

LEST WE FORGET

The 1938/39 annual report listed the total membership of the Briars was 187. During the ensuing war years a total of 157 served their country in the armed services.

The few remaining members, fathers, wives and girlfriends and an associated Womens' Auxillary, kept the club alive in those years of war. Committee positions constantly changed as members became eligible to join up. Those remaining initiated a War Comforts Fund for Briars servicemen and regularly sent letters to each and every serving Briars member throughout that period of conflict. The following was taken from a memorial service program.

(Foreword to the Memorial Service to Fallen Comrades and Service of Dedication of the Briars Sporting Club Roll of Honour held at St. Anne's Parish Church, Strathfield at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 30th October, 1949).

The Briars Sporting Club came into existence on 7th August, 1918, with the avowed purpose of participating in amateur sport and of developing and encouraging social and cultural activities among its members. Born in the closing stages of World War I., the Club reached its maturity in the opening phases of World War II. Upon the outbreak of war, members of the Club were among the first to join the colours. As the conflict pursued its ruthless course, Briars, numbering 157 in all, were to be found in all quarters of the globe, serving their beloved homeland with that same spirit of sacrifice of self which they had, in happier years evinced on the field of sport for the good of the team.

The Honour Roll, which is still proudly displayed in our club rooms



The fallen, who made the supreme sacrifice

F/O. ARTHUR NEVILLE HARDING AUSTIN, R.A.A.F. Youngest son of late Mr. and Mrs. A. G. S. Austin, of Homebush. Served with No. 3 Squadron, A.L.G. 91 in Middle East. Killed in aerial combat 14th January, 1943, at Gheddahia, near Tripoli. Aged 23 years.

LAC. KENT BLIGH BUSSELL, R.A.A.F. Only son of late Mr. H. L. Bussell and Mrs. E. E. Bussell, of Ashfield. Killed in air accident at Temora, N.S.W., on 8th December, 1942. Aged 20 years.

WING-COMDR. HILSON CHRISTOPHER NEWTON DALY, R.A.A.F. Eldest son of Mr. E. N. Daly and late Mrs. Daly, of Strathfield, husband of Mrs. D. Daly (nee Fullagar) and father of Jane Newton Daly. Killed in action on 17th November, 1944, near Bogia, New Guinea, whilst serving with No. 4 Squadron, R.A.A.F. Aged 36 years.

CPL. LINDSAY NOEL DUNBAR, A.I.F. Third son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Dunbar, of Croydon. Served in Egypt and Greece with "J" Sec. Sigs., 2/16 Aust. Inf. Bde., 6th Div. Died of wounds on 4th May, 1941, at Athens. Aged 22 years.

F/O. WILLIAM THOMAS CHARLES EDGINTON, R.A.A.F. Only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Edginton, of Ashfield. Attached to 467 Lancaster Squadron, R.A.F. Shot down over Denklingen, Germany, during raid over enemy territory on night of 25th/26th February, 1944. Aged 22 years.

ACI. ROY ERIC FARNSWORTH, R.A.A.F. Elder son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Farnsworth, of North Strathfield. Killed in air accident at Cootamundra, N.S.W., on 11th February, 1942. Aged 20 years.

LIEUT. MALCOLM VICARS GILLIES, A.I.F. Eldest son of Dr. and Mrs. H. V. Gillies, of Eastwood. Volunteered for "Z" Special Unit after three years with Armoured Div. Killed on Lombok Island, N.W.P., on 27th May, 1945, whilst on special mission. Aged 24 years.

LIEUT. ALBERT ALLAN HERRON, A.I.F. Youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Herron, of Strathfield. Served with 6th Div. in Greece and Crete. Died of wounds on 30th May, 1941. Aged 25 years.

F/O. ARTHUR NEVILLE HARDING AUSTIN, R.A.A.F. Youngest son of late Mr. and Mrs. A. G. S. Austin, of Homebush. Served with No. 3 Squadron, A.L.G. 91 in Middle East. Killed in aerial combat 14th January, 1943, at Gheddahia, near Tripoli. Aged 23 years.

IO. JOHN GORDON LEE, R.A.A.F. Only son of Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Lee, of Burwood. Attached to 460 Lancaster Squadron, R.A.F. Killed in raid on Kiel on 4th April, 1943. Aged 21 years.

MAJOR LEONARD WALLACE (PADDY) McGLYNN, A.I.F. Elder son of Mr. and Mrs. McGlynn, formerly of Enfield, and husband of Mrs. C. McGlynn. Served with infantry in New Guinea and as O.C. Tps. on "H.M.T. Kanimbla." Died on 1st February, 1947, of tropical illness contracted while on service. Aged 38 years.

F/O. FABIAN McMASTER, R.A.A.F. Second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McMaster, of Burwood. Served with Anson bombers in S.W.P.A. Killed on 23rd July, 1943, whilst on anti-submarine patrol, off Queensland coast. Aged 29 years.

CPL. NOEL CLIFFORD MARSHALL, R.A.A.F. Eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Marshall, of Strathfield. Served with Catalinas in S.W.P.A. Shot down when returning from patrol over Milne Bay (1943). Aged 27 years.

SGT./OBS. JOHN DRUMMOND MAY, R.A.A.F. Eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. May, of Strathfield. Served with 99 Wellington Squadron, R.A.F. Killed in air operations on 5th January, 1943, at Digri, India. Aged 31 years.

F/SGT. WALLACE HUGH SAMS, R.A.A.F. Youngest son of Mr. P. H. W. Sams and late Mrs. Sams, of Cremorne. Served with 460 Lancaster Squadron, R.A.F. Killed in action on night of 1st June, 1942, in raid on Essen. Aged 24 years.

CPL. HARRY SEARL, A.I.F. Only son of late Mr. W. Searl and Mrs. Searl, late of Croydon. Served in Egypt and Greece with "J" Sec. Sigs., 2/16 Aust. Inf. Bde., 6th Div. Killed in action at Lamia, Greece, on 22nd April, 1941, by same bomb that fatally wounded his dearest friend, Lindsay Dunbar (see above). Aged 26 years.

F/SGT. WILLIAM JUSTIN THEYER, R.A.A.F. Younger son of Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Theyer, of Concord. Served with 406 Heavy Bomber Squadron, R.A.F. Killed in action on 26th April, 1944, in raid on Essen. Aged 21 years.