

ATHLETICS CARNIVALS

In the early years of the club the boys held annual Athletics days, these grew over the years and with the help of family became quite well organised and well attended events. As the team sports of Cricket and Rugby were pursued, these carnivals stopped and were only revisited on anniversary years.

5th Annual Athletics Carnival

The Fifth Annual sports meeting was held on Saturday, 8th September 1923, again we can refer to our press write-up as an adequate description of the function: -

"The Briars Sporting Club held its fifth annual sports under delightful weather conditions last Saturday at Burwood. There were several hundred spectators, amongst whom was a fair sprinkling of the fairer sex. The events were keenly contested with several exciting finishes.

The function was admirably arranged and the secretary and committee responsible are to be complimented upon the organisation for the function was never dull.



Afternoon tea was prepared by a committee of ladies, consisting of Mesdames Whiddon, Siddeley, Dempset and Watson assisted by Misses Norma Bull, Helen Whiddon, Joyce Siddeley and McMillan.

Following were the officials present Messers, H. Whiddon, President; E. Love, E. Siddeley and R. Clark. Vice Presidents; A. Patricks, R A Travers, Judges; A. Lewis, R. Ross, W Watson and E Williams, Steward; J. Hunt, Starter.

Murray put up a series of fine performances, winning the 220 Open, the 100 yards Open and the 90 yards hurdle races. Stone also did well, winning the broad jump, and running second in the In

100 yards open, the 440 yards Open and the hurdles. Travers suffered from heavy handicaps and although the 440 open and the football kick off fell to him, he was 3rd in the 220 open and the W.S.D.R.F.U. 100 yards handicap. The high jump was abandoned owing to an unfortunate accident to K. Booty who suffered b injury to the arm while jumping."



This was our last sports meeting mainly for the reason that the demands of other sports indulged in precluded a number of members from giving their whole-hearted support with the result that all the organisation and actual participation fell on the shoulders of a comparative few.

Manly Skill and Ready Courage 1938

75th Anniversary Athletics Carnival

When the club was first founded in 1918, it became famous in the Western Suburbs for its athletics carnivals. Although athletics has not figured in the club's recent history, a special carnival to mark the 75th anniversary seemed fitting. In the early hours of Sunday, March 7, it appeared as though someone in the club had killed an entire busload of Chinamen as heavy rain fell and grey clouds hung over Sydney. However, the deluge did not affect the field and the day progressively fined up. The Col "Hockey" Jones 6km road race got underway in drizzle but was completed in fine conditions which prevailed for the rest of the day.



Sprint and middle-distance races were completed before attention was directed to the inter sports tug o' war conducted, somewhat appropriately, "behind the shed".

Kenny Kable's south sea island recruiting campaign produced a rather awesome team for the Squashies, however, they were out-tugged by Rugby in the semi.

The grand final saw Golden Oldies prevail over Rugby which vindicates the weight training program followed by the GOs. Sometime during the morning Ray Tuffin completed the 6km road race and maintained that he had lost his way.



The little kids had a great time in the sack races before the big kids got into the "Back to Briars" sports challenge involving cricket bat throwing, shot putting and a football passing contest, followed by an egg breaking event.

Spectators were entertained by flying cricket bats overhead and the unorthodox styles used in the shot-put.

Harry Jamieson was the only competitor to adopt the classic shot-put technique, but his throw did not do justice to his style.

After lunch, the 100m sprint finals and relays were held, with cricketers doing very well considering that they are more adapted to a quick dash the length of a cricket pitch.

The Squashies, who usually shuffle sideways and run around in circles, also surprised the crowd with their running skills.

At the close of events, a presentation ceremony was held with medals, plaques and trophies presented to the worthy winners.

Special thanks went to John Threlfo and Ted Callaghan for the general organisation; Doug Carloss, of Trinity Grammar, for his expertise and equipment; Craig Sandwell and John Staniforth, official starter and marshal; Ian "Beast" Richards, the voice of the Briars; Larry and Di Thompson, Len Hollis, Steve Hansen and family - the Canteen crew; Don Flynn, gear sales; Ray Pontifex, trophies and engraving, and lastly, thanks to the spectators. We hope you all enjoyed yourselves.



The results for the Athletics Carnival were as follows:

Col "Hockey" Jones 6km road race: 1 P. Brennan, 2 D. Simpson, 3N. Alvaro.

David Walker U/16 800m: 1 K. Simpson, 2 N. Alvaro, 3 P. Agius.

Bill McLaughlin 1500m:

U /20, D. Simpson 1,

20-30 years, P. Brennan 1, P. Jones 2, M. Nobes 3,

31-40 years, T. Oeary 1,

Over 40, K. Kable 1, L. Thompson 2, P. Grant 3.

Bruce Trevenar 'Tug 'O War: 1 Golden Oldies, 2 Rugby, 3 Squash.

Past Presidents "Back to Briars" Sports Challenge: 1 Rugby, 2 Squash, 3 Golden Oldies.

Bob Clark Trophy 100m:

U/13, K. Simpson 1, H. Liu Patty 2, P. Agius 3

,U/16, D. Cook 1, L. Rimes 2, U/20, M. Bussuttil 1, P. Yappas 2, D. Stephenson and J. Hakko 3,

20-30 years, G. Price 1, J. Majarres 2, C. Slapp 3,

31-40 years, J. Price 1, T. Worner 2, S. Kovacs 3,

Over 40, J. Randle 1, L. Thompson 2, K. Kable 3.

Open Ladies: 1 K. Simpson, 2 M. Young, 3 K. Pearce.

Schools Invitation: 1 M. Bussuttil, 2 P. Yappas, 3 D. Cook.

Open Invitation: 1 D. Cook, 2 M. Bussuttil, 3 G. Price.

Fred Lucas Trophy 400m:

U/16, K. Simpson 1, S. Heggarty 2, H. Liu Patty 3, U /20, D. Stephenson 1, N. Alvaro 2, Open, P. Brennan 1, C. Slapp 2, and P. Jones 3.

Harvey Ford Trophy, Schools 4x100m relay: 1 Rosebank College, 2 Trinity Grammar.

Doug Staniforth Plaque, Briars Sports 4x100 Relay: 1 Cricket, 2 Squash, 3, Rugby.

Ted Stockdale Plaque for Winning Briars Sports Overall: 1 Rugby, 2 Golden Oldies, 3 Squash.

Briars Annual Report 1993



Greg McPhee - April 2018