

**THE  
WOOLLAHRA  
COLLEAGUES  
RUGBY  
UNION  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
1959**

COLLEAGUES 1959

PATRON	Alderman W.F.A. Harvey
VICE-PRESIDENTS	H.H. Barraclough Esq. J.T. Bennett Esq. J. Lamens Esq. D.Z. Matthews Esq. D. McCathie Esq. A. Morton Esq. Dr. Warden D.V. Wiltshire Esq.
CHAIRMAN OF CLUB	K. McLean Esq.
CLUB CAPTAIN	L.J. Barraclough Esq.
HON. SECRETARY	W.A. Bennett Esq.
ASSISTANT HON. SECRETARY	E. Schedvin Esq.
HON. TREASURER	D. McCathie Esq.
ASSISTANT HON. TREASURER	P. Isherwood Esq.
HON. AUDITOR	E. Pizzey
REGISTRAR	H. Bennett Esq.
DELEGATE TO SUB. DISTRICT RUGBY UNION	D. Grose
<u>MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE</u>	J. Corlis, D. Grose, D. Heath, J. Herman, H. Lamens, R. Martyr, W. Sheehan, F. Storch, G. McGrath
CAPTAIN OF KENTWELL CUP	W. Sheehan Esq.
CAPTAIN OF BURKE CUP	R. Martyr Esq.
CAPTAIN OF WHIDDON A CUP	G. McGrath Esq.
CAPTAIN OF WHIDDON B CUP	J. Corlis Esq.

REPORT BY CLUB CAPTAIN

1959 was a year of great achievement for the Colleagues and one of the most successful in the history of the Club.

We again won the Club Championship making it the fifth year in succession and our victories in the Kentwell and Whiddon Cup competitions showed the strong playing standard of the Club, together with the fact that our Burke Cup team was also narrowly defeated in the Grand Final.

The visit by two of our teams to Brisbane proved a huge success and it is very interesting to note that the Colleagues are the first Sydney Club to travel to Queensland (a truly rugged State!) for a series of matches. Our hosts, Southern Districts Rugby Club, went to a tremendous amount of work to make our stay enjoyable and the tourists voted it the best week-end ever!!! We look forward to having Souths visit us this year.

We were again fortunate to have our excellent Clubhouse and our sincere thanks to Woollahra Council for leasing the building and ground to us. We look forward to the day when we have a yearly lease. The roster system was not entirely a success because many members did not carry out their duties. I would point out that it is the duty of a club-member to assist in the running of his Club.

The standard of play in 1959 was very good and all five teams concentrated on playing fast open football. I would again point out that rugby is a game of running and passing the ball and emphasise that it is a player's duty to get fit and attend training regularly and by doing this he should reap great enjoyment from the matches.

Fielding five teams took a great deal of hard work and organisation. My personal thanks to all coaches and selectors, captains and committee members for their efforts. The coaches, Dudley Grose, John Sprouster, George Osborne and John Corlis are to be congratulated on the excellent records of their respective teams.

I should like to thank our energetic Chairman Ken McLean and all committee members for their untiring efforts in the management of the club, especially Bill Bennett in his first year as Secretary.

I believe 1960 will be the greatest year in the history of the Club and I can assure you that plans are already being laid for additional Clubhouse accommodation and more practice lights and improvements in the playing area so that we can field the six teams which will make us the largest senior Rugby Union Football Club in Australia.

JOHN BARRACLOUGH.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY SECRETARY - 1959

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in presenting this report on behalf of the General Committee.

1959 has been a year of great achievement for the Colleagues. We won the Club Championship for the fifth consecutive year, regained the Kentwell Cup and won the Whiddon Cup for the first time in the history of the Club. The Burke Cup team were runners up and the Whiddon B team had a most successful season to finish third in their division.

Our congratulations to North Cronulla S.L.S.C. who defeated our Burke team to win the Cup at their first attempt.

The standard of play within the Colleagues Club was much improved. This year we saw many new faces and competition for places in the teams was very keen. The Kentwell Cup was keenly contested and saw the entry of a new team, Bronte, into the competition. The standard of play in the Burke and Whiddon Cups was the highest for many years and it is hoped that more new teams will enter all three competitions next season. Congratulations are extended to the University of Sydney Football Club for fielding a team in the Burke Cup competition.

We again fielded five teams on numerous Saturdays and it is hoped that we can field six teams in the competition in the coming season.

Kentwell Cup Team

Dudley Grose who had coached the Burke Cup to Premiership honours in the two previous seasons, was appointed coach of the Kentwell Cup team and under his enthusiastic guidance the team regained the Kentwell Cup from Western Suburbs. The team improved steadily throughout the year and had very convincing wins in the Semi Final and Grand Final. Bill Sheehan captained the team and was an inspiration at all times. He finished the Season with the remarkable tally of 117 points from 13 matches. Henry Bennett, Vice-Captain and leader of a very solid forward pack, was awarded the Jackson Trophy for the Best and Fairest player.

Burke Cup Team

The Burke Cup team had a most successful season to finish runners up to North Cronulla. John Sprouster met with great success in his first season as a coach. His enthusiasm, both on the sideline and on the occasions when he "donned the boots", helped mould a very strong combination and we hope he enjoyed his first season as a coach as much as the members of the team appreciated his efforts. Bob Martyr led the team throughout the season and his vigorous play was an example to all. Andy Harris was the Best and Fairest player.

### Whiddon Cup Team

The Whiddon Cup team were Premiers and this was the first time that the Club has won this competition. George Osborne, having his first season as a coach, and Gordon McGrath, as Captain, must be congratulated for guiding the team through to premiership honours. The team was composed mainly of young members and was strengthened in the final rounds by a few "old hands". No one will forget their second half effort in the grand final when they held out an older and more experienced Mosman team to score a narrow win.

### Whiddon "B" Cup Team

The Whiddon "B" team had a successful season and only failed by one point to qualify for the semi-finals and during the season defeated Whiddon "A" team by 9-5 and won 9 of their 13 matches. John Corlis very ably led and coached the team. The team was comprised of "old hands" and "new faces" and team spirit was excellent. Many of the members made their way into higher teams during the season and acquitted themselves ably.

### In Memoriam

It is with sorrow that I report the death of Mr. Victor Herman, a Vice-Chairman of the Club and father of a past Captain of the Club - John Herman. Mr. Herman was a great supporter of the Colleagues both on the sideline and at all social functions. We extend our deepest sympathy to John and his family. He will be remembered with affection by all Colleagues.

It is with sorrow that we report the tragic death of Peter Hicks accidentally killed early in the year.

### Coaches

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the four coaches - Dudley Grose, John Sprouster, George Osborne and John Corlis - for the service they rendered during the year. I know every Colleague joins with me in paying tribute to them. They give up a great deal of time in their efforts to get a team on the field that will do justice to the Colleagues and I think that it is up to every player to make their task easier by making a determined effort to become, and remain, physically fit, and to attend practice regularly.

Coaching is not a thankless task and a Club can never have too many coaches. I appeal to all players who are retiring from active football to consider offering themselves as coaches. Try to put something back into the game from which you have derived so much pleasure.

### Social Activities

This year social events were most noteworthy. The Annual Dinner was held this year at the New Commodore and was a most successful night. We had many distinguished guests and very interesting and entertaining addresses were given by Alan Roper, Nick Shehadie and our own dynamic after dinner speaker "Barry" Barraclough.

The Annual Dance was held at the White City at the end of the Season. This was not as successful as the previous dances and the attendance was disappointing. This dance is run for the benefit of members and we do ask for your firm support.

The Annual Smoko was held early in the "Off-season" and was an outstanding success. A strong contingent of our old friends from Western Suburbs were present and scores not settled on the football field were settled with the "glass" in true Colleagues tradition. On behalf of the Colleagues I extend our thanks to those parents of players who so kindly donated the liquid refreshment.

That interesting social event - the Barbecue on Shark Island - was very successfully revived after an absence of two years.

The evenings in the Clubhouse after Home matches were always highly successful. These evenings have become traditional in the Colleagues and the response by members, opponents and friends is growing so rapidly that we must consider extensions to the Clubhouse to accommodate our guests. Thanks are extended to our Club Captain, John Barraclough, for acting as Master of Ceremonies on these occasions.

Several informal dances were held in the Clubhouse on Saturday nights and these proved extremely popular.

### Brisbane Trip

This year the Colleagues made a trip to Brisbane on the Queen's Birthday Week-end as guests of the Southern Districts Rugby Union Football Club. A party of 36 players and ten officials made the trip by plane and car. We played Southern Districts in two grades on the Saturday and the Monday. Each team had one win and one loss, but our superior skill in disposing of the Bulimba at the Barbecue on the Sunday enabled us to win the "Bruce Hudson" trophy.

This trip was a great achievement for the Club. All members paid their own way and the organisation was faultless. All members enjoyed themselves so much that we feel that the response for our return trip in two years time will be overwhelming.

#### Club House

We are once again indebted to Woollahra Council for making the Clubhouse and Grounds available to us for the season. We feel that these facilities have contributed greatly to the success of the Club during the past season. Our special thanks to the Council Engineer and the Twon Clerk for their help and co-operation during the year.

#### Patron and Vice-Presidents

We thank Alderman W.F.A. Harvey for being our Patron this year. Messrs. H.H. Barraclough, K. McCathie, D.Z. Matthews, J.T. Bennett, Dr. Warden, D.V. Wiltshire, S. Morton and the late Mr. V. Herman for having accepted the position of Vice-Presidents for the year and we we thank them for the interest and help they have shown.

The Club wishes to thank all those parents and friends who have followed the Colleagues this season and shown keen interest in our activities. We feel that your presence adds much to the "atmosphere" at the Colleagues.

#### General Committee

The Colleagues is now a very large Club and the work required for organisation and administration has reached a very high level. The Committee is to be congratulated on its accomplishments for the season and I offer my thanks to all members of the committee.

However, their task could have been made a lot easier if all members would "buck in" and share some of the load. Attendance on duty rosters has improved but still leaves a lot to be desired. Hans Lamens as House Manager is to be congratulated for an excellent job in the latter part of the season. The House Manager must have your support as a member during the coming year.

#### Member's Subscriptions

Owing to the rising cost of administration and the need of finance to carry out Clubhouse improvements, the Committee recommends that the annual subscription for all members be increased by 10/-. This will be the first increase in subscriptions for five years and is fully justified by the various rises in postage, stationery and other expenses necessary to the running of the Club. Our Subscription Fee is still one of the cheapest amongst Metropolitan Clubs.

#### Injured Players Fund

This year we were unfortunate to have one serious injury. The Injured Players Fund assisted players where possible. I feel that Club Members should understand their position regarding the I.P.F. It is to be clearly understood that every player plays Rugby at his own risk and the Committee recommends that every player belongs to a Medical Benefit Fund during the coming year.

The I.P. Committee may award money from the fund to players who are suffering hardship through injury but purely at their discretion and it is to be clearly understood that the Committee recognises no liability to do so.

Finally, I should like to thank John Barraclough, our Club Captain, for the able, enthusiastic and exemplary way he has led the Club through a most successful year, and I would also wish the Club all the very best for a successful 1960 Season.

W. Bennett,

Hon. Secretary.

### KENTWELL CLUB REPORT

The Kentwell Club team again had a successful season; winning 12 games, drawing 3, and losing 2. Two of the drawn games were against our old rivals, Western Suburbs; the remainder of our competition games were won leaving us undefeated in sub-district. The third draw was against Hawkesbury Agricultural College, 21 all, which most of us will agree was the best match of the season. The two losses were suffered at the hands of a mixed Sydney University side, 11-6, and the South side in Brisbane, 14-3 (which loss we later avenged 9-6 after a quiet Sunday at Eaton's Crossing).

On behalf of those who played on the Kentwell side during the year I would sincerely thank Dudley Grose and congratulate him on his third consecutive grand final coaching success.

Henry Bennett received the honour of "best and fairest" for the team and his leadership in the forwards was energetic and most capable. We were fortunate to acquire such good new club men as Mick Hammond, Hugh Cameron, Ray Pickard and Mick Aboud during the season, and their playing ability will stand the Club in good stead for the future. The younger forwards blended in with our old reliables, Eddy Radford, Andy Warden, Dave Whitehead and Bruce Dalton.

Two of our forwards who deserve mention are Peter Finlayson and Dick Gibb, both of whom played tireless football. Peter was awarded the Club trophy for most improved player and he and Dick were valuable additions to the Kentwell Side.

The backline was unsettled by injuries. Paul Knight, John Williams, Peter Martin, Nev Gentle and David Devereaux all being out at some stage or other. We did manage to get four of them on the field each Saturday to receive the admirable passes of our fleet-footed five-eight Norm Corkill who played with his usual soundness.

David Devereaux and John Williams both gave examples of their speed on the wings and their tackling was always sound.

This season we lose Peter Martin to the ranks of the spectators. Peter has played Kentwell longer than anyone in last year's team and we will all miss his tricky attacking runs. Dave Whitehead is off to Adelaide. We wish him well and hope to see him back in 1961 even fitter than he is now.

Finally I should like to thank all Club Members who played with us this year and all those who waited till 3.15 p.m. to watch us play; that

so many did was very heartening for the team. I hope that next year the team has an even better season and look forward to a most successful year for the Club.

Bill Sheehan.  
(Captain)

### KENTWELL CUP RESULTS

		Round 1		Round 2
Briars	W	18-5	W	20-0
Wests	D	14-14	D	3-3
Uni. of N.S.W.	W	17-11	W	17-10
Mosman	W	23-3	W	25-3
Bronte R.S.L.	W	15-13	W	9-6
A.M.P.	W	33-5	W	20-3
Played	12	Points for	- 214	
Won	10	Points against	- 76	
Drew	2			
Lost	-			
Semi-Final	V	Wests	Won	23-3
Grand Final	V	Wests	Won	20-9

### BURKE CUP REPORT

This team had a most enjoyable and successful 1959 season. Although we were not victorious in the Grand Final we played consistent football throughout the season to be beaten on the day by a better side. Congratulations go to North Cronulla for this win.

Our thanks go to John Sprouster who had his first season of coaching a Colleague football team. His ever-present encouragement and enthusiasm helped this side to reach the Grand Final.

We had very few injuries during the season, the one that stands out in my mind was on the occasion that we played Briars. Due to an unfortunate incident our youthful and capable fullback Andy Harris was put out of action for several weeks. He returned to the game a little

shaky but finished the season with some of his best football. It was pleasing to see him win the "best and fairest" award.

The game which I think was our best and most enjoyable and I am sure those who played in it will agree with me was the first encounter with North Cronulla in the semi-final. They were by far the better conditioned side and their idea was to run and bustle us off our feet. Our chaps held the attack and then fought back lifting their game to the shouts of encouragement from the supporters on the line. As the final bell rang we had won by the narrowest margins.

We realised that North Cronulla would be the team we had to beat in the Grand Final. On that occasion the team consisted of Harris, Walton, Jones, Brown, Anderson, Maher and Blackadder in the backs and Lamens, Ward, Finlayson, Cant, Schevadin, Anderson, Whitehead and myself in the forwards. They gave their best and went down fighting to the better team on the day.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those who played in the Burke Cup team for their efforts and co-operation throughout the season.

Bob Martyr.  
(Captain)

<u>BOURKE CUP</u>			
	Round 1		Round 2
Briars	L 8-9	W	25-3
Western Suburbs	W 12-0	L	13-19
Uni. of N.S.W.	W 20-11	W	21-5
Warringah	W 18-3	W	11-5
Mosman	W 18-0	W	14-0
S.H.O.B.	W 22-0	W	23-5
Bank of N.S.W.	W 17-10	W	16-11
Played	14	Points for	- 238
Won	12	Points against	- 71
Lost	2		
Drawn	-		
Semi-Final	V	North Cronulla	W 15-6
Grand Final	V	North Cronulla	L 8-14

#### WHIDDON "A" TEAM REPORT

The Colleagues Whiddon "A" Cup team after a promising start at the beginning of the season, fell away to a lot of rabble for the latter part of the competition. Due to tireless efforts of the Coach, George Osborne, (he moulded 15 men into a team) the Whiddon Cup, was won by the Colleagues for the first time in the history of the Club. A word of praise must go to the chaps who filled in from time to time from the Whiddon "B" team, who although their team was out of the Competition turned up in true Colleague spirit to help out where they could.

The Grand Final against Mosman was the pick of all the finals played that day, mainly because it was a fast open game with the scores close all the way. With players like Isherwood, Sidney-Jones, Maher, and Rex Gray in the forwards, and old hands like Nick Sabine, Wal Corlis and Doug Berry in the backs how could we lose? I might mention the final score was 8-6 in Colleague's favour. Here's hoping we can repeat our success again for 1960.

G.A. McGrath.  
(Captain).

<u>WHIDDON "A"</u>			
	Round 1		Round 2
Briars	W 19-0	W	17-0
Wests	W 12-0	W	9-3
Uni. of N.S.W.	W 31-0	W	22-9
Warringah	W on Forfeit	L	12-21
Mosman	W 10-8	L	0-8
Whiddon "B"	L 5-9	W	5-3
Bank of N.S.W.	W 6-0	W	11-8
Played	14	Points for	- 159
Won	11	Points against	- 49
Lost	3		
Semi-Final	V	Balmain T.C.	W 18-3
Final	V	Pennant Hills	W 16-6
Grand Final	V	Mosman	W 8-3

WHIDDON "B" TEAM NOTES

Notwithstanding the constant loss of players taken by senior teams to swell their oft depleted ranks, the Whiddon "B" team had its most successful season since its inauguration in 1957. It only missed getting into the Semis by a whisker, it had a record first round of 5 Wins, 1 Loss and 1 Draw for 77 points against 31, and it contributed its fair share of players to the Touring Teams which played Southern Districts Club in Brisbane in June last year.

Because every man in the Team pulled his weight it is not possible to select any particularly outstanding players but we all responded to the excellent captaincy of John Corlis, who held the Team together throughout the season and whose trusty boot brought us so many valuable points for goals.

Our congratulations go to Dick de Lambert for his merited winning of the "Best and Fairest" Award to the Team and to John Rawlings for his most remarkable ability to dodge work every Saturday and thus turn out for the matches. Congratulations also to John Beston on his speedy recovery from his unlucky ankle injury in the return game against Briars and our thanks to our maurauding breakaway ("he's been doing it all day, Ref.") Dr. Rex Gray who tended John on the sideline and gave him early treatment which helped him tremendously.

And last but by no means least our everlasting thanks go to our tricky inside-centre "Gug" Berry for his weekly demonstrations in support of the ancient but universally accepted theory that the race goes not always to the swift.

On and off the field Whiddon "B" men always displayed the true club spirit and throughout the season I had the time of my life giving what little assistance I could to such a bonzer crowd of chaps.

H.H. Barraclough.  
(Selector)

WHIDDON "B"

	Round 1	Round 2
Mosman	W 6-0	L 6-11
Uni. of N.S.W.	W 14-6	L 3-8
Bank of N.S.W.	W 16-5	W 11-8
Briars	W 18-0	W 13-6

(Cont.)

	Round 1	Round 2
Warringah	L 8-11	W Forfeit
Whiddon "A"	W 9-5	L 3-5
Wests	D 6-6	W 14-8
Played	14	
Won	9	Points for - 127
Lost	4	Points against - 79
Drawn	1	

SOCIAL MATCHES

Kentwell	V Hawkesbury Agricultural College	21-21
Kentwell	V Uni. of Sydney	L 11-6
Burke	V Referees Association	D 16-16
Kentwell	V Souths - Brisbane	L 3-14
Burke	V Souths - Brisbane	W 16-11
Kentwell	V Navy	W 13-5

LEADING TRY SCORERS

D. DEVEREAUX	10
R. PICKARD	8
W. BENNETT	7

LEADING POINT SCORERS

	T.	P.G.	G.G.	F.G.	
W. SHEEHAN	3	26	13	1	116
R. MARYTR	4	11	15	-	75
J. CORLIS	2	12	13	-	68
W. BENNETT	7	8	4	2	59

"NORTH TO SOUTHS"

On the morning of the 13th June a group of eager young Rugby players gathered at Mascot Air Terminal. Last minute black coffees were consumed and a certain Kentwell second-row forward was warned by his parents to have early nights, confidently assured them that he would. The forty players, chaperoned by H.H. "Barry" Barraclough and that well known Turkish Forward stormed on to the plane headed for Brisbane.

On arrival the hosts, members of the Southern Districts Rugby Union Football Club led by "Chipsy" Wood were quick to make the Colleagues at home and after a little refreshment, billets were found for us all.

That afternoon on a hard fast ground the Kentwell team led by Bill Sheehan were defeated (3-14) in a tough game. Both teams played good open football and the spectators were treated to an exciting afternoon's entertainment. The South's team included one international and four State players. In the curtain raiser the Colleagues 11's played good football but were beaten in the last few minutes 8-13.

That night we were given our first opportunity of sampling the local hospitality at an informal dance staged in our honour. Among the local guests were two old Colleagues, "Scotty" Hattrick and Doug Murchison. Doug, who was one of the original Colleagues taught us the first Club Song which most of us had not heard before. The night was a staggering success and we left in the early hours of the morning loaded with food, loaded with dancing partners, loaded with streamers, loaded..... the second row forward mentioned above led a small group who paid their homage to the fallen.

As Sunday is also considered a day of rest in the "Sunshine" state a barbecue picnic was arranged for us in the country at Eaton's Crossing. Again the weather was perfect and a most enjoyable day was had by all who attended. That evening was spent quietly as most could do little but smile weakly.

Our powers of recovery must have been somewhat better than that of our hosts as on Monday afternoon the Kentwell won the return game (9-6). The football was fast and furious but this time with tighter forward play we kept on top. The seconds won a close game (9-8). It was unfortunate that one of our senior players was sent off the field.

Reluctantly we left Brisbane for home that night at 9 p.m. after more refreshments and loaded with souvenirs of our trip and holding the "Deerstalker" Trophy (awarded for skill with the glass in the Boat Race Final, necessary because of the 1-all draw in the football).

Finally we wish to thank A.N.A. for their tolerance, the Queensland Main Roads Department for their road sign and each and every one of the South's Club for a wonderful week-end. The Colleagues certainly look forward to welcoming Souths in Sydney for the return match in this coming year.

H. Lamens.