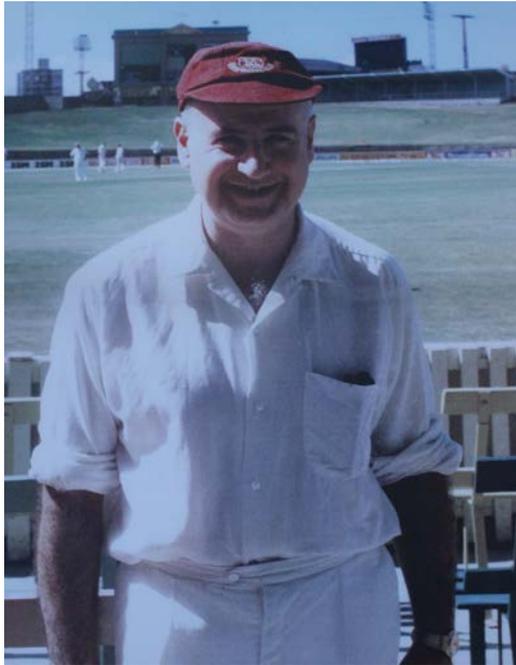


## Edward (Ted) Stockdale



What a privilege it was to know Ted Stockdale.

Ted became the backbone of The Briars Sporting Club in Burwood. He devoted his life to the briars making sure that the ethics of the club were upheld and that the sporting prowess of the teams representing the club were always of the highest order. He spent 27 years straight in the management of the club and directorships, often in rather thankless jobs and of course all on a voluntary basis.

The enormous amount of administrative work ted put into the briars can never be quantified - it is just too large. His love for the club was unrivalled and is still unrivalled to this day.

Ted grew up in the Croydon area and attended Homebush Boys High School, excelling in sprinting, cricket and rugby.

On leaving school he worked at the Whiddon Woollen Mills and then for the rest of his working life worked at his beloved P&O Shipping Company.

Teds long tenure as secretary of the briars meant that every single piece of paperwork was carefully completed correctly and filed methodically so that the club always maintained the important things for the benefit of the members such as making sure that our Liquor Licence was always in order, that the electricity was always paid, that the maintenance was always dealt with and most importantly, that the sporting teams were always registered on time with their various associations and the necessary fees paid. There were many sporting chairmen who had to thank ted for a gentle dig in the ribs to remind them that an important something had to be completed to maintain their standing within their competition.

Ted was the ultimate quiet achiever - things just got done!

Incredibly he also devoted a great deal of time helping run the Sydney Sub District Rugby Union. He was the treasurer from 1954-1957 and secretary from 1958-1963, all of course on a voluntary basis.

Ted was honoured with life membership of the Sydney Sub District Rugby Union in 1970 and has the E.G. Stockdale cup named after him.

There was always a sense of decorum within the clubrooms when ted was there because of the respect that he was given by everyone who met him. If someone perhaps stepped out of line, ted would just gently rebuke that person without fuss and remind them of where they were and what was expected of them. Ted enjoyed seeing young people being involved and maturing and young people also enjoyed ted. He was indeed natures gentleman and never forgot a name and always enquired as to the well being of members' family and friends. He welcomed into the briars

clubrooms all opposition players as if it were their own and everyone of those players made themselves known to ted - they just wanted to meet the man.

Edward George Stockdale joined the briars sporting club in 1945 and was an active supportive member like no other, until his death in 1995 - 50 years of dedication to "the club".

Ted was made a life member of the briars in 1970 and he would be very proud of the briars now with the huge number of junior sports players now involved. Young sportsmen and women was a passion for ted as he believed the environment helped them mature and make friends. How right he was.

As stated at the beginning of this piece there are many who would say -

What a privilege it was to know Ted Stockdale.

*Written by Craig Hickey*