

**THE  
WOOLLAHRA  
COLLEAGUES  
RUGBY  
UNION  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
1996**

**THE WOOLLAHRA COLLEAGUES  
RUGBY UNION  
FOOTBALL CLUB**

(Established 1933)  
Headquarters Woollahra no 2.  
P.O. Box 197, Double Bay, 2028  
Ph: 9371- 5356 Fax: 9371- 4179

**1996 OFFICE BEARERS**

**PATRON:** His Worship the Mayor of Woollahra

**PRESIDENT:** Toby Lawson

**VICE PRESIDENTS:**

J. Anderson, Esq.  
J. Bunce, Esq.  
J. Corlis, Esq.  
J. Hitchen, Esq.  
H. Lamens, Esq.  
A. Murchison, Esq.  
A. Ross, Esq.  
F. Storch, Esq.

L.J.F.Barraclough, Esq.  
M. Caspers, Esq.  
R. Harriden, Esq.  
D. Kirkwood, Esq.  
C. Messenger, Esq.  
J. Noice, Esq.  
E. Radford, Esq.  
C. Vandervord, Esq.

**CLUB CAPTAIN:** Michael Nelson

**SECRETARY:** Tim Booth

**TREASURER:** Andrew Draper

**COMMITTEE:**

Mark Gray-Spencer, Scott Gray-Spencer, Richard McGrath, Dennis Orrock,  
Cameron Poolman, Grant Tracy, Hugh Urquhart, Andrew Welsh

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

J.Anderson, L.J.F.Barraclough, R.Caldwell, J. Corlis, B. Diggie, I. Edwards,  
D.Gooch, R.Harriden, J. Herman, D. Higgins, J.Hitchen, G. Hughes, D.Kirkwood,  
K.Mclean, C.Messenger, J.Noice, E.Radford, G.Robbins, S.Ross, F.Storch,  
C.Vandervord

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

Michael Clifford

# 1996 TROPHY WINNERS

Club Captain 1996; Michael Nelson

## Team Captains

Halligan Cup Captain 1996; Grahame Paton  
Sutherland Cup Premiership Captain 1996; Rohan Bowman  
Judd Cup Premiership Captain 1996; John Ryan  
Whiddon Cup Premiership Captain 1996; Vince Creagh  
Burke Cup Captain 1996; Simon Hudson  
Kentwell Cup Premiership Captain 1996; Troy Warfield

## Team Coaches

Halligan Cup Coach 1996; Grahame Paton, Sam Vivers  
Sutherland Cup Premiership Coach 1996; Andrew Welsh,  
Lawrence Campbell-Avenall  
Judd Cup Premiership Coach 1996; Tim Cullen, Toby Lawson  
Whiddon Cup Premiership Coach 1996; Brian Wood, Chris Foote,  
With Thanks to David Taylor Whiddon Cup backs coach premiers 1996  
Burke Cup Coach 1996; Andrew Campbell, Grant Tracy, Matt Collett  
Kentwell Cup Premiership Coach 1996; Scott Gray-Spencer,  
Mark Gray-Spencer  
With thanks from Colleagues Rugby Club  
Conditioner Matt Garry four premierships 1996.

## Best & Fairest

Halligan Cup 1996; Lee Carpenter  
Sutherland Cup 1996; Sam Paradise/ Rohan Bowman  
Judd Cup 1996; Sean Corbett  
Whiddon Cup 1996; Nigel Lotz  
Burke Cup 1996; Bryn Griffiths  
Kentwell Cup 1996; Cameron Poolman  
Club Best & Fairest 1996; Nigel Lotz

## Special Awards

The Pappas & The General Colleagues Battler; Rob Laycock  
Team scoring the most tries; Judd Cup  
Leading Try Scorer 1996; David Apps  
Leading Points Scorer 1996; Matt Bannister  
Most Improved player 1996; Guillaume Brahimi  
Oldest & Boldest 1996; Jon Ryan  
Rookie of the year 1996; Justin Crawford  
Carr Bros Players Player 1996; Vince Creagh  
100 Games 1996; Sean Corbett

The Colleagues Honour Cap 1996  
Scott Gray-Spencer

The John Anderson Trophy 1996  
Brian Wood

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

If someone had told me at the beginning of 1996 that the Woollahra Colleagues would be Kentwell, Whiddon, Judd and Sutherland Cup Premiers at the end of the season, I would have asked them what drugs they were on, and could I have some! If fairy tails are the visions of dreams we have, then I have just experienced Cinderella, The Lion King, and Fantasia all rolled into one.

But dreams are what they will always will be, visions and hopes. What we have achieved this year is reality. What we have achieved as a club was not pre-ordained nor fate, but was a combination of hard work, dedication and the right attitude to rugby, not just in 1996, but also for the five or six years preceding. Those who succeeded in 1996 should be humbled by the efforts of those who in the recent past worked just as hard but without the results.

The Woollahra Colleagues is a rugby club built on friendship. It is a club by the players for the players. Very few institutions in modern society have avoided the pitfalls of bureaucracy and politics. Colleagues is the exception, for the simple reason that everyone is equal, whether you play Kentwell, or Halligan. Rugby and social camaraderie are the elixir of the Colleague and that attitude, I hope, will be the testament of future years.

To 1996, the results speak for themselves. We have all enjoyed the success to its fullest. However there are a few who deserve to taste this success all the more, because of the effort they have put in.

In particular, there are four men I would like to acknowledge for their outstanding contributions this year. To our secretary, Tim Booth, he was the rock upon which the Colleagues is built. Without his support and tireless effort, the club would not be the champions they are today. Tim has an undying love for Colleagues, and should be an inspiration to those who want to see the club thrive for generations to come.

If Tim was the rock then Andrew Welsh was the pebble. He has a work ethic which transcends his successful business into the operation of Colleagues. He coaches the premiership winning Sutherland Cup and played as hooker in that team. Moreover, he did more than his share of the dirty work, cleaning the club and providing us with equipment at short notice. He is a vital cog in the wheel and we hope he stays with us for a long time.

To my predecessor, Brian Wood, The receipt of the John Anderson Trophy was testament to the effort he has given the club over ten years. As well, he brought home the Whiddon Cup for the first time in almost thirty years. My personal thanks is extended to Brian for handing me a club on the verge of greatness. He deserved to be writing this report as President.

My biggest thank you and commendation goes to our club coach, Kentwell and Honour Cap winner, Scott Gray-Spencer. A rugby team needs an attitude and desire to succeed. It needs character, Scotty not only created that for the Kentwell team, but for the whole club. I can not thank him enough and hope that he decides to stick with the Colleagues for another year. This coaching star is rising and we have been honoured to have him in our ranks.

In no way diminishing their contribution, I would add that the committee, led by Club Captain Michael Nelson, have all done a magnificent job in running the Colleagues this year. Thank you and please return next year. One thing a club needs is continuity in management, an ingredient often missed during heady celebrations of football success.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the coaches and players, 1996 was your year. We had a great deal of fun throughout the year. We maintained our enthusiasms because it was not forced. It was genuine. It is why we play this great game.

So what for 1997? Well, we are in a strong financial position, which sets us up well for the increasing costs of running the club. Our financial security will be paramount as we hopefully secure a new clubhouse facility in 1997. This is one of our goals and is being followed with a zeal matched only by our players.

Our aim is to begin 1997 as we began 1996. Full of hope and full of beers. We will not tamper with the strategy that has been the foundation stone of Colleagues, and that is to provide the best social rugby environment in the world. To enjoy our training, enjoy our rugby and most of all enjoy our friendship both old and new.

I commend the 1996 Colleagues to you in the knowledge that they have upheld the faith set by our founders in 1933. Thank you.

Toby Lawson  
President.

## CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Go you Giant in 1996!! What a sensational year. So much to cover, so little space. First to the footy. Congratulations to every player in the club for contributing to the Blue Giants reasserting after a long absence, their dominance in the Suburban Rugby Union. Congratulations to the tireless efforts of the coaches and officials who were right behind the players every step of the way. Four grand finals in one season is a superb effort and should be enough to keep us full of beers and lies until next season kicks off.

Not only did we play better rugby than our competitors, I think we also had a lot more fun. On that note I would like to thank the lovely young ladies who provided some enlightening entertainment during our 'mystery nights'. On behalf of Johnny Papas, a very warm thank you. Mystery nights will definitely be a big part of next season.

The social committee played an important role in this year's success. Who will forget the Ladies Days, unless you couldn't remember in the first place? This showed shrewd rugby judgement as there is no better Colleagues than one getting his oats. The opening season tour to Muswellbrook was an outstanding success where players honed not only their rugby skills but also developed a flair for interior designing. Dog Poolman may have literally stumbled onto a new career. Look out for the tour at the start of next season - always a treat.

The most important note of thanks, however, must go to our sponsors. Colleagues would not have had any where near the success and fun we did without their support. The Bellevue Hotel, Andrews Meats, Carr Bros. Realty, Soho Bar, Ryan's Bar, Newmans School Sports, Phillip's Foote Restaurant, Rose Bay Drive In Liquor Supplies, Newcastle Brown Ale, Sirocco Restaurant, The Sheepskin Shop, Jan Logan Jewellery and Old Colleagues who donated to the club can all see a solid return on their investment with our success in this year's finals series. We will be looking for their continued support in 1997 and beyond to ensure this year was the start of another Colleagues era, a blue patch in rugby history you could say.

Next year will be the testing material for everyone involved in the club. We will be seen as the club to knock off and every game will be a tough one. From our point of view, next year will be the year that cements us in the top position. So the message is clear, once you've finished celebrating - may I set a tentative date of 1 December, 1996, strap on the runners and get fit for next year. Its easy to let yourself go in summer, ask Darbs, but remember the less you do yourself, the worse the Matty Gary experience will be.

As Club Captain, I would like to thank the committee for steering the Colleagues ship masterfully to victory. The club has never looked healthier in terms of player numbers and our future. Personally, I would like to thank them for their support throughout the year. The committee has a broad range of responsibilities and offers many rewarding opportunities to any Colleague interested. Being a Colleagues committee man would have to be one of the best door openers in business (and leg openers at the pub). So have a go!

Michael Nelson  
Club Captain

## SECRETARY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1996 Was a memorable year for the Colleagues for many reasons; it heralded a change in Presidency, a newer younger committee, several untried coaches and an uncertainty about how professionalism would affect the N.S.W. Suburban Competition.

It was a year that provided many challenges, increasing costs to administer six grades (and even once a seventh grade) each weekend, the contentious issues of the ground lease and with the dilemma of the new club house close at hand, 1996 looked to be a very hazardous year to say the least.

The 1996 Colleagues however were equal to the task with both committee and players being victors. Sponsorship reached an all time high and the efforts of the social committee provided a winning Colleagues atmosphere.

With luck the Colleagues will be playing on "Blue Giant Park a la Twickenham" in 1997 and close liaisons with the Woollahra Council indicate that the prospect of a new club house is in sight.

Thanks and congratulation go to coaches and players for a fantastic year; to my right hand man Andrew Welsh who made my life hell and at the same time so much easier through his untiring work for the club; to the Rock, the Chef and Will Cummins who gave me so much pleasure on the field during the year; to president Toby Lawson, to Richard McGrath, to the Club's General Committee, to Honour Cap winner Scotty Gray- Spencer, to the John Anderson Trophy winner Brian Wood (extraordinary achievement) and to our many Sponsors, Old Colleagues and supporters many thanks and looking forward to 1997 "The return of the Giants"

PS. On a lighter note Old Colleagues will enjoy the story where the sexy sixth's turned out for a Halligan Cup fixture this season not knowing the rest of the round had been rained off. (No fault of the club secretary "of course"). Played in their T-Shirts two players short, dragged supporters from their cars to fill the team on a field where a tree marked the sideline, and still thrashed the Forest team 40 - 14 in pouring rain! ("Oh the art of course Colleagues Rugby").

Tim Booth your Secretary

## KENTWELL CUP REPORT

(PLAYED 20, WON 14 & LOST 6 (5 AWAY))

It is with a great sense of accomplishment tempered with a certain let down after achieving such great heights, that we write this report.

What can we say. Kentwell primers for the first time since 1984.

The highest score ever in a Kentwell Cup grand final.

The most points scored in a second half (33) of a Kentwell Cup grand final.

Six games on the trot to take out the premiership.

Only losing one game at home. Truly, this was a great team.

Individually there were some outstanding performances.

Our Captain, Troy Warfield taking out the "Golden Boots" award for the best player in the Kentwell Cup Competition and leading the team admirably all year.

Cameron Poolman taking out the Best and Fairest Kentwell Cup player (and narrowly missing the Club's Best and Fairest).

Mark Richard, Michael Forsyth and Malcolm Gill for their experience which they displayed week in and week out.

William Cummins and Guillaume Brahimi for their inspirational play as newly initiated front rowers.

Hugh Urquhart for being the "Rock".

Michael Nelson, the "soul" of the team.

Dennis Orrock and Hugh Beverage for their pace and creativity.

Mark Gibson and Andrew Gooch for their skill in attack and impregnable defence.

Alistair Clarke for his unnerving toughness.

Matt Banister with his unpredictability and flair.

Beyond this core of players there were many other great contributors: Murray Cox, Justin Crawford, Will Kendall, Sam Sproats, Adam Upton, Bryn Griffiths, Paul Woods, Titus Day and Steve Linker.

Special thanks to Andrew Dance for his fine game in the Grand Final.

Thanks to all the other coaches in the club particularly Matt Gary, Bruce Malouf, Glen Ella and Grant Tracy for their great assistance, particularly when Scott and I were unavailable during the year.

Finally to Grant Tracey and Matt Collett who played in the first game of the year (which we lost). What can we say but "unlucky".

Mark and Scott Gray-Spencer

## BURKE CUP REPORT

When approaching a report on Burke Cup this year it is difficult to avoid comparison with the other premierships winning teams at Colleagues. This may lead to disappointing conclusions for a team that had many talented, enthusiastic players, but will give the opportunity to reflect on the issues which result in a team failing to reach their potential.

The first half of the season is memorable for Andy Campbell's Burke Cup Team, playing winning football each weekend. Enthusiasm and confidence was cultured with success. The team and club support was expecting of finals in Burke Cup.

Half way through the season it was as though we had turned to run into a "30 point breeze". As Matt and I took over coaching the results dropped away and the team lost momentum. With only the occasional win, the team finished out of the finals.

The players of Burke Cup often showed they were talented, courageous rugby players. Bryn was always the intimidating player up front. Flankers like Justin, Mal and Titus were obviously talented enough to deserve regular Kentwell selection. The tight five went about their job in reliable tradesman-like fashion. The backs had balance with combinations like Huddo's hard hitting and Henry flair. The wingers were speedy and Woodsie always had things under control at fullback. Half and fly half were reliable despite player changes.

Although some players were selected in and out of the second grade side, a lack of continuity cannot be blamed for the waning success. Kentwell and Whiddon both won premierships; one with few variations in the team the other with different selections each weekend.

I believe that the reason Burkies lost games that they could have won was in the coaching and training. Coaches (or managers) need to contact players early in the week to ensure a good turn out for training. Equally it is the responsibility of the players to make an effort to attend training, so that the exercise is more meaningful to the individuals and the team.

At the end of each season each player and coach should have improved their rugby in some way. This can only occur when there is a mutual effort. Perhaps this season we can learn that with only half the team at training, we can only achieve half of our potential.

Hug a Burkie

Darbs

## WHIDDON CUP REPORT

### 1996 Premiers "OH WHAT A SEASON"

The Whiddon Cup Premiership has eluded The Colleagues since 1967 The "Whiddos" are accepted as the hardest grade to win because of the constant team changes, 1996 was no different.

75 Different players ran on in Whiddo's throughout the 96 season. 38 Backs & 37 Forwards and the same team never took the paddock in any two matches. This alone shows the incredible depth of playing strength at the club this year. Our premiership victory was a result of all players contributions throughout the year.

The first half of the season was the foundation of our success. At round 9 Whiddo's were running 3rd on the table with 6 wins and 3 losses. We had won all our matches at "Blue Giant Park" (one of our goals for the season).

The second round was a real up and down time at round 13 we were 4 points clear in second place and looking good! Successive losses in round 14 (Mosman) round 15 (St Pats) and round 16 (Uni of N.S.W.) placed us in the position where a loss against Uni of Western Sydney would knock us out of the semi's altogether. Needless to say we won the match and awaited the results of the last round to establish our semi-final position. Mosman (1st) beat St Pats (4th), Uni of N.S.W. won and Colleagues won resulting, in Colleagues getting 2nd spot on for and against. Mosman were undefeated and the only team in all of subbies to do so.

The Major Semi-final was played in atrocious weather conditions the loss 6-0 was not a true indication of the game, Colleagues missing 3 penalty attempts and were held up over Mosmans line 3 times. (We knew we could do them in the Grand Final!)

"The final against St Pats was a tight match not really good rugby. With the scoreline perilously close 3 all with 5 minutes to go, Colleagues on attack inside the St Pats 22m loss of possession, St Pats counter attacked, making a break out wide, St Pats winger on his own racing for the line - then from behind Ben Enfield makes the tackle of the year! (PHEW) Not over yet! the ref. gives a penalty against Colleagues 35 m out 10m from the goal posts, St Pats fullback has a shot at goal ( he had missed 3 from 4) the ball hits the posts rebounds into the field of play big Richard Schall takes the ball on our 22 goes to ground (PHEW) Not over yet! the ref. gives another penalty against Colleagues 22m out straight in front, the St Pats fullback misses again(PHEW) Its over! a 3 all draw puts Colleagues through to the Grand Final!"

It might sound arrogant but the Whiddo's had been playing semi-final football for 7 weeks for a chance at the grand final "We knew we were going to win."

The team had perfect balance  
Tough front row - Murray Cox, Mike Heron, The General  
Height in the row - Richard Schall (6'7"), Andrew Sinclair (6'5")  
Mobile back row - Lotzie, Vince Creagh.  
Go forward man - Buysie.  
Quick & experienced halves - Ed Lloyd-Jones & Will Kendell  
Strong centre - Stue Mc Cure  
Fast centre - Steve Linker  
Pacy wingers - Ben Einfield, "Go" Okamura  
Classy fullback - Andy Macbride.

## WHIDDON CUP REPORT

The result a 16 - 0 victory ! the game was never in doubt. Mosman may have been undefeated but Colleagues were unbeatable. We went into the game extremely confident we were not going to be beaten. "And we weren't".

Special thanks go to Richard Brincat, Josh Haimovitch & Ben Treweeke who played in the semis and final to get us to the Grand Final, as did "Dot" Dance who was taken into Kentwell for their G.F. victory.

Dave Taylors coaching of the backline play in the last 4 weeks had an immense impact on the team, thanks Dave. Chris Foot (forwards coach) was the driving force behind our dynamic forward pack particularly in the scrums & lineouts, thank you Chris.

Lastly, it was my pleasure and privilege to be associated with such a tremendous team of blokes. As head coach my job was to develop and nurture a team spirit. WE HAD IT ! Premiers Whiddon Cup 1996, I am a proud Colleague.

Brian Wood. Coach.

## JUDD CUP REPORT

### 1996 Premiers & Minor Premiers

#### REGULAR SEASON

Won	16	Lost	2
For	450	Against	96

#### FINALS

Major Semi Vs Mosman	Won 13-3
Grand Final Vs St Pats	Won 21-3

The above statistics reveal that the Judd Cup team had an extremely successful and enjoyable season. The winning of the trophy for the team scoring the most tries (60) and the scoring of 450 points are both club records for any grade in the modern era, (quite remarkable given 50 minutes and no injury time). Understandably the team adopted a very attacking framework with the philosophy being that "you must keep the ball in the hand" whenever possible. The change in laws assisted this style of play, and it was ratified when many of our opponents played the kicking game. Training was not one of our strong points, but the guys always put the effort in on the field where it was most needed. A special thanks to Toby Lawson for his coaching assistance throughout the season, especially while I was overseas.

The front row / scrum consistently destroyed all who came before them, no more so than in the finals. Nothing gave this coach more pleasure than seeing the first scrum demoralise the opposition. Tim Booth the cornerstone and veteran of the pack is still one of the best tight head props in the club and 1996 was one of his best seasons. He was justly rewarded with 2 player of the round performances. Charlie Maxwell at loose head was never troubled, except when trying to get to training on Thursdays or the game 30 minutes before kick off or staying awake at the Bellevue. It was disappointing to see a prop spend so much time on the wing and not score a try all season. Ben Goot at hooker was a great find late in the season and became one of our best performers. His high work rate and aggression make him a certain Kentwell player of the future.

Three players made up the second row during the season. Congratulations to Adam Tilley for the honour of becoming the first Colleague to score 100 tries for the club. The "Tools" passing game significantly improved once this milestone was reached. Adam also did a fine (undefeated) job as captain while John was injured. Dougal Lamont was a very consistent performer throughout the season. His lineout work / domination in the finals was a key factor in the teams success. John Holdsworth was one of our hardest working players until he was unfortunately sidelined with a serious knee injury.

There is no doubt that the back row was the best in the competition. The team consistently caused the opposition to turnover possession, achieved in part by the players ability to always stay on their feet. John Ryan had an excellent season as captain. He "rarely" took the wrong option, maintained the teams intensity, and invariably came up with the big run or hit when it was needed. His commitment to come back from a serious knee injury was testament to his desire to win the 1996 Judd Cup. Mike Williamson was recruited from our sponsors establishment, achieving the remarkable feat of scoring a try in all but one game he played. Congratulation to Sean Corbett playing in the second half of the season managing to take out the Judd Cup Best and Fairest award and at the same time complete 100 games for the club. It was a well deserved reward for the level of commitment that the attitude makes and I'm sure his willingness to give advice was appreciated by the whole team.

## JUDD CUP REPORT

Eddie Lloyd-Jones started the season at halfback until he sustained a rib injury and managed to make a comeback which was rewarded with a Whiddon Cup Premiership. Sean Watt was a more than able replacement and provided an effective link between backs and forwards. He performed excellently in the finals including a faultless display under pressure and difficult conditions against Mosman.

Steve Smith at five eight was a class above any of the opposition. His ability to consistently get across the advantage line laid the foundation for further attacking raids. His try in the Grand Final demonstrated his class and I was thankful that he was playing for us and not against us.

In the centres Hugh MacFarlan never had a bad game. The comment made by the back row that "if Hugh is playing then we don't need to make a tackle" is testimony to his defensive capabilities. Dave Robinson (Robbo) had a more inconsistent season but his performance in the grand final demonstrated his true ability.

Brendan McCarthy played half the season on the wing and centre. He never had a bad game and was always solid in defence and a strong finisher. Craig Keats playing only his first year of rugby on the wing, proved to be a very cool customer under pressure. His goal kicking strike rate of over 60% was excellent for a Blue Giant and his 48m first penalty goal in the grand final was magic. Dave Apps was the team and clubs leading try scorer, scoring 7 of them against Hornsby (4&3). Unfortunately his jetsetting habits resulted in his relegation to the bench for the grand final.

Adam Lloyd-Jones was always safe as houses at fullback and I cannot remember him dropping a ball from a kick all season. He provided the team with excellent attacking options from both set pieces and counter attack.

Thanks to all who wore the Judd Jersey in 1996, of which John Purbrick, Marty Small and Ed Theakston deserve special mention. Congratulations and thanks to the other coaches who played a part in bringing home the Judd Cup. I would like to thank all the Colleagues Sponsors with special reference to the Judd Team Sponsor "Ryan's Bar", and hope that they can continue their successful association.

Finally I would like to wish all Colleagues a successful 1997.

Yours in Rugby

Tim Cullen

## SUTHERLAND CUP REPORT

PLAYED 18 WON 14 DREW 3 LOST 1

POINTS FOR 328 POINTS AGAINST 127 "MINOR PREMIERS"

MAJOR SEMI-FINAL DEFEATED ST PATS 10-8

GRAND FINAL DEFEATED WAVERLEY 22-0 "CHAMPIONS FOR 1996"

What a season, what a result and what satisfaction to be the coach of the Sutherland Cup Champion Team 1996. The ability of a club to win first grade is largely dependant upon the talent available. The ability to win fifth grade is a tribute to the esprit de corp. of Colleagues and the number of players who were prepared to turn out for the club and play in any position to keep the momentum going. This is epitomised by the Club winning not only 5ths but 4ths, 3rds and of course 1sts.

Many clubs look to their stalwarts to make up their numbers. This year I am pleased to say that the backbone of 5ths was a mixture of experience combined with a large contingent of new, young and very talented players.

Many times I heard cries from the sideline of give me a run, but in developing a side committed to winning, the focal point of the 5ths was to reward those who trained, travelled to away games and supported 4ths and 6ths.

During the season 67 players turned out for the 5ths.

Number of games Number of players

20	1
17	2
14	2
13	3
10	3
9	1
8	1
7	3
6	6
5 or less	43

The Best & Fairest were judged to be Sam Paradise and Rowan Bowman who as you would expect of two fine loose forwards were always there as a pair both on or off the field.

The one loss for the season was a hammering given by Mosman who beat us 38-5. Whilst this was a blot on a proud season some comfort was taken in the fact that 8 players played in higher grades that day. Epitomising the sacrifices that lower grade coaches must give for the good of the club, and the importance of club championship points.

The three draws were really only 1 as 2 were against Chatswood and the other St Pats who I have on good authority use their own ref at Hudson Park.

A special thank you to Scott Gray-Spencer for helping out on the odd occasion, Tim Booth for Subbles registrations and of course Lawrence C-A., for his assistance in running water and holding the flag.

I Would like to thank the committee and all the unseen helpers who assisted in making the 5ths the team it was in 1996 particularly as they often played in competition to 3rds and 4ths for spectator interest.

As I was instrumental in running 6th grade for the first part of the year I should hope that the committee will look at organising this aspect of the club better in 1997

Andrew J. Welsh



## HALLIGAN CUP REPORT

In the absence of fearless leader (sailing or should I say the diving General), the onus has fallen on me your secretary to report on goings on in the sixth grade.

Called the Halligan Cup after long serving N.S.W. Suburban Rugby President, Brent Halligan. A competition once considered to be sociable, recently has created a good deal of interest. Along with this interest has come a considerable amount of organising and negotiating (some times I feel it should be called the Secretary's Cup!).

It is however a competition the club is committed to! Finding a game for everyone and enjoying the game is the prime objective (not always possible), as we found out. The variety of clubs which play in the Halligan Cup matched their number, some 20 teams (some without names) played, and the comp gradually split into two groups, those who were game enough to play Randwick and those who weren't!

As it is a first past the post competition negotiating skills were required to get in early to play the easier teams. With Old Ignations skilfully side-stepping Randwick and the Colleagues missing a few games through washouts we were playing catch-up footy each week, literally! In the end it was Mosman who became our nemesis and an unexpected 15-13 loss to Petersham (playing 2 men down) that ended it all for the Colleagues. (Away fixtures were always a worry).

The second place achieved on the ladder can be viewed proudly by those who played. Most were unaware it was the first time in the club's history we were to field a sixth grade team for the whole season, and it would be honest to say we were unprepared for the numbers who turned up to play, and even train!

Thanks must go to the General and Sam Vivers who stepped into the breach and unselfishly helped out when our resources (and jerseys) became stretched to the limit. Also Ed Theakston, Jon Ryan and Richard McGrath who all had turns in being caretaker managers.

There were many highlights to the Halligan Cup season and they are the stuff that Colleague legends are made of! Papas on the wing against Forest (He's added a new dimension to defence techniques); the General at half back Vs Mosman (the backline went home); playing in t-shirts at Thompson Reserve (definitely my fault, sorry guys); an historic victory against Randwick; a last second "Barbarian Style" win Vs St Pats 25-22 (5 tries) and the 7 points to 3 victory over eventual competition winners Old Ignations on Old Colleagues day.

Congratulations go to Best & Fairest winner Lee Carpenter, The Battler's Trophy winner Rob Laycock, to the battler's themselves Jonathan Papas & Graham Paton Jon Ryan for holding the scrum up again and winning the Oldest and Boldest Trophy (must be time this year Jon? eh!), to Coggo who has the potential to play in the top grades and to all those who wore the sky blue jersey in search of enjoyment and friendship. Thanks for your patience on Thursday nights and look forward to seeing you all for another assault next year.

And remember if you think you are doing it tough down at Colleagues spare a thought for the Blacktown sixth's. Played 13 & Won 1, (68 For & 349 against, including 10 away games).

God's country Rose Bay never looked so good.

On behalf of the General and Uncle Sam  
(I hope I've done them justice with this report)

Tim Booth

## COMPETITION TABLES 1996

	KENTWELL CUP				F	A	DIFF	PTS
	P	W	D	L				
Chatswood	18	13	0	5	448	262	186	26
Colleagues	18	12	0	6	411	325	86	24
St Pats	18	12	0	6	438	355	83	24
Mosman	18	11	0	7	332	254	78	22
Uni of N.S.W.	18	10	0	8	376	344	32	20
Hunters Hill	18	10	0	8	310	339	-29	20
Waverley	18	8	0	10	394	376	18	16
Hornsby	18	8	0	10	389	473	-84	16
Uni of West Syd	18	5	0	13	370	467	-97	10
Linfield	18	1	0	17	217	490	-273	2

(Colleagues through to the Major Semi-final on 3 differential points! Who will forget the sensational and historic win on Old Colleagues day against Uni of N.S.W 33-12. Colleagues also recorded a win 23-17, Vs St Pats at Hudson Park, the first for many years).

	BURKE CUP				F	A	DIFF	PTS
	P	W	D	L				
Mosman	18	16	0	2	400	123	277	32
Chatswood	18	13	0	5	260	160	100	26
Uni of N.S.W.	18	11	2	5	328	196	132	24
St Pats	18	11	0	7	242	185	57	22
Hornsby	18	10	0	8	253	262	-9	20
Waverley	18	9	1	8	254	229	25	19
Colleagues	18	8	2	8	278	236	42	18
Uni of West Syd	18	5	1	12	207	274	-67	11

+Lindfield & Hunters Hill  
(Colleagues costly losses Vs St Pats Round one 19-13 & Round Two 14-13)

	WHIDDON CUP				F	A	DIFF	PTS
	P	W	D	L				
Mosman	18	18	0	0	351	131	220	36
Colleagues	18	12	0	6	230	130	100	24
Uni of N.S.W.	18	12	0	6	258	190	68	24
St Pats	18	11	1	6	232	134	98	23
Uni of West Syd	18	10	1	7	276	122	154	21
Chatswood	18	8	1	9	178	175	3	17

+Linfield, Waverley, Hunters Hill & Hornsby  
(Colleagues through to Major Semi-Final on for and against. Scored on the bell 2nd last round Vs Uni of West Sydney to stay in the hunt!)

	JUDD CUP				F	A	DIFF	PTS
	P	W	D	L				
Colleagues	18	16	0	2	450	96	354	32
Mosman	18	15	0	3	411	93	318	30
Waverley	18	14	2	2	340	109	231	30
St Pats	18	12	2	4	348	104	244	26
Uni of N.S.W.	18	11	0	7	266	180	86	22
Linfield	18	7	0	11	142	332	-190	14

+Uni of West Syd, Chatswood, Hornsby & (Hunters Hill, 61 for and 614 against)  
(Colleagues recorded the best for and against in the N.S.W. Suburban Competition, and possibly a club record, an average of 25 points per each 50 minute game) Interestingly enough Colleagues were beaten twice during the season both times by Waverley in the dying moments of each game, fortunately Waverley were bundled out in the finals by St Pats who Colleagues thrashed 22-3 in the grand final.



## COMPETITION TABLES 1996

	SUTHERLAND CUP					DIFF	PTS	
	P	W	D	L	F			A
Colleagues	18	14	3	1	296	126	170	31
Mosman	18	15	0	3	413	85	328	30
Waverley	18	12	1	5	355	160	195	25
St Pats	18	11	2	5	298	111	187	24
Uni of N.S.W.	18	9	1	8	207	251	-44	19
Chatswood	18	8	2	8	221	199	22	18

\*Uni of West Syd, Hornsby, Lindfield, Hunters Hill

(Colleagues who have been the dominant force in Sutherland Cup in the last three years had to wait till the last round before becoming Minor Premiers. Colleagues favoured the draw as a winning option, two against the lowly placed Chatwood, and one against St Pats. The mid season loss 38-5 to Mosman was in complete contrast to the classy 22-0 grand final victory against Waverley).

	HALLIGAN CUP					DIFF	PTS	
	P	W	D	L	F			A
Old Ignations	14	11	0	3	252	68	184	22
Colleagues	14	9	0	5	238	185	53	18
Petersham	10	8	0	2	148	90	58	16
Mosman	15	7	0	8	246	166	80	14
Randwick	6	5	0	1	178	56	122	10
West Sydney Saints	6	4	0	2	108	52	56	8
Forest	8	3	0	5	68	116	-48	6
St Ives	3	2	0	1	40	49	-9	4
Randwick V11	1	1	0	0	38	7	31	2
Mosman V11	1	1	0	0	12	5	7	2
St Pats V11	1	1	0	0	13	7	6	2
Blacktown	13	1	0	12	68	349	-281	2

(This is only half the teams who competed in this competition in 1997. Needless to say Randwick only had one loss during the season 10-5 "against the blue machine". Old Ignations will not be as illusive up in the first division in 1997 and Colleagues should be wary of this worthy adversary. The Colleagues V11 led 7-0 against Randwick before capitulating 38-7 in a historic first attempt at 7 grades).

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP		
Mosman		871
St Pats		767
Chatswood		720
Uni of N.S.W.		710
Woollahra	Colleagues	664
Hornsby		510
Waverley		492
Hunters Hill		444
Uni of West Sydney		384
Lindfield		186

Lindfield relegated in their 50th Anniversary Year, Old Ignations promoted from second division. Colleagues disadvantaged by 8 points per round (equivalent of Whiddon Cup) for not playing colts fixtures! Hunters Hill lower grades (2nds to 5ths) recorded a combined win total of 6 games out of a possible 90 in the 1996 season!

## "OLD COLLEAGUES DAY"

The Old Colleagues gathered sixty years of stories to tell,  
Of blood and beer and bravery that made the home crowd yell.  
They came from near and far, with one reason all the same,  
To remember that great club where they played the running game.

There was Jackson and Murchison from nineteen thirty three,  
Then Storch and Barraclough in the early days they had the key.  
Corlis, Noice and Harriden the club sings their reign,  
and Anderson and Edwards in the eighties,  
they made the Colleagues name.

They assembled to watch the battle, the Kentwell Cup at stake,  
Young and old together a tradition there's to make.  
The sky blue of the Colleagues, against the colours of the round,  
It was young and old together no backward step to be found.

And when the final whistle blows the curtain on the day,  
When dust and dirt and referee has had the final say,  
The Colleagues stand there tall having given to the core,  
And then and there together "old and new would count the score".

And later in the clubhouse when the air is running hot  
And the opposition captain cries "Colleagues have got the lot"  
An Old Colleague will tell the tale of the one that got away.

Cause its possible they say to beat the Colleagues at their game,  
but with old and new together be certain;

"The spirit remains the same"

(Tim Booth 1996)

