

THE BRIARS SPORTING CLUB



Fourteenth
**Annual Report
and Treasurer's
Statement of Accounts**

YEAR 1931/1932

*Presented at the Masonic Hall, Croydon
on Tuesday, 16th August, 1932.*

The Briars Sporting Club

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE BEARERS:

President:

E. J. Siddeley, Esq.

Vice-Presidents:

T. H. Bosward, Esq.
G. Bourne, Esq.
J. Cousins, Esq.
W. C. Fisher, Esq.
R. G. Herford, Esq.
F. W. Hulls, Esq.
J. E. Holmes, Esq.
J. D. Hunt, Esq.

E. W. Love, Esq.
R. W. May, Esq.
J. O. Meeks, Esq.
J. McGregor, Esq.
A. N. Pattrick, Esq.
A. Rose, Esq.
J. H. Stone, Esq.
Dr. R. W. Walsh
H. W. Whiddon, Esq.

Hon. Secretary:

R. B. Clark.

Hon. Treasurer:

P. C. Murray.

Hon. Auditors:

N. A. Pardoe, Esq., A.I.I.A., A.I.C.A.
J. H. Stone, Esq., A.I.C.A., A.A.I.S.

General Committee:

G. H. Arthur
M. R. Blair

A. C. Higgs
H. G. Whiddon.

Club Room Stewards:

H. G. Whiddon, Senior Steward.

W. Dyer
C. N. Daly
P. Fischer
H. R. Haigh
A. W. Hulls

G. Johns
R. McAnally
F. Mitchell
M. Mitchell
W. Stephens

PAST PRESIDENTS

J. H. STONE, Esq. — — — — —	(1918-1919)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1919-1920)
J. O. MEEKS, Esq. — — — — —	(1920-1921)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1921-1922)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1922-1923)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1923-1924)
E. J. SIDDELEY, Esq. — — — — —	(1924-1925)
E. LOVE, Esq. — — — — —	(1925-1926)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1926-1927)
H. W. WHIDDON, Esq. — — — — —	(1927-1928)
E. J. SIDDELEY, Esq. — — — — —	(1928-1929)
R. W. MAY, Esq. — — — — —	(1929-1930)
R. W. MAY, Esq. — — — — —	(1930-1931)
E. J. SIDDELEY, Esq. — — — — —	(1931-1932)



Fourteenth Annual Report of Committee and Hon. Treasurer's Statement.

Gentlemen,

The Fourteenth Annual Report and Hon. Treasurer's Statement presented herewith cover a period of very satisfactory progress.

In a Club such as ours, considerable attention must needs be devoted to the provision of suitable entertainment for members, quite apart from their Cricket and Football, and this year more than the usual number of innovations have been introduced—most of them with so much success that they will be made annual fixtures.

A big step forward was made when negotiations were finalised with Concord Council for the laying by the Club of a turf wicket outside St. Luke's Oval. The agreement provides for a lease of one cricket and two football fields for a period of three years on satisfactory terms.

The provision of this wicket will be of great benefit to members, for it is proposed to enter a team in the Municipal & Shires Competition controlled by the N.S.W. Cricket Association, and the experience gained will be of considerable assistance to anyone who desires to graduate to grade cricket.

We are greatly indebted to Messrs. H. Heydon and G. Garnsey of the N.S.W. C.A., for their advice during the laying of the wicket.

In other directions, too, we can view our activities with pleasure. The membership is still increasing; a competition has come our way after a lapse of many years; our social functions have been very successful; and we have quite a satisfactory balance to show, notwithstanding that a considerable amount in dues is still outstanding.

There is one aspect, however, that is causing some concern—and it is one of paramount importance. We refer to the marked decline in interest displayed by members. This has been noticeable in both of our sporting activities—Cricket and Football—particularly the latter, and at the Club Rooms, too. It has been said that the unsettled times we have been passing through have brought this about, but, while they may have contributed, the underlying cause is not so easily found. The relationship existing between members is of the best, the various teams fielded have all met with a fair measure of success, and the entertainment provided has been plentiful and varied; yet we have seen too little of that community spirit, which was a strong feature of our earlier club life and is so essential to its continued progress.

In an endeavour to bring members in still closer touch with each other at more frequent intervals, plans are under way for the enlarging of our activities in the Club Rooms, the most important of which are the formation of a Debating Club and the institution of monthly lectures on interesting subjects. We are hopeful that members will take a keen interest in these projects.

The membership has increased by 15 during the year to 112, 18 new members being received and three having left us. The interest taken by the majority of the new lads has been disappointing so far, but we anticipate that they will all be "bucking in" before long.

It might be mentioned here that we have an evergrowing number of members who have ceased to take part in sport, and the percentage, in relation to the active ones, is becoming too large. This may be better understood when it is shown that, with our present membership, it is barely possible to field two football teams—30 players—at the present time.

The only way it appears that this may be overcome is to re-establish our former connection with the schools, and although this may mean some form of advertisement at the outset, it seems to be the only way to prevent the Club developing into a social institution before very many years have passed.

There is room for a large number of boys who are still at or have just left school.

CLUB ROOMS.

Generally speaking, the interest taken at the Club Rooms has been disappointing, and the remarks in our reports of the past two years "that less than one-third of the members are regular attendants" still applies.

The Rooms have been conducted at a loss, but we must be prepared to bear this, as it is a reasonable charge against the undoubted benefits derived from their presence. However, the loss must be kept within reason by the members making fuller use of the advantages there.

Committee has confidence that this aspect will be recognised, and so are making arrangements for a renewal of lease of the premises for a further term of two years.

During the period under review, plenty of entertainment was provided.

The monthly Progressive Bridge Evenings proved popular and an average of 7 tables was maintained.

The regular "40 up" Billiard Tournaments have met with approval, and always sufficient entries were received to keep both tables fully occupied. The handicappers helped to make the games interesting and usually managed to provide a different winner for each tournament.

A "100 up" Handicap event attracted 37 entries, and after many close games the winner proved to be I. Macready, who played G. Whiddon in the final.

A team of eight players visited Burwood School of Arts for a match and performed quite well, only going down by one game. In the return match, played at our Rooms, the result was a draw, each team winning six games.

We thank the members of the School of Arts for their kindness to us, and hope there will be a repetition of the matches this year.

Two Ping Pong Handicaps were popular. An enthusiastic junior committee roped in 58 players for the first event and the games attracted a good deal of attention and much excitement.

The winners were G. Johns and A. Dent.

A special night just prior to Christmas brought together more than 60 members for Bridge, followed by supper and community singing. It was a great night.

The library has been well utilised, as usual, regardless of the fact that few new volumes were added—33 only. This year more money will be allotted for this purpose. 2178 books were issued during the period. It has occurred to us that there may be some parents or friends of members who have suitable reading matter lying discarded at home, and we would be grateful for any contributions.

We occasionally had the pleasure of a visit from some of the Fathers of members; but these were all too rare, and with the view to encouraging their interest in our activities it is proposed to have a special "Fathers' Night" once a quarter. We hope this move will meet with support.

The Stewards have carried out their duties in a very satisfactory manner, and thanks are due to them for their efforts throughout the year in providing for the welfare of members, and generally looking after the Club's interests at the Rooms.

Since our last Report, it has been found possible to repay the balance of £30 owing on the second Billiard Table, and the Rooms are now free of debt.

FOOTBALL.

At this time last year, we reported pretty fully on the doings of our football teams during the 1931 season. It will suffice here to set down the records of the teams:—

		Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Points		Position.
						For.	Against.	
Kentwell Cup	— — —	15	10	—	5	202	119	2nd
Bourke Cup	— — —	14	4	2	8	21	151	5th

This season opened in a happier tone through complete harmony being re-established with the District Club.

Quite a number of our last year's Kentwell Cup team took advantage of the invitation to play grade football and many of them—notably, Arthur, Brownhill, Cox, Glasgow, Rossell and Wines—have performed wonderfully well in First Grade.

Rossell was selected to play with a Metropolitan team against the Navy, but injuries, unfortunately, prevented his appearance.

The loss of so many prominent players at the one time was felt very severely, but with four of last year's senior team to build on, we had hopes of doing well in a lower grade.

Two teams were again entered in the sub-district competition controlled by the N.S.W. Rugby Union—one in Bourke Cup and the other in Bourke Cup Reserve Grade.

Training was carried out once again on St. Luke's Oval, and the new lighting system was found to be very effective, but members never took full advantage of their good fortune.

The Firsts have had varied success, but their record would have been a lot more imposing had greater attention been paid to training and more keenness generally shown.

So far, they have played 9 matches, winning 2, drawing 1, and losing 6.

The Seconds, too, are not altogether as keen as they should be, and they can owe their lowly position in the competition table to poor condition, rather than to poor material. Of 10 matches played, this team has won 4, and lost 6.

We are very grateful once again to Messrs. Cousins and Houslar for the plentiful supply of oranges that always make their welcome appearance at half-time.

Mr. Jim Mortimer intended to look after the teams this year, but pressure of work during the few months prior to his retirement a few weeks ago gave him little opportunity to attend practice regularly, and his coaching was missed. We take this opportunity to wish him very many happy years of idleness.

A fixture looked forward to was the match against Royal Military College, when our old Kentwell Cup team re-formed to supply the opposition. It was a very enjoyable game, as expected, and we are grateful to the College Authorities for making the game possible; to the Sydney Grammar School for placing a ground at our disposal and to the Referee, Mr. C. Pike.

Another pleasant fixture was the visit to Hawkesbury College when the Firsts met the College Second team. We appreciate the kindnesses extended to us there.

Recently, the Seconds met a team composed of members who had retired from the sport. Nearly sufficient "Veterans" for two teams took part—some playing in each half—and enjoyed themselves immensely at the expense of the young fellows. After the game, both teams had dinner together, followed by the theatre.

The Briars Sporting Club

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1932.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.					
		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Balance, 1/7/'31		85	3	0	By Annual Meeting		17	4	6
„ Annual Subscriptions		118	0	9	„ Cricket		105	9	2
„ Cricket Fees		18	18	6	„ Football		39	11	9
„ Football Fees		10	0	6	„ Dances		130	1	7
„ Dances		193	4	0	„ Stationery and Stamps		6	15	4
„ Donations		5	10	3	„ Billiards		37	11	5
„ Billiards		47	14	8	„ Cards		3	18	0
„ Cards		27	8	4	„ Library		5	6	8
„ Cigarettes		90	4	3	„ Cigarettes		72	17	1
„ Library		5	2	3	„ Repairs and Maintenance		5	15	2
„ Dramatic Society		11	0	7	„ Cleaning		14	1	3
				612 7 1	„ Rent		87	7	0
„ SUNDRIES—					„ Gas and Electricity		7	10	1
Football Uniforms		18	7	2	„ Insurance		3	9	3
Loans		30	0	0					536 18 3
Tournaments and Presentations		3	5	0	„ ASSETS PURCHASED—				
Blazers		53	0	7	Furniture and Fixtures		4	18	8
Interest		4	1	10	Crockery		2	10	0
				108 14 7					7 8 8
					„ SUNDRIES—				
					Football Uniforms		19	10	8
					Tournaments and Presentations		4	11	3
					Blazers		94	19	2
					Bank Charges		15	0	
									119 16 1
					„ BALANCE, Commonwealth Bank of				
					Australia		70	19	8
					Less Outstanding Cheques		14	1	0
									56 18 8
									£721 1 8

The written-down value of the Club's Assets as at 30th June, 1932 (including Blazers), was £292/11/8. There was a liability for Money Loaned of £30.

£721 1 8

We have compared the foregoing Statement of Receipts and Payments with the Books of Account and Vouchers of "The Briars' Sporting Club" and hereby certify that it is in accordance therewith.

N. A. PARDOE, A.I.A., A.I.C.A.

JNO. H. STONE, A.I.C.A., A.A.I.S.

P. C. MURRAY, Hon. Treasurer.

This event might well be made an annual fixture, if only for the good feeling it creates.

Mal Blair and Den Love were again prominent in big football, the former touring Queensland with the State team, where he was most unfortunate to meet with an injury that put him out of the game for the season.

Den, however, kept our flag flying by gaining selection in the Australian team and played in the three tests against the "All Blacks."

Congratulations to them both.

CRICKET.

Three teams were again fielded—one in Second Grade and two in Third Grade of the competition controlled by the W.S. Junior Cricket Association.

The Firsts fielded quite a fair team and finished the season in third position.

K. Burnett stood out as a batsman above the ordinary, for not only did his aggregate of 721 runs better the Club record, but it was greater than the combined efforts during the season of the next two players. He scored the lone century. Ken also distinguished himself in the field, and when called upon to bowl towards the close of the season revealed hidden skill in this direction, too.

Mr. J. McGregor's services as scorer were again freely given, and we thank him.

The team played 14 matches, winning 10 and losing 4.

The Seconds, with first choice on the remaining talent, were expected to better their performance of the previous season when they went down narrowly in the Final, but an unexpected weakness in the shape of poor team spirit on the part of two or three of the players had its effect, and the team finished up in third position with 10 wins, 1 drawn game, and 3 losses.

N. Fisher was wonderfully consistent throughout with the bat, and W. Dyer was rewarded for his never flagging keenness by bagging 68 wickets—a Club record.

We now come to the Third Team, who set a fine example of what can be done by team work allied with a keenness that was good to see. First under L. McMillan as captain, and when that player went to the country for a period, with A. Higgs as skipper, they developed into a combination of considerable strength and earned the right to contest the Final by suffering only two defeats in their division, one of which was on a protest over a technical point.

This gave them plenty of confidence for the all important game against stiff opponents in Concord West, and their ultimate victory by one run was well merited and a fitting reward for their enthusiasm throughout the season. Congratulations, Thirds!

Members of the team were:—A. Higgs (Captain), B. Bain, C. Barrett, C. Cameron, M. Fenton, H. Haigh, Arthur Hulls, D. Johns, G. Johns, W. Matthews, I. Macready, L. McMillan, L. Robinson and A. Travers.

C. Cameron was the outstanding batsman and aggregated 588 runs, including one century. Centuries were also scored by A. Higgs and I. Macready.

The bowling honours were shared by M. Fenton, D. and G. Johns, A. Travers and C. Cameron. Special mention must be made of M. Fenton's wonderful performance in the final, when he took 13 wickets for 73 runs.

Hereunder is given the leading batting and bowling averages of the three teams:—

BATTING.

	Innings.	N.O.	Runs.	Average.
1st XI.:—				
K. Burnett	23	1	721	32.7
K. Jenkyn	13	1	237	19.7
F. Mitchell	22	1	404	19.2
2nd XI.:—				
N. Fisher	19	5	351	25.0
W. Evitt	16	3	289	23.2
W. Stephens	16	5	212	19.3
3rd XI.:—				
C. Cameron	21	4	603	35.4
M. Fenton	21	2	390	20.5
D. Johns	16	—	287	17.9

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
1st XI.:—				
K. Booty	43	149	17	8.7
R. Clark	146	446	46	9.6
G. Arthur	123	387	38	10.1
2nd XI.:—				
A. Rose	39	153	22	6.8
W. Dyer	171	576	68	8.5
N. Pardoe	113	366	43	8.5
3rd XI.:—				
M. Fenton	146	476	48	9.9
C. Cameron	119	344	33	10.4
D. Johns	108	334	28	11.9

We learn that N. Pardoe's performance of 58 wickets at an average of 5.5 in the 1929/1930 season is an Association record for Third Grade. Congratulations, Norman!

A very enjoyable match was played by the 1st XI. again Royal Military College on Newington Oval, at the conclusion of the season, and we look forward to a repetition this year.

Another pleasant game was the picnic match played at Canley Vale against W.S. Football Club, and we hope this will become an annual fixture.

Canley Vale was also the venue for a match against a team arranged by E. Siddeley, but, unfortunately, rain took a hand in this contest and stopped proceedings very early.

The arrangements made for practice matches at this spot prior to the commencement of the season, have met with favour and members have the opportunity of getting into form and enjoying the picnic atmosphere at the same time.

GOLF.

A considerable number of members have taken to golf and to fulfil their wants a little, two tournaments were conducted during the year at St. Andrew's Course, Blacktown. The first was held in October last year and attracted 28 entries. The events were: Four Ball—Best Ball against Par, and a Handicap and Championship played over 36 holes. The winners were G. Johns, D. Page and N. Fisher, respectively.

The second tournament took place in May last with 32 entrants. The events this time were: Four Ball—Best Ball, Foursomes and a Pairs Championship, and the respective winners were H. Haigh and A. Higgs, and C. Bayley and W. Wyllie, the latter pair winning the double.

We were pleased to have the Fathers represented by Messrs. C. Daly, W. Fisher, A. Lee and R. May.

SOCIAL.

Our three dances during the period were well up to standard and each met with splendid support. These events not only play a large part in our social life, but enable the Club to carry on financially, and it is gratifying to feel that they are so popular. May they continue to be ever thus

A new departure was made for the dance held last month, when the event took place in town at Hordern Brothers, and proved entirely successful. This was largely due to the work of a very capable ladies' committee formed during the year, and that they were able to double the average attendance at our Croydon functions was entirely due to their efforts, and was a fine achievement. More than 430 were present.

This same committee was also responsible for providing a very enjoyable Leap Year dance at "Del Monte," Strathfield, on 29th February, to which more than 50 members were invited, and there were no refusals recorded.

And in June last Mrs. Whiddon generously placed her home at the Club's disposal for a Bridge Evening and Dance, and this event, too, was looked after by the girls. Just on 100 were present, notwithstanding a very wet night, and had a fine time until well after 1 o'clock.

An effort rated high among the successes was a play produced by Club members, assisted by lady friends and under the capable direction of Major L. Taylor, to whom we are very much indebted for his tremendous enthusiasm and tireless energy while guiding the principals through their rehearsals and afterwards during the play. Mr. and Mrs. Daly also cannot be thanked too much for being so kind as to place their home at our convenience for the practices.

Those who took part were the Misses Jean Bond, Molly Daly and Mildred Marcer, and Messrs. G. Arthur, A. Bain, C. Daly, A. Higgs and G. Johns. C. Daly was also responsible, mainly, for the production.

Fully 300 parents and friends were crammed into Burwood School of Arts, and that they remained to the end was a tribute to the excellence of the performance. It was really tip-top and we hope it will not be long before we have another one.

Incidentally Club funds benefited very considerably from the enterprise.

In June last, a dinner was held for the threefold purpose of celebrating the Third Eleven's success, farewelling George Arthur on the eve of his departure for Melbourne, and providing a finale for the reunion of the Kentwell Cup team. Fifty-four were present, including our President, Mr. Siddeley, and Messrs. May and Whiddon, and a happy evening was spent by all.

Mr. May handed a travelling rug to George Arthur, with the members' good wishes, and Mr. Siddeley presented Mervyn Fenton with the ball with which he performed so well in the Cricket final.

CONGRATULATIONS.

We offer our congratulations to the District Cricket Club on the success of its Second Team in winning the premiership last season, and to the District Football Club, whose Third Team succeeded in winning the premiership of their grade.

It is pleasing to record the marriages of W. Evitt and M. Hill (the latter to a sister of W. Stephens), and we wish them every happiness.

OBITUARY.

We regret to report the deaths of Mrs. A. Robinson, Mr. S. Matthews, and Mr. W. B. Godfrey. Our sympathy is extended to L. Robinson, W. Matthews and S. Godfrey and to their families.

COMMITTEE.

Committee met on 14 occasions during the twelve months, and, we believe, conscientiously carried out their duties.

The attendances were as follows:—G. Arthur 12, M. Blair 10 (on leave), R. Clark 13, A. Higgs 14, P. Murray 13, G. Whiddon 14.

George Arthur's departure to accept an Air Force appointment in Victoria, has left a vacancy on the Committee that will be hard to fill. He was always a loyal and willing worker in the interests of the Club, and we can ill afford to lose him. He takes with him the grateful thanks and best wishes of all the members.

Once again P. Murray has expressed a desire to be relieved of the position of Treasurer, but it appears that there is no one prepared to step into his shoes. He has been assisted materially during the year by H. Haigh, to whom we owe our thanks, but the reticence of members to come forward and offer themselves for the various administrative positions is to be deplored, and one might ask what is to become of the Club when the present Officers who carry on year after year, are unable to continue with the work. Members must realise that they owe a duty to the Club to accept some of the responsibilities of management if called upon.

We were fortunate that Vice-President Mr. R. G. Herford was able to take a seat on the Committee this year, and his presence and keen interest in our welfare have been of material assistance.

Your President, Mr. E. J. Siddeley, and Vice-Presidents Messrs. J. E. Holmes, R. W. May and H. W. Whiddon, have once again devoted a lot of time to our interests, and we are very lucky to have their services.

Messrs. N. A. Pardoe and J. H. Stone have carried out the auditing of the books this year, which task has taken considerable time, and our thanks are due to these members for kindness.

In conclusion, we desire to thank the following ladies for their various kindnesses during the year:—

Mesdames G. Arthur, C. Higgs, A. Haigh, R. May, G. Murray, J. McGregor, E. Perrin, A. Rossell, E. Siddeley, H. Whiddon.

And the Ladies' Committee, which comprised the following:—The Misses P. Arthur, B. Bain, H. Bailey, O. Dinning, B. Durham, M. Fischer, J. Horsfield, P. Kennedy, J. Lucas, D. May, A. McGregor, P. Pring and M. Thompson, is due for special mention for its efforts on the Club's behalf.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

E. J. SIDDELEY, President.

R. B. CLARK, Hon. Secretary.

ADDENDUM. It is my wish to place on record my appreciation of the work performed throughout the year by R. B. Clark, Hon. Secretary, P. C. Murray, Hon. Treasurer, and Members of the Committee.

E. J. SIDDELEY, President.



F. W. DURANT
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82 PITT ST., SYDNEY

