a thankless job, and other players should make the effort to get their ticket and relieve the workload on those mentioned to our mutual benefit.

The committee this year changed previous policy in that a separate Best and Fairest Award

was given for each team rather than having just one fairly nebulous club award. It is interesting that in two of the four teams the award was shared by two players, a fact which must surely point out the limits of the previous award. Individual winners are listed in the respective team's report below.

Geoff Evenden was the winner of the R.D. Vanderfield trophy for junior hockey, Geoff was captain left wing and chief organiser for the A grade junior side, and he also filled in very capably as full back in the C grade juniors on several occasions.

Well, that's 1977.

Planning is already under way for a big year in 1978.

Give it your best, and we will

"MAKE HOCKEY GREAT IN '78"



'A' GRADE HOCKEY REPORT

On the evidence disclosed on April 2nd, 1977 on the occasion of the first hockey competition game of the season, only a supreme optimist would have been moved to predict anything but a very tough year for Briars' premier "curved-stock" side. That day a very strong North Sydney side trounced a Briars team featuring six new faces since the close of the 1976 season to the tune of 5-1, the last goal being Briars' consolation score only minutes from the end of a very one-sided clash.

In fact, 24 weeks later Briars A grade ran out against minor premiers Glebe to contest a gripping grand final that produced the final single-goal margin between the two sides after three very high standard encounters in the 1977 season. And while Glebe's minor premiership credentials could not be challenged, Briars' nevertheless had the outstanding track record of being unbeaten by any of the three other semi-finalists during the season, thus setting the scene for a fitting end to a challenging season.

That Glebe ultimately added the major premiership to their minor premiership success was a disappointment to Briars players and supporters, but that result could not detract from the well-deserved accolades earned by the team in recovering from early-season setbacks to challenge for the premiership pennant.

Congratulations are extended to the Glebe club for their most consistent performances during the 1977 season, dropping only 7 points out of a possible 44 in the rounds. Only Briars (2 draws) and University of NSW (one win each) troubled them this year.

The respect which Briars and Glebe have for each other's game in A grade 2nd division hockey was evidenced in the club's first clash in round five of the competition, when, after two very spiteful incidents in a B grade game that degenerated badly and shamefully into fisticuffs the A grade sides laid the bogey with an exciting clean, fast and open game that was a credit to the players involved.

A 2-2 draw was again the result between the two sides in the second round, Briars recovering brilliantly from a first-half 2-0 deficit to almost snatch victory.

So the scene was set for a great grand final, a game that promised much and delivered just that. A fast start from both sides produced a goal each by the ten-minute mark. Briars then

consolidated when Malcolm Shorter scored his second fine goal during the course of an outstanding game, and at the break Briars looked good, although looking for a quick goal at the start of the second half to cement their claims. In fact Glebe pulled back an equaliser and the game was evens again. Disaster then struck when "the man-in-white" dismissed Briars captain for 10 minutes in an over-reaction to an incident behind play that he later admitted on presentation of the facts to only having seen part thereof. The weakened Briars side played resolutely during this difficult period, but understandably lost momentum. While resettling into an 11 player pattern Briars unaccountably allowed a Glebe thrust that appeared well covered sneak through three defenders for what proved to be the match-winning goal. With less than ten minutes to go Briars threw everything into attack but were unable to get an effective shot in before time ran out, thus leaving Glebe jubilant winners.

It remains a hallmark of Briars hockey that while the team is able to play very spirited hockey against the better teams in the competition, weaker teams that should be handled more comfortably often cause the side to struggle for victory. Obviously the make-up and background of the players is a major factor in this area, even allowing for a more even competition standard. So it proved again in 1977, when Randwick, St. George and Sutherland in particular provided close contests in both rounds.

The outstanding games (other than the Glebe games already mentioned) were the three victories over 1976 premiers Uni of NSW (including an extra time 2-1 win in the final) for an aggregate goal tally of 6-1, a strong 4-0 win over a spiteful Cumberland in the game immediately following the opening round North Sydney debacle, and most satisfyingly the brilliant 7-2 revenge thrashing of North Sydney on their home ground in the second round after a half-time 2-2 score line. That match established beyond doubt our premiership credentials, displaying devastating attacking skills from the inside forward combination of Harvey, Shorter and Tass to finish good groundwork laid by the rest of the side.

An undoubted assistance to the side's performance in 1977 was a consistent selection policy, evidenced by the fact that the team selected for the second competition game was basically unchanged for the balance of the season (except where business commitments or injury intervened), being in fact the identical grand final team.

Special mention must be given to Mike Sterry in particular and also to Graham Trevenar for their resilience and spirit in commuting from Newcastle each week to play, Mike for every single game, and Graham for 13 games.

Derek Sterry and Dave Jamieson proved to be worthy substitutes during the enforced absence of regular A grade players and will very likely cement permanent spots in the 1978 side.

Thanks also to John Kemp, Merv Baxter, Clive Thurlby, George Freitas, Craig Jennings and John McDonald who played a game or two each at various times in the season.

In summary, in cold statistics, the season for A grade reads like this:

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points	Position
22	14	5	3	60	34	33	2nd Eq.

3RD to Uni NSW on goal average.

SEMI-FINAL — vs RYDE — draw 2 — 2 — BRIARS to final.

FINAL — vs UNI NSW — won 2 — 1 in extra time.

GRAND FINAL — vs GLEBE — lost 3 — 2

THE TEAM

GRAHAM TREVENAR (Goalkeeper). Was a trifle fortunate to gain the custodian's birth in the second game of the competition, but he always gave his best. Prior to finalising accommodation in Newcastle, Graham played 13 games in A grade, unlucky 13 proving to be our worst performance of the year against Cumberland at Horwood Reserve! Sadly there are now no active members of Briars hockey bearing the family name that has given such loyal service to the club over more than two decades.

WARREN WIDGER (Goalkeeper). Played nine competition games plus the final series after Graham Trevenar's departure. In only junior ranks Warren is learning all the time, and his courage, skills and enthusiasm will ensure that he becomes the best goalie in Second Division hockey within two years.

DAVID WALKER (Left Back). Promoted back into the side after only one game in the lower grades. David's tremendous competitive spirit, hitting power and plain old experience was a boon in plugging a soft spot in the side's defence. Very adept at halting opposition attacks, one way or the other.

RAY LARKIN (Right Back). Another year, another position! Ray had another solid season, except when troubled by a nagging injury. He sometimes complained about not being involved enough in the play, and was sympathetically advised to run faster. On several occasions proved to be the side's third goalkeeper.

MICHAEL STERRY (Right Half). Quickly established a permanent A grade position, playing a very cool game often against mountainous odds. Mike was the side's penalty stroke exponent and proved very reliable in that capacity also. Should practice a quicker clearing hit to set the forwards in motion.

BOB STREETER (Centre Half Captain). Picked up the reins again after a year back in the countryside. Troubled by a knee injury in the early part of the season affecting his speed off the mark, but finished the year strongly.

The infamous grand final incident must be evaluated in the context of his having shared the honours in the A grade Best and Fairest Award for 1977! Still regarded by many as a frustrated forward. Often wondered how many captains it is possible to have in one side, let alone player-umpires!

NIGEL STERRY (Left Half). Like his brother, played a solid role in the defence and covered over a vast area of the ground. Formed a strong link with the inside left to get the forward line on the move. Some restraint is needed in his execution of the left-side tackle, but nevertheless Nigel was always one of the best and most consistent players in the side.

ERIC WADE (Left Wing). Plugged a weakness in the forward line, but was unfortunately plagued by a nagging injury over the course of the season which affected his mobility. This was evident in the uncharacteristically low number of goals he scored in 1977. Lacked nothing in spirit or determination — an old campaigner.

KEITH HARVEY (Inside Left). Temporarily retired at the conclusion of the season to spend a couple of years overseas, and will be sorely missed after five years excellent service with the A's. Keith worked hard to develop a strong combination with his two young inside forward counterparts, to some extent to the detriment of his own free-running style of play. It should have been his grand final.

MALCOLM SHORTER (Centre Forward). Proved to be the "find" of the year, winning his

spot while still currently playing A grade junior hockey. His play improved considerably over the course of the season, and he had probably his two best games in the final and grand final. Needs to tone down his reaction to opposition niggling. Shared the Best and Fairest Award, a fitting measure of his efforts.

MICHAEL TASS (Inside Right). Another ex junior who continues to show marked improvement. Has still only played three seasons of hockey, as evidenced by his lack of a good strong goal shot. A very busy, hardworking player who should retain his position for a long time to come. Experience will impress on him the need for quicker distribution of the ball in attack, and will strengthen his game greatly.

ALAN FISHER (Right Wing). Had a busy season on the flank which was not amply rewarded by holes in the back of the opposition's net. Developed good combination with his inside forwards and was usually able to get clean centres inside. Tackled back well and never stopped trying. Appealed better than Dennis Lillee!

The quality of the A grade side's performance in 1977 should not be sold short. It may well prove to be the end of one era, but the start of another. The number of (ex) junior players in the A grade ranks is swelling year by year, and is very heartening for our continued future strength in Second Division hockey.

'B' GRADE HOCKEY

In a difficult season in 1977 the B Grade side was more affected by factors outside their control than any other side. Split grounds and availability problems reperccussed on this side because of the selection policy not to force A grade players to double-up, thus shifting pressure downwards. Even so, the side's performance could only be described as disappointing because of its inability to take its chances, because it lacked spirit and drive, and because the captain saw his efforts to motivate and provide that drive and spirit come to nothing.

These are indeed complex problems and I believe that each one of us should attempt to analyse his own game and make a bigger effort for next season if we are to be competitive, let alone re-establish previous seasons' successes. It was as recent as 1975 that we were minor premiers and grand finalists!

Compare that to the 1977 record:

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points	Position
22	6	2	14	36	57	14	9th

As individuals the efforts of some of the players were top class. However, it was as a team that we failed. This can be attributed to various reasons, i.e. lack of fitness, lack of a home ground, lack of keenness and probably some others. Collectively these were substantial problems, and are certainly problems that the hockey committee will have to look into very deeply prior to next season.

In a competition that was not that strong we failed to capitalise on many of the chances created due to fundamental mistakes. Certainly it comes back to the individual to accept the personal responsibility to get along to training to improve this vital aspect of each and everyone's play. And certainly a better roll-up at training would do much to encourage the juniors and younger fellows in the club to develop their skills.

Spirit and plain old fashioned guts and drive were things that were often missing in the team. Perhaps the first can be attributed to constant changes in the team, not specifically as a result

of selections, but rather through the failure of some players to turn up early for games, or withdrawing from games very late in the week, and in some such cases not notifying the appointed selectors of their unavailability.

Even allowing for the abovementioned problems, proper motivation encourages spirit, from which you get an increase in intestinal fortitude displayed on the field. As a captain I feel that these ingredients are essential to formulate a successful team.

The captain's job was consequently a demanding one, and whilst believing that a skipper should be always pushing, encouraging and driving his team I tend to think this aspect was perhaps overdone. However, I feel that towards the latter part of the season the captain was more understanding of the individual needs of each of his players.

As has been previously mentioned the team did not really fire as a unit, but throughout the season there were some tremendous individual performances. Notables were Derek Sterry, George Freitas and Merv Baxter, with Peter Mansford also to the fore. And who will forget the goal of the season scored by Lloyd Davidson against AMP after a run from half-way followed by a great back-stick shot from the top of the circle!

Special mention must go to "Kempie" and "Manso" for having played so many games for the "B's" and "C's" — well done fellas.

Also to Kevin Holley and Ian Trimble a sincere thank you for helping out each week, and to Carol Holley and all the girls for their support throughout the season.

Finally, congratulations to Uni N.S.W. for winning the pennant in 1977.

THE TEAM

DAVID JAMIESON (Centre Half/Full Back Captain). Started in the halves but was found wanting. Then moved to full back where he enjoyed considerable success. Finished the season with 10 goals to his credit, including 6 from penalty strokes.

MAX SMITH (Full Back). Tried hard throughout the season but found some of the opposing forwards a bit too quick. His 16 yard hitting was always hard and direct. A good team man.

GEORGE FREITIS (Right Half). A fine effort from Georgie in 1977. His attacking play was excellent and his stick-work was just great. Perhaps the only criticism of his play is that he gives the winger too much room to move.

DEREK STERRY (Centre Half). Derek was without doubt the best player in the team and deservedly won the B grade Best and Fairest Award this year. His confidence grew game by game, and consequently his play was excellent in attack while his fitness enabled him to recover in defence. A top season from Derek in 1977.

CRAIG JENNINGS (Full Back). In the games that he played Craig always gave of his best. His hits were hard and always on target. A keen competitor, he enjoyed tangling with opposition forwards, especially Glebe. Throws a good right hook when it connects!

PAT RIORDAN (Inside Left). A newcomer to the club. Pat combined well with the other forwards and on occasions really excelled. However he must learn not to keep the ball too close to his body as this restricts his stick-work and causes him to turn across opposing full backs.

JOHN KEMP (Left Wing). John had a good season, scoring 7 goals and running well, especially considering the number of games he played. His trapping of the ball was not always what was expected, but this will be improved when he comes more square on to the ball. Another great team man.

MERV BAXTER (Centre Forward). Merv was the striking force in the team and scored most goals (12). He ran well, took on all full backs and beat them quite easily. Stick-work was good, but no more flicks please Merv!

PETER MANSFORD (Inside Right). "Manso" had a good year and it seems he is like a good wine, improving with age! Scored the goal, but through unselfish play he was always looking for another better-placed forward to pass to. Pete must learn to trap the ball on his right side more often. Overall a fine season for Manso.

LLOYD DAVIDSON (Right Wing). The youngest player in the team, still playing junior hockey on Saturday mornings prior to the B grade game. Lloyd made the most of his opportunities, but his turn of speed was not always used to best advantage. He has loads of ability but he must utilise it more by looking to get more involved in the play.

JOHN MARCUS (Goalkeeper). Joined the team when Warren Widger graduated to the A grade. John's kicking and his ability to read a game were first class. His only fault is that he must call when the ball is his, and call **loudly**. His interception of play at the top of the circle often saved many dangerous situations.

In conclusion I would like to thank Stan McGuffin and Warren Widger for their efforts in the games that they played, and to the team in general for their support throughout the season. I certainly hope that all of the players will be available next season and will commit themselves 100% to Briars hockey, both on and off the field.

'C' GRADE HOCKEY

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points	Position
22	5	2	15	33	67	12	9th

As can be seen from the above statistics the C grade had a less than successful season. Unfortunately the side's lack of success was too often due to there being less than the full complement of eleven players present at the commencement of a game, which usually resulted in the side suffering the unnecessary penalty of facing an immediate goal deficit and then facing momentous odds to try and get back into the game.

One of the few times we did field a full team at the start of a game we drew 1-1 with the Glebe club after having been beaten 11-0 by that side in the first round. So we could have improved our position if we had been able to follow this pattern.

Additionally, the team could never really settle into any consistent pattern of play because of constant changing in players availability week by week.

The Best and Fairest Award was shared in 1977 by the team's two big-hearted full backs, Kevin Holley and Ian Trimble, who both gave their maximum effort every week and whose enthusiasm never flagged.

Congratulations to North Sydney club, winners of the 1977 C grade trophy.

THE TEAM

JOHN MARCUS (Goalkeeper). Had a good season defending well. We could have used his talents all season but he was unfortunately a late starter.

IAN TRIMBLE (Right Back). Showed the class of playing a higher grade, and was also a great help as a half. Combined well with his left back partner to worry many attacking forwards. Equal Best and Fairest.

KEVIN HOLLEY (Left Back). Played his best season as a back for the first time, and took to it like a duck to water. Has a big hit and scored many goals from short corners. Equal Best and Fairest.

GEOFF GORTON (Left Back). Retired early in the season after injury problems, ending a great career in hockey with the club.

GEORGE FREITIS (Right Half). Played very well at times, but fiddled a bit too much. Saved many desperate situations.

IAN MILLETT (Right Half). Promoted from D grade and improved with every game. Has a bright future as a half with some good solid coaching.

WARREN PARTINGTON (Centre Half). Old war-horse found the going too tough and gave it away for golf early in the season.

PAUL MACKAY (Centre Half Captain). Found playing centre half and being captain too much at times. Had a battle to keep his side together even if there were few players to keep together at times.

DAVID JAMIESON (Centre Half). Filled in very well for much of the season, often playing better with C grade than as skipper of the B grade.

MATT ASHBY (Left Half Wing). Varied between these two positions and played both fairly well. Needs coaching and will improve.

STAN MCGUFFIN (Half). An experienced player in the half position, but we needed him more often. An overseas trip didn't help in this regard.

SHANE O'REGAN (Left Wing). Promoted from D grade lacked the killer instinct in the circle but he showed up well by staying in his position when needed.

RON HODGE (Right Wing/Centre Forward). Varied between these two striking positions. Was unfortunately injured early in the season and hence only played a few games, but he played with plenty of drive.

JOHN BAILEY (Inside Left). A football convert who never stopped trying for the full game. Played his position well in the second round and scored a few good goals.

PETER MANSFORD (Centre Forward/Inside Right). Another experienced player who was the main driving force in the forward line. Well done Peter.

COLIN HUGGETT (Centre Forward/Inside Right). Young and fit but lacked the killer instinct in the circle. Will continue to improve next year and play a higher grade.

IAN SULLIVAN (Centre Forward). Veteran player who was a great asset to the team when he played. Thanks for your help, "Sullo".

MARK BOUFFLER (Inside Right). The most promising player in the team and at times even surprised himself at what he did in his first season of hockey, unfortunately had to leave us during the second round to a country posting.

JOHN KEMP (Left Wing). Very skilful player who combined well with Peter Mansford to score many a goal. A real team man.

JOHN CROCKART. (Right Wing). Came out of retirement to help the team. Showed plenty of dash and fire, but lacked the conditioning to finish off.

'D' GRADE HOCKEY

The D grade suffered more than any other side from the club's loss of older experienced players from and through the higher grades. This is evident from the fact that over 30 different players took the field for the team over the course of the year. The side therefore had continual problems emanating from an inability to field a regular hard core around which to build the talents of the younger players.

For the bulk of the season the D's were virtually composed of juniors with a couple of old stagers (usually Ken Dobbins and Ian Sullivan) to show them the way. Under these difficult circumstances the young players stuck at their game admirably and are to be strongly commended for their efforts over the course of the season.

After some six games of the 1977 season Col Rankin assumed coaching (and umpiring) control of the side and he was able to effect a lift in the standard of the team's play towards season's end. It was obvious that the players appreciated the strength and direction supplied by Ian Sullivan and Ken Dobbins and they certainly seemed to enjoy the later games more than some of the early "rudderless" encounters. In fact all of the team's three wins occurred in the latter part of the season, with the best result being a 3-2 win over potential semi-finalists Canterbury at The Crest, Bankstown.

All players deserve recognition for their efforts, but since more than 30 players represented and space is limited (let alone writer's cramp) these players must get special mention.

LAZLO KOVACS improved tremendously over the course of the season in his capacity as goal-keeper, and with more coaching he should rapidly progress through the higher grades. He also was awarded the Best and Fairest trophy in a photo-finish with the following two players.

BRIAN CALNAN played almost every game and tried his heart out, mostly in the vital centre-half position, setting a fine example to the rest of the sides.

RUSSELL ROBERTS was the shining light of the attack, and he shows great potential of progressing into the higher grades.

Ex-footballer **MIKE ELDER** represented in the last game to good effect, and his assistance was much appreciated also.

D grade had a very difficult year in 1977, being forced to play the early game on a field that was usually widely divergent from the other team's ground and consequently cost them spectator support apart from player strength. The players are to be commended for their never-say-die efforts throughout the season. Regular players worthy of mention other than those listed above include **PETER JONES, SANDOR KOVACS, JOHN PRICE, PETER WALLACE, KELLY CONLAN, SCOTT RANKIN, ROBERT LENNIE** and **MATT ASHBY**.

'A' GRADE JUNIOR HOCKEY

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Position
13	3	1	9	7	4th

Once again the A grade made the semi-finals and after leading 2-0 in the semi-finals were finally beaten 4-2 in extra time by the eventual premiers.

On the whole it was a disappointing season due mainly to the fact that not once in the whole season did we field our strongest team. The team personnel varied so much during the season that as many as 23 players played in the team. If we could have had the strongest team for most of the season we could have easily finished premiers.

Geoff Evenden found it hard going as Captain but did a fine job organising the team and leading by example. Geoff had a good year as a player with fine positional play. Perhaps the star of the side was Malcolm Shorter. Malcolm playing as centre forward scored a lot of goals and set up quite a few. If he could avoid the wrath of the umpires he could do a lot better. John Price and Peter Wallace playing their first year of hockey improved greatly throughout the year. They both play similar games in that they both have a natural positional sense and are fit and fast. As their stick-work improves they both could have a big future in hockey.

Colin Huggett had a good year and he and Malcolm Shorter once again showed their great team combination. As Colin increases in size and strength he could be one of the best hockey players the Briars have produced.

Lazlo Kovacs once again showed he is a fine goalkeeper. The other Kovacs Sandor was not to be outshone by his brother and showed what determination combined with ability can do for a player. Richard Copland and Peter Jones had a great understanding as the two full backs. Lloyd Davidson proved once again that he can play a good positional game as a half back but his determination is not as consistent as it should be.

The support of Bob Streeter and Warren Widger throughout the year was indispensable to the running of the juniors. Thanks chaps.

'C' GRADE JUNIOR HOCKEY

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Position
13	3	1	9	6th

At the beginning of the season there was an oversupply of players in theory but in practice we always seemed short. Players varied from week to week but the loyal few of Lachlan Walker, Bob Lennie, John Price, Scott Rankin, Paul Price and Peter Wallace were always there.

Lachlan Walker improved this year and his positioning and understanding of the game is also improving. Robert Lennie is also improving his play but his stick-work still needs to be worked on. Paul Price although the youngest member of the Briars juniors and playing his first year of hockey showed promise and has inherited the family positional sense. Robert Smith, Steven Dominish and his brothers Graeme and Michael played many games and added ability and speed to the team.

It is hoped that next year we can get an influx of new young players to bolster the numbers. Maybe the womens team would like to foster some juniors of their own, in which case they can join our C grade team as Louise Walker did last year.

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1977 SQUASH REPORT

Sub-Committee: Ray Pontifex Chairman, Paul Porter Sec/Treasurer, Ken Kable, Peter Olde, Jim Walsh, Viv Hudson, John Hannan.

Great strides have been made by this Squash Club in more areas in 1977 than ever before. These will all be dealt with throughout this report.

Firstly, as the Journals go to press before the final result of the previous year are known the

Briars finished the Spring '76 competition as follows, only 3 teams made the semi-finals with B2 and C3 each winning their grade and C4 losing in the semi-finals. The teams were as follows:

B2 Paul Porter
Ron Churcher
Randel Godden
Alan Cameron
Robert Bedic

C3 Mike Rutkowski
Kerry Trollope
Dan Williams
Lars Brander

C4 Glen Lackey
John Hannan
Garry Nicolls
Pat Long
Ted McAdam

This meant the club collected 3 Pennants for 1976.

For 1977, 8 teams were entered in the Autumn competition graded from A1 to F2. The total number of players was 42 including 4 new members. They were:

Peter Gardiner
Gary Toomey
Neil Bowling
Wayne Rastall

The results of these 8 teams were excellent with six making the semi-finals, a great achievement. Highlights of their results are as follows:

A1	Arthur Krallis		
	Peter Gardiner	Won 10	Lost 6
	Ray Pontifex		
	Tony Pearce	Position 2nd	
	Cliff Priest		

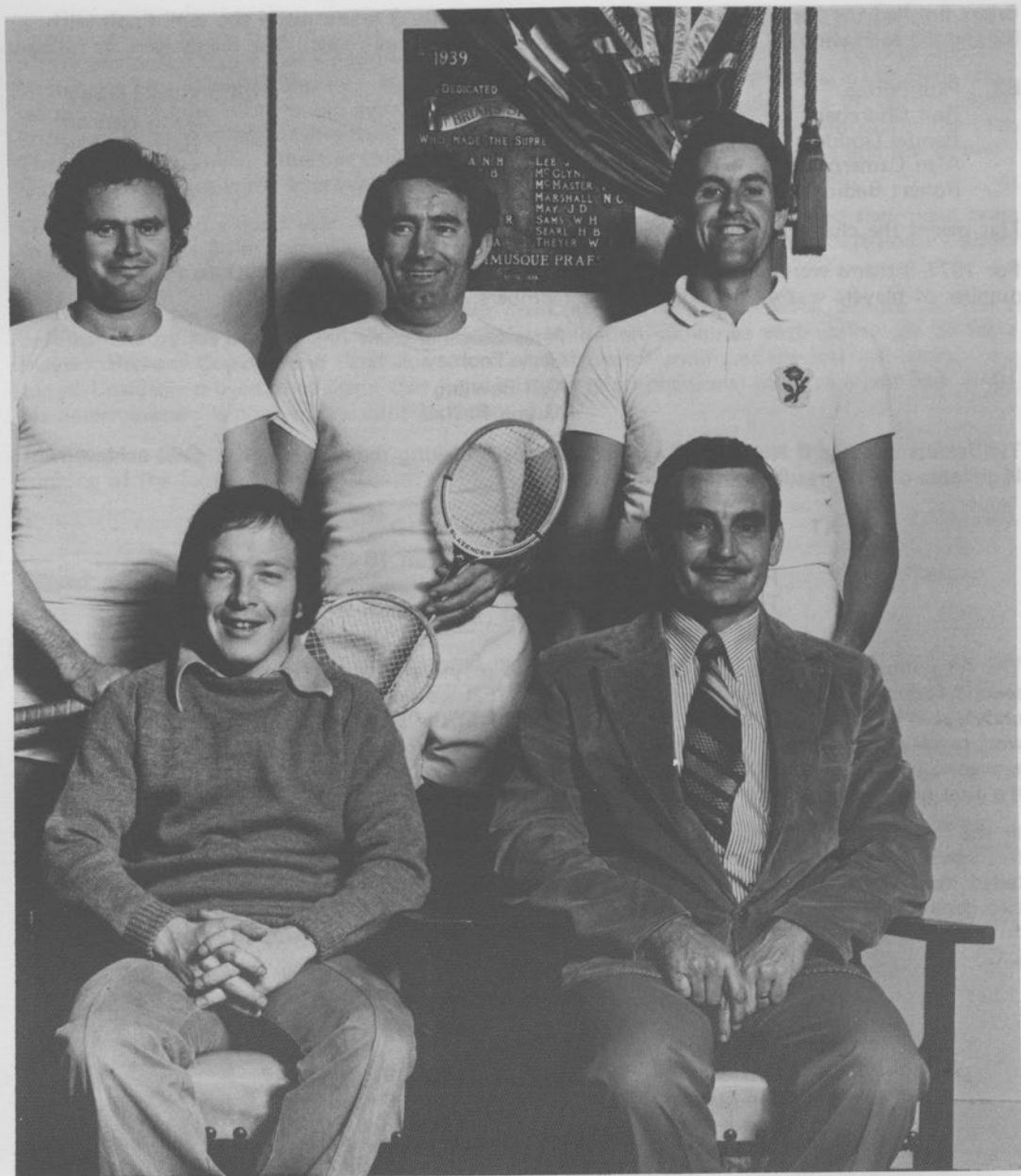
The A1 competition was a very good one with no easy team to play. In the latter part of the second round it became clear there were 3 teams that would fight it out for the Pennant, undefeated Western Suburbs L.C. Briars and Ryde. In the semi-finals Western Suburbs L.C. won comfortably to go into the final and Briars played Ryde in the other. Briars surprised everyone by firstly Ray Pontifex winning 3-0, Arthur Krallis 3-0 and Peter Gardiner winning the first game of his match to give us an unbeatable lead.

In the final Briars took a gamble by playing Tony Pearce (who had only played 3 matches throughout the competition due to leg problems) instead of Cliff Priest. Tony started well but faded losing 1-3, Arthur won 3-0 to even things up. Next Ray started well to win the first two games only to allow his opponent to come back and win 3-2. Peter Gardiner then went on against a good player and unfortunately lost 0-3 to give the match to Western Suburbs L.C.

Best Player: Arthur Krallis (undefeated)

A4	John Ward		
	Ken Axtell	Won 9	Lost 7
	Cec Stevens		
	Ken Kable	Position 1st	
	John Barry		

This team performed like the well balanced side it was with no weak links. They had some good wins early and kept on with the job throughout to be minor premiers at the end of the second round although losing both times to Penrith L.C. In the semi-finals Penrith L.C. again defeated Briars 3-1 which meant being minor premiers they had another chance in the Grand Final. Penrith L.C. won the final and faced the Briars again for the Pennant.



A4 PREMIERS

B. Row: K. Kable, C. Stevens, K. Axtell
F. Row: J. Ward, J. Barry

This side was far from confident of winning and when their No. 1 John Ward informed Capt. John Barry on the afternoon of the match that he had the flu and would not be playing their slim hopes dropped. Cec Stevens arrived at the courts with a bad dose of the flu also and didn't want to play, but finding out John was unavailable agreed to play. Cec went on first and surprised everyone by winning 3-0. Penrith called on their Hot No. 1 player and defeated Ken Axtell 0-3 although Ken was able to win quite a few points. Next Ken Kable went on against an A1 player last competition to demolish him 3-0 and with the extra points Ken Axtell had picked up, found they were too far ahead for John Barry's opponent to win. Penrith L.C. conceded defeat and Briars had the match and Pennant in their keeping.

Best Player: Ken Axtell

B1	Ron Churcher		
	Jim Walsh	Won 8	Lost 7
	Alan Cameron		
	Paul Porter	Position 4th	
	Randel Godden		

This team had the potential to do better but for one reason or another failed to fire as a team when needed. In the rounds they won and lost to each side in the competition with the exception of the top side who they unfortunately struck in the semi-finals. The results of that match is as follows. Ron Churcher was on first against a very good No. 1 and although won quite a few points went down 0-3. Randel Godden had the toughest match on the night to win a close 3-2. Paul Porter went on and at one stage looked like pulling off an upset against a difficult opponent. However it wasn't to be and Paul went down 1-3.

Alan Cameron did not play as Briars could not win from that position so the captains called it off.

Best Player: Randel Godden

B2	Peter Olde		
	Frank Mandile	Won 13	Lost 3
	Mike Rutkowski		
	Lars Brander	Position 1st	
	Ken Edwards		

This was the success story team of the club. Three members had played B2 the last competition with two players coming up from C3 we felt it was worth the gamble and paid off. They combined well throughout the rounds to record a lot of 4-0 victories which enabled them to end the second round as minor premiers. In the semi-finals they comfortably defeated the 4th placed team to advance to the finals. In the finals against Western Suburbs L.C. it was a lot closer, Mike Rutkowski losing 2-3 first in a very tough match. Peter Olde then went on to record an excellent 3-0 victory. Lars Brander followed and in another close one was successful in winning 3-2. This meant Frank Mandile had to go on and only win 5 points against his opponent, (Briar Peter Mansford). Frank did that O.K. and so B2 became premiers.

Best Player: Frank Mandile

B3	Barry Cardwell		
	Robert Bedic	Won 1	Lost 13
	Brian McGuren		
	Viv Hudson	Position 8th	
	Ken Bell		

The least said about this side the better, they were thrown out of gear by the unavailability of

RE.
LEE J.
Mc GLEN
Mc MASTER
SHALL N.C.
W. J.D.
JAMES W.H.
SEARL H.B.
THEYER W.J.
SQUE PRAEFEN



B2 PREMIERS

B. Row: K. Edwards, M. Rutkowski, F. Mandile
F. Row: P. Olde, L. Brander

their No. 1 which weakened the side considerably. They did not have the spirit needed to try to improve on those early losses and unfortunately went through the motions for the latter part of the competition. Probably in fairness that grade was too tough for the side they could put together.

Best Player: Brian McGuren

C2	John Elvy		
	Tim Boyce	Won 10	Lost 7
	Pat Long		
	Kerry Trollope	Position 2nd	
	Rex Jurd		

This side was unlucky not to win the competition. They started the competition by losing the first 3 games, but from then on until the end of the second round only lost two 2-2 matches to be minor premiers. They defeated every team in the competition bar one although only losing in close 2-2 matches. After winning the semi-finals they played that side in the finals only to lose by the odd game. As minor premiers they had another chance against them in the grand final. First Rex Jurd played good squash but went down 1-3 against an experienced opponent. Kerry Trollope continued his top form throughout the competition to win 3-2. Next Pat Long played a hard match also to record a 3-2 victory with the match all tied up 7 games each. John Elvy went on knowing he had to win by any score for the pennant. The final the previous week affected his play and went down 0-3.

Best Player: Kerry Trollope

D2	John Hannan		
	Gary Toomey	Won 1	Lost 13
	Steve Kaposi		
	Neil Bowling	Position 8th	
	Garry Nicolls		
	Graeme Hughes		

This team also did not perform as was expected, there were two new squash members who found that competition squash is a lot different to social. Hopefully through the experience gained from their first competition, better results will be forthcoming in future competitions. It should be mentioned John Hannan had an excellent competition at No. 1 winning 11 out of 14 matches.

Best Player: John Hannan

F2	David Walters		
	Harry Simpson	Won 7	Lost 8
	David Cooke		
	Bill Barnwell	Position 4th	
	John Jessop		
	Wayne Rastall		

The side had an average competition holding there own with most sides in the competition barring the competition winners who were too good for that grade. They sneaked into 4th position only to play them in the semi-finals. In that match the Briars were defeated 0-4 by a powerful side. John Jessop had an excellent competition only losing two matches including the closely fought 2-3 loss in the semi-finals.

Best Player: John Jessop

In the spring competition Briars entered 9 teams which included 3 new squash players. The new members are:—

Russell Butler
Roger Gersbach
William Pettigrew

Bert Houston

We have just completed the second round and the position of the teams is as follows:

	A1	minor premiers
	A3	minor premiers
	A4	6th
*	B1	minor premiers
*	B1	3rd
	B4	8th
	C2	5th
	C8	8th
	D6	5th

* Two teams playing in the same grade.

A short summary on the hopes of the 4 teams that made the semi-finals follows:

A1	Arthur Krallis Ray Pontifex Peter Gardiner Russell Butler Tony Pearce	Won 11	Lost 3
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This side hope to win the A1 premiership and in doing so collect this Doug Vanderfield Trophy for being the top team in Western Districts. The club has never won this trophy since Doug presented it to the Squash Association in 1960.

A3	Cliff Priest Ken Axtell Cec Stevens Ken Kable	Won 13	Lost 1
----	--	--------	--------

This team we hoped would perform well but never expected them to end up leading the competition throughout and finishing more than 10 points clear of the 2nd placed team they also are sure favourites to win this competition.

B1	Ron Churcher Randel Godden Alan Cameron Paul Porter	Won 11	Lost 3
----	--	--------	--------

This side also lead throughout this competition closely followed by our 2nd team. They have been defeated both times by them so who will win is anybody's guess. However there is another side that could cause both teams some worry.

B1	Mike Rutkowski Jim Walsh Lars Brander Ken Edwards	Won 10	Lost 4
----	--	--------	--------

Three members of this side won B2 last competition and to win B1 which is difficult at their

first attempt is not beyond them. It is a pity both have to play off for the pennant but fortunately or unfortunately the Briars have a lot of players around similar standard and two teams in one competition could not be avoided. If Lars and Mike win it will mean 3 pennants to them in succession.

Looking back on the competition side of Briars Squash, the club has become one of the strongest clubs in the top grades in Western Districts. The lower grade teams of the club needs strengthening here and there.

The big news about squash is that in 1978 the club whereas for years have been split at two squash centres and on different nights will be all together at the new Burwood Squash Complex on Tuesday nights where 5 courts have been allotted to us. Hopefully this will lead to a more closely knit squash club, which is a must for club activities and moral support in competition.

Socially we had our trip to Dubbo for our annual challenge match against Dubbo R.S.L. Club which we won.

Our second defeat to the Bankstown Club for the Briartown Cup. The handicapper Cec Stevens being a member of both clubs was in a delicate position but as we are an amateur club could not match Bankstown offer on this handicapping.

Brian McGuren had open day on his property which was enjoyed by all who attended.

The squash players have held down Bar Duty on Monday nights to their credit.

The end of year exam night at St. George Leagues Club will take place and hopefully will be another success.

Thanks to John Hannan who is our man on the Western Districts Committee, keeping us informed on any developments regarding squash.

Finally thanks to Secretary/Treasurer Paul Porter for his great work throughout this year and the committee for all their help. I wish the new Chairman and committee every success in the future.

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SOCIAL REPORT 1977

Chairman — B. Ferguson

Committee — G. McPhee, R. Smith

As the social calendar for '77 draws to a close in retrospect the club has had an extremely successful year.

This year, the committee have endeavoured to provide a wide range of social functions at the cheapest possible price in order to attract more members to club socials.

Of the twenty functions that were held only one the Annual Dinner ran at a loss, but even this will be rectified in the near future.

The major annual events are as follows:—

DINNER — The annual dinner was held once again at the Concord Golf Club, with 142 attending. The guest speaker for this year was Dick Marks an experienced rugby international and full time director of rugby coaching who gave those present a most informative speech.

Next year marks the 60th Anniversary of the club and the dinner promises to be a special social event for all members, try not to miss it.

DINNER DANCE — A dinner dance was held this year to replace the existing annual ball. The venue was Concord Memorial Hall and the band "The Rubber Band" were very popular. Although numbers were not impressive this function will undoubtedly be continued in future years.

PICNIC — Fidden's Wharf Reserve in the Lane Cove River Park is again the venue for the annual picnic. As in previous years weather permitting this day should prove to be most enjoyable.

The new format for the picnic was a great success and will be continued this year. In short a great family day.

TOURNAMENTS — The winners of this year's competitions were Dave Jamieson and Ian Richard in the snooker doubles championship and in the table tennis singles John Baker managed a very fine win over Dave Jamieson who was out to win the double.

ATHLETICS DAY — There has been a new sport introduced into the club — athletics. It is hoped that this day will build into an annual event. It was a most entertaining day, with teams from each sport competing for a shield and was won by cricket.

GENERAL — To all those involved in this year's events thank you and well done. A special vote of thanks goes to Greg, Linda, Rod and Carol.

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SKI LODGE THREDBO

The club has just completed its sixteenth season, membership standing at 49 members, shares/membership of the Estate of the Late R. D. Vanderfield, Estate Late P.S. Darragh having been transferred to Mrs. Wendy Riley and Miss Carolyn Darragh respectively during the year.

The Board at present has seven applications for membership and following due consideration have closed the list pending the eventual acceptance of these seven members.

I am happy to report that we have now "turned the corner", financially, having settled the Bank overdraft in full and traded to a surplus of \$3,216.63 in our last financial year, 1976.

The books are now closed on this season and your Directors expect this year to be equally successful.

Accordingly we have purchased a new refrigerator and are presently studying plans to modernise the bathrooms and make the flat more functional and comfortable.

The snow season has indeed been one of the best in memory and the Lodge was fully booked throughout the winter. Additionally there has been an increase in summer usage as some of our more mature members are learning to cast the "Dry fly" with rewarding skills.

To keep pace with ever increasing costs it was decided to increase all rates summer/fringe/winter by \$1 per night. The Club was indeed sorry to lose the services of Peter Johnson as Secretary, Peter having been transferred permanently to Melbourne but indeed lucky to gain the services of John Edmonds a long standing Briar to fill this post.

Our particular thanks to Col Jones and Don Walker for their work on the Balance Sheet as well as Andrew Clifford again doing a great job as Booking Officer.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere gratitude towards my fellow directors, the Secretaries and all members for their efforts and support throughout this our most successful year.

For Bookings please contact Andrew Clifford, c/- Briars or phone 766766 during business hours.

B. Darragh

Chairman of Directors

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BAR AND HOUSE REPORT

Committee: Ken Gray (Senior Steward), John Boyle (House Chairman), Mal Weber, Aud Land, Stan Jones and Ted Stockdale.

Bar trading this year despite a slow start is one of the best results that the club has achieved. This was a direct result of better attendance at the club and use of the club facilities by members. This trend is very pleasing to see and it is hoped that it will continue with more members availing themselves of the services that the club has to offer.

On several occasions during the past year Sydney canned beer was offered for sale in the club at discount prices comparable to what is available elsewhere. By the time you read this report all "City" members will have received a circular setting out the Christmas Specials on Beer, Spirits and Wines. These specials offer real savings to Club Members and it is hoped that many will take this opportunity to purchase their Christmas supplies through the Club.

As Senior Steward I could not let a report go by without the mentioning of the three gentlemen, Aud Land, Stan Jones and Ted Stockdale, who between them look after the bar stock-takes. This "behind the scenes" task is vital to the running of the club and they do a marvellous job.

My thanks also to Norm Fenwick who has to contend with the delivery of the clubs supplies, which don't always come at the most convenient time.

Finally to Mal Weber in particular and the other members who help in keeping the bar adequately stocked, my thanks.

In the past year there has also been a number of changes and improvements made to the club.

Thanks to Doug Staniforth, new lighting was installed in the eastern end of the club rooms. This has been favourably received by all those who attend meetings in the club rooms.

The sporting photographs in the games rooms were taken down during the year and re-hung in the main area of the club. I believe this adds to the character of the club.

There was also in the latter part of the year the introduction of "Happy Hour" on Friday evenings. This has met with overwhelming acceptance and appreciation. Our thanks must go to Bruce Ferguson and Greg McPhee for the fine job done on Friday night.

The snooker table has been recovered and the pianola is being put back into working order. The cost of these repairs is being financed by a special fund raising effort over the next year.

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PERSONNEL REPORT

Chairman: Greg McPhee

One of the most pleasing features of the past twelve months has been the remarkable growth in new membership applications. Since December last year seventy seven (77) have been received. Two major factors were basically responsible for this occurrence, namely the success of the Sun-Herald advertisement in attracting new footballers, and the influx of young cricketers to the senior teams from the junior ranks.

In order to involve prospective new members in club activities as quickly as possible, each new member is placed on the club's mailing list on the completion of a membership application form. He is consequently sent a copy of the booklet "Your Club" and invited to attend a New Members Evening.

These New Members Evenings are held on a bi-monthly basis. At these meetings prospective new members are addressed by the President or his representative and the Personnel Chairman, on the club's history, objectives and achievements. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Col Dennis, Ian Blair and the rest of the management committee for their support, attendance and participation at these evenings.

Although, juniors and newspaper advertisements have greatly aided in the outstanding influx of new members over the past year, I believe that perhaps the best supply of new members is still obtained through personal introduction by existing members.

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"FOCUS ON THE BRIARS"

Editors: Peter Burt, Terry Daly, David Lewis

The "Focus on the Briars" was first published in March, 1973 under the editorial direction of Peter Burt, Michael MacKenroth and Michael Sterry. Michael and Michael retired this year as Focus editors. The Club thanks them for their efforts in inaugurating the Focus and maintaining its high standard and regular publication over the years.

As the Focus enters its sixth year, we could ask if it is fulfilling the aims it was set up for. If so, is it worth the effort and cost? The editors hope so. Focus is the only medium of communication that reaches every member. Remember, there are many people who have the Briars' interests at heart, but we all can't be at the same place at the same time. Focus provides a forum for discussion of matters of interest to members. Also, it keeps us informed of the performance of the teams we were part of once or teams in the sports we don't play. Finally, it keeps us informed of the movements of our fellow club members. It is these last two points that may be of the most importance, since it is an interest in our fellow club members that make for a successful Club. As for the effort involved, the editors feel that this is worthwhile if the functions of the Focus outlined above are continued. As for the cost, the Focus costs each member about \$4 per year. Do you think that it's worth that much?

The editors would like to thank all those members who contributed reports, results, opinions and articles of interest over the past year. It should be realised that all the articles in Focus are contributed by members. The editors prepare it for the printers by correcting spelling and grammar and deciphering incredible handwriting. The quality and interest of Focus is directly proportional to the number and variety of articles printed. So submit your article and help sharpen your Focus.

In Memoriam

BARRY CHARLES WILLIAMS

Barry Williams was fatally injured in a car accident on Saturday, October 8th, 1977. He was 22 years old.

Barry joined the Briars in 1973 as a footballer and cricketer. His football talent was immediately recognised, as he played many games in his first season as Kentwell full back. He had held the full back position in Kentwell or Burke since then, except for the 1977 season, when he had several games as five-eight. On the cricket field, Barry regularly kept wicket for the C and S team.

Off the field, Barry was House Chairman in 1975/76. He never missed a Kangaroo Valley or Melbourne-Powerhouse tour. He toured New Zealand with the Briars footballers in early 1977.

Barry attended Trinity Grammar School and represented them in the First XV and the First XI. He graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the University of N.S.W. in 1975.

To Barry's parents, Kath and Charlie, his sister Sue and brother Paul, we offer our sincere sympathy for their inestimable loss.

CRICKET MEMORIAL TROPHY

This trophy is intended as a remembrance of those who lost their lives during service in World War II. The trophy was donated by the late H.G. Whiddon. The basis of arriving at the winner is similar to the football trophy and points are allocated as follows:—

Value to team as a cricketer	—	35 points
Conduct	—	15 points
General keenness	—	15 points
Value to a Club as a member	—	25 points
Neatness of dress	—	<u>10 points</u>
		<u>100 points</u>

The winner for this year is Ian Blair, Captain of the A Shire Team. Our congratulations to Ian who is also The Honorary Executive Officer.

GORDON BEVAN SHIELD

The shield is presented each year to the footballer, who in the opinion of the Club, has done most towards football and to the Club in general.

It is presented in memory of a young "Briar" who was tragically killed in a road accident. Points awarded as follows:—

Attendance at training	—	20 points
Value to team	—	20 points
Most improved player	—	20 points
General keenness	—	15 points
Value as a Club member	—	15 points
Neatness of uniform	—	<u>10 points</u>
		<u>100 points</u>

This trophy was won by Craig Hickey. Craig was Football Chairman and Assistant Executive Officer, and also plays Cricket. Well done Craig.

A. J. ROBINSON SHIELD

This shield was donated by the late A.J. Robinson ("Robbie"), is won by the player obtaining the most points allocated as follows:—

Value to a team as a member	—	35 points
Value in Hockey administration	—	20 points
Value to Club other than hockey	—	20 points
Conduct on field of play	—	15 points
Neatness of dress	—	<u>10 points</u>
		<u>100 points</u>

The winner this year was David Jamieson. David is on the Hockey Committee as well as playing Cricket for the Club. Congratulations David.

DOUG VANDERFIELD TROPHY

This trophy is presented to the squash player who has contributed the most to squash and the Club in general.

The trophy was donated by the late R.D. Vanderfield who was very instrumental in commencing squash in the Club and having it recognised as a major sport. Points are awarded as follows:—

Value as a team member	—	20 points
Value as a member of the club	—	20 points
Keeness as a player	—	20 points
Improvement as a player	—	15 points
Conduct on squash court	—	15 points
Neatness of dress	—	<u>10 points</u>
		<u>100 points</u>

This trophy was won by Ken Kable. Ken is active on the Squash Committee and also plays Rugby. Well done Ken.

R. D. VANDERFIELD TROPHY

This trophy is awarded to a member of the junior hockey team who has contributed most to the junior teams. It carries the name of our late past President who showed great interest in the formation of the junior team. Points are allocated as follows:—

Value to a team as a member	—	30 points
Attendance at training	—	25 points
Most improved player	—	20 points
General keeness	—	15 points
Neatness of uniform	—	<u>10 points</u>
		<u>100 points</u>

The winner of the trophy this year was Geoff Evenden. Well done Geoff.

J. H. STONE TROPHY

This trophy is named after the first President of the Club, the late John Stone. It can only be won by a member under the age of 25 years and by one who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club's welfare during the year.

Greg McPhee is this year's winner. A current footballer Greg did a tremendous job as Personnel Chairman. With the large influx of members this year Greg handled this important position extremely well. Congratulations Greg.



ADMINISTRATION

Board met on 12 occasions during the period 1st October, 1976 to 30th September, 1977.

C. K. Dennis	10 (Appointed December, 1976)
D. A. Walker	1 (Retired December, 1976)
E. G. Stockdale	12
J. Balmforth	7
I. Richard	11
J. Alford	11
I. Blair	12
M. Elder	9
H. Ford	8
P. Burt	1 (Retired December, 1976)
J. Edmonds	8 (Appointed December, 1976)

J. Crockart attended ten meetings in his capacity as Treasurer.

Management Committee met on 12 occasions during the period 1st October, 1976 to 30th September, 1977.

D. Walker	1 (Retired December, 1976)
J. Balmforth	2 (Retired December, 1976)
K. Gray	11
A. McSweeny	1 (Retired December, 1976)
J. Crockart	10
M. Sterry	3 (Retired March, 1977)
R. Pontifex	10
B. Williams	4 (Retired March, 1977)
C. Hickey	10
I. Blair	12
B. Ferguson	9

G. McPhee	11
C. Dennis	10 (Appointed December, 1976)
J. Boyle	8 (Appointed December, 1976)
T. Parker	6 (Appointed December, 1976)
R. Streeter	6 (Appointed March, 1977)
P. Burt	4 (Appointed March, 1977)

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ADDENDUM

I wish to convey my personal appreciation and thanks to all the Honorary Office-bearers for their loyal and devoted services during the year.

Colin K. Dennis
President.

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CONCLUSION

We convey to members, both collectively and individually, our best wishes for success in the forthcoming year at the respective sports and express the hope that the Club will continue to prosper and play its part in the life of the community.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee.

Colin K. Dennis
President.

I.G.S. Blair
Hon. Executive Officer

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THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your Directors present their report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended September, 30, 1977. The Directors of the Company in office at the date of this report being:—

C. K. Dennis (Chairman)
J. F. Alford
J. Balmforth
J. H. Edmonds
H. C. Ford

I. G. S. Blair
E. G. Stockdale
M. Elder
R. I. Richards

Results	1977 \$	1976 \$
Excess of income over expenditure for the year amounted to	4,591	4,450
To this is added accumulation account	<u>44,684</u>	<u>40,234</u>
Leaving accumulation account to be carried forward of	<u>\$49,275</u>	<u>\$44,684</u>

Activities

The principal activities of the Company during the year consisted of promoting and playing amateur sport.

There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Reserves and Provisions

During the year an amount of \$1,500 was transferred from the profit and loss account to the provision for deferred maintenance and \$1500 transferred to provision for Sport Development.

General

In accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act, 1961, the Directors state that:—

- (a) Before the accounts were made out they took reasonable steps to ascertain what action had been taken in relation to the writing off of bad debts and the making of provisions for doubtful debts, and have caused all known bad debts to be written off and adequate provision to be made for doubtful debts, and at the date of this report they are not aware of any circumstances which would render the amount written off for bad debts or the amount of the provision for doubtful debts inadequate to any substantial extent.
- (b) Before the accounts were made out they took reasonable steps to ascertain whether any other current assets were unlikely to realise in the ordinary course of business their value as shown in the accounts and at the date of this report they are not aware of any circumstances which would render the values attributed to current assets in the accounts misleading.

- (c) There does not exist at the date of this report either any charge on the assets of the Company or any contingent liability which has arisen since September 30, 1977.
- (d) No contingent or other liability has become enforceable, or is likely to become enforceable in the ensuing year which, in their opinion, will or may substantially affect the ability of the Company to meet its obligations when they fall due.
- (e) At the date of this report they are not aware of any circumstances which would render any amount stated in the accounts misleading.
- (f) The results of the Company's operations during the year were not, in their opinion, substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature.
- (g) No item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature has arisen between September 30, 1977 and the date of this report which is likely, in their opinion, to affect substantially the results of the Company's operations for the year ending September 30, 1978.
- (h) No Director of the Company has received or become entitled to receive a benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related corporation with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member, or with a Company in which he has a substantial financial interest.

Directors

Messrs. E.G. Stockdale and J. F. Alford retire in accordance with the Articles of Association and being eligible offer themselves for re-election. Mr. J. Balmforth is retiring as a Director.

Auditors

The Auditor, Mr. C.G. Jones, Chartered Accountant continues in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 166 of the Companies Act.

Signed at Sydney this eighteenth day of November, 1977, in accordance with a resolution of Directors.

C. K. Dennis

.....
Director

E. G. Stockdale

.....
Director

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1977

	1977 \$	1976 \$
RESERVES AND ACCUMULATION ACCOUNT		
General Reserve	13,032	13,032
ACCUMULATION ACCOUNT		
Balance 30.7.76	44,684	40,234
Add profit year ended 30.9.77	<u>4,591</u>	<u>4,450</u>
Total Accumulated Earnings	<u>49,275</u>	<u>44,684</u>
Total Reserves and Accumulated Earnings	<u>\$62,307</u>	<u>\$57,716</u>
FIXED ASSETS		
Land and Buildings (Note 4)	26,141	26,517
Furniture and Fittings (Note 5)	<u>2,996</u>	<u>3,637</u>
	<u>\$29,137</u>	<u>\$30,154</u>
INVESTMENTS (Note 6)	36,500	25,445
Trust Funds (Note 7)	<u>1,613</u>	<u>1,908</u>
	<u>\$38,113</u>	<u>\$27,353</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock at lower of cost or market value	7,130	5,473
Prepayments	1,315	2,200
Debtors	1,757	2,053
Cash at Bank	2,049	862
Cash on Hand	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$12,364</u>	<u>\$10,708</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$79,609</u>	<u>\$68,215</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Trust Funds (Note 7)	<u>\$1,613</u>	<u>\$1,908</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provision for Deferred Maintenance	6,000	4,500
Trade Creditors and Accruals	6,025	2,146
Subscriptions paid in advance	2,172	1,945
Provision for Sport Development	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$15,697</u>	<u>\$8,591</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$17,310</u>	<u>\$10,499</u>
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	<u>\$65,299</u>	<u>\$57,716</u>

Notes forming part of these accounts are attached.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

BAR TRADING AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1977

	1977 \$	1976 \$
SALES:		
Beer, Wine and Spirits	28,411	28,193
Less: Cost of Sales	<u>16,001</u>	<u>16,942</u>
Gross Profit	<u>\$12,410</u>	<u>\$11,251</u>
Cigarettes, Nuts and Cordials	3,624	3,572
Less: Cost of Sales	<u>3,200</u>	<u>3,220</u>
Gross Profit	<u>424</u>	<u>352</u>
Gross Bar Profit	<u>\$12,834</u>	<u>\$11,603</u>
LESS BAR OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Liquor Licence	1,444	999
Bar Expenses and Maintenance	658	999
Depreciation of Bar Equipment	<u>236</u>	<u>296</u>
	<u>\$2,338</u>	<u>\$2,294</u>
Bar Trading Profit	10,496	9,309
ADD Income from:		
Property Rents	8,060	6,195
Members Subscriptions	4,240	3,891
Interest Received	3,039	2,505
Profit on Redemption of Debenture	<u>56</u>	<u>—</u>
Gross Income	<u>\$25,891</u>	<u>\$21,900</u>
LESS OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Administration and Club Room Expenses (Note 1)	10,556	9,203
Property Expenses (Note 2)	3,433	4,590
Net cost of Sporting Activities (Note 3)	2,390	1,098
Special Promotions	582	647
N.Z. Tour Subsidy	700	—
Depreciation of Furniture and Fittings	405	489
Loss on Social Activities	234	123
Provision for Deferred Maintenance	1,500	1,300
Provision for Sport Development	<u>1,500</u>	<u>—</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$21,300</u>	<u>\$17,450</u>
Surplus for year transferred to Accumulation Account	<u>\$4,591</u>	<u>\$4,450</u>

Notes forming part of these accounts are attached.

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE 1977 ACCOUNTS

	1977 \$	1976 \$
1. ADMINISTRATION & CLUB ROOM EXPENSES		
Repairs and Maintenance	3,265	2,543
Stationery, Stamps and Telephone	3,541	2,346
Lighting and Heating	1,394	1,425
Annual Reports	827	893
Insurance	475	429
Billiards and Table Tennis	407	188
Donations and Presentations	70	704
General Expenses	577	675
	<u>\$10,556</u>	<u>\$9,203</u>
2. PROPERTY EXPENSES		
Repairs and Maintenance	483	1,962
Insurance	1,318	1,075
Rates	1,256	1,177
Depreciation of Buildings	376	376
	<u>\$3,433</u>	<u>\$4,590</u>
3. NET COST OF SPORTING ACTIVITIES		
Hockey: Ground Hire, Gear etc.	1,251	1,149
Less Playing Fees	803	720
Net Cost of Hockey	<u>448</u>	<u>429</u>
Cricket: Ground Hire, Gear etc.	1,978	1,286
Less Registration Fees	1,468	1,051
Net Cost of Cricket	<u>510</u>	<u>235</u>
Football: Ground Hire, Gear etc.	3,277	594
Less Registration Fees	2,277	562
Net Cost of Football	<u>1,000</u>	<u>32</u>
Subsidies: Squash	252	232
Junior Hockey	180	170
	<u>432</u>	<u>402</u>
Net Cost of Sporting Activities	<u>\$2,390</u>	<u>\$1,098</u>
4. LAND AND BUILDINGS		
At Cost	28,772	28,772
Less Provision for Depreciation	2,631	2,255
	<u>\$26,141</u>	<u>\$26,517</u>

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE 1977 ACCOUNTS

	1977 \$	1976 \$
5. FURNITURE AND FITTINGS		
At Cost	12,890	12,890
Less Provision for Depreciation	<u>9,894</u>	<u>9,253</u>
	<u>\$2,996</u>	<u>\$3,637</u>
6. INVESTMENTS		
Secured Debentures in Listed Companies at Cost	30,000	20,445
(Market Value \$29,984; 1976 \$20,348)		
Government: Bonds at Cost	1,000	1,000
Deposit at Call	<u>5,500</u>	<u>4,000</u>
	<u>\$36,500</u>	<u>\$25,445</u>
7. TRUST FUNDS		
R.J. Thomson Memorial Trust Fund (To be held by the Club and used for such purposes as agreed to by the family of the late Ronald John Thomson)		
Secured Debentures in Listed Companies	700	700
Cash at Bank	<u>106</u>	<u>254</u>
	<u>\$806</u>	<u>\$954</u>
J. SHEEHAN SPORTING SCHOLARSHIP		
Secured Debentures in Listed Companies	700	700
Cash at Bank	<u>107</u>	<u>254</u>
	<u>807</u>	<u>954</u>
	<u>1,613</u>	<u>1,908</u>

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

STATEMENT BY DIRECTORS

In the opinion of the Directors of The Briars Sporting Club Limited the accompanying accounts are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of:—

- (a) the profit of the company for the year ended
September 30, 1977
- (b) the state of affairs of the company as at
September 30, 1977.

Dated at Sydney this Eighteenth day of November, 1977.

On behalf of the Board and in
accordance with the resolution.

C. K. Dennis — Director

E. G. Stockdale — Director

STATEMENT BY PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER

I, John F. Crockart, state that to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying accounts for the year ended September 30, 1977 give a true and fair view of the matters required by Section 162 of the Companies Act, 1961, to be dealt with in the accounts of the Company.

Dated at Sydney this Eighteenth day of November, 1977.

J. F. Crockart

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB LIMITED

**AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIARS
SPORTING CLUB LIMITED**

In my opinion:

- (a) the attached balance sheet and profit and loss account are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1961, and so as to give a true and fair view of:
 - (i) the state of affairs of the company at September 30, 1977, and of the results of the company for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) the other matters required by Section 162 of that Act to be dealt with in the accounts;
- (b) the accounting records and other records, and the registers required by that Act to be kept by the company have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

C. G. JONES,
Chartered Accountant

Registered under the Public Accountants
Registration Act, 1945, as amended.

November 18, 1977.

SYDNEY.

