
1977



*WARATAH
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB*

Year Book

OFFICE BEARERS – 1977

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LICENSEE ILLAWARRA HOTEL

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DEPUTY VICE-PRESIDENT:

B. LEO

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TREASURER

M. GREENHALGH

ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER:

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C. GAMBLE, P. McCANN, J. COTTER, G. DUNN,
J. HAYWOOD

CLUB CAPTAIN:

M. HOTCHKIS

PUBLICITY OFFICER:

GEAR STEWARD:

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CLUB REGISTRAR:

I. KENT

DELEGATES TO I.D.R.U.:

M. FRASER, N. TEW, J. COTTER

DELEGATES TO I.M.B.C.:

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SOCIAL COMMITTEE:

N. TEW, B. BOULDING, M. PEARSON, G. DUNN,
R. FLEMING, J. PALMER

YEAR BOOK COMMITTEE:

G. DUNN, M. FRASER, M. WILKINS

TEAM MANAGERS:

SELECTORS:

P. McCANN, J. PETTIT, M. DAVIS, D. JOHNSON

COACHES:

P. McCANN, M. HOTCHKIS, J. PETTIT, M. DAVIS

UNDER 18:

B. SILVER, M. WILKINS

TRAINER:

M. WILKINS

AUDITOR:

C. TYRELL

President's Report . . .

It has been a year of mixed fortunes. Our first grade side just failed to make the semi finals. Second and third grade not quite so fortunate.

My first year as President of Club has been very enjoyable. Our achievements at Keira Oval have been outstanding, thanks to the efforts of Mick Fraser, Mick Greenhalgh and Mick Wilkins. We have obtained a 10 year lease on the canteen at Keira Oval, erected our own lights and are in the process of seeing if it is feasible to have a training oval prepared between the main oval and Edmund Rice College.

Thanks are in order to Mick Wilkins and Brian Silver for their efforts in getting the under 18's side formed. In the few games they had, they performed very well. We hope they continue with their enthusiasm in 1978.

I would like to thank the three coaches for efforts throughout the year.

Congratulations are in order to our representative players Mark Hotchkis, Paul Murray, Graham Collinson-Smith, Martin Fraser and Brian Silver. Also Paul McCann's selection as N.S.W. Country Rugby Union Coach for the Pacific tour 1977.

I would like to thank the Social Committee for their efforts in 1977. Also thanks are in order for Jane, Julie and Sue who helped of a Saturday in the Canteen. They are more affectionately known as Tewy's Angels.

I am looking forward to another exciting year in 1978.

I would also like to convey the club's appreciation to the Illawarra Master Builders Club and the Illawarra Hotel for the support extended during the 1977 season.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Waratahs and their families all the best for the coming year.

Waratahs great in '78.

Neil Tew.



N. Tew, The President



N. Tew, The Spectator

Charge of the Hotchkis Brigade



The year 1977 would give one the impression that the club has achieved more this year than has been achieved for some years past.

After a rather shaky start to the season and an even shakier bank balance, not to mention problems we encountered with our old training facilities we battled on to end up having a successful football year, an encouraging treasury, a good social scene and a generally satisfying year all round.

Your committee in the main worked particularly hard, putting in a lot of hours with good results particularly with regards to the acquisition of Keira oval and its facilities on a trading agreement with Council for ten years. 1977 also saw the formation of our under 18 team which should in years to come, give our club depth and strength particularly on a management level.

Our club this year had a reasonably strong committee most of whom managed to attend club meetings and give valuable assistance when required however this year more so than in years gone by, to many elected office bearers gave other club members a great deal of extra work by neglecting their nominated positions in some cases partially, in others completely.

Because of the lack of both interest and initiative in some officers namely those of team managers the club will have to outlay considerable capital to replace lost and missing gear for the 1978 season. Tony Johnson did a great job as did Mick Wilkins but capacities are limited in accordance with support which in this case was practically non existent.

Perhaps I am being too critical but I feel there were the few who carried our club this year and received little credit while others had a lot to say but did very little.

I thank those committmen, office bearers and members who have worked hard for the club making my position relatively simple and they will known who I am referring to with this note of thanks.

Always there are people too numerous to nominate who assist one trying to do one's job but special thanks must go to several girl Fridays who managed to decipher and type correspondence and preparatory work for the Year Book along with their everyday work. Our club would be lost without them.

Overall 1977 has been a good year while 1978 should be even better, especially if members are encouraged to accept more responsibility and for one and all to put more into the club they receive so much from.

Congratulations to those hard working members and thank you for a successful and enjoyable '77 and wishing you every success in 1978.



SECRETARYS REPORT

Mike Fraser.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Since my report in the last Year Book there has been significant progress made both financially and in the direction of establishing a solid foundation for the Club on Keira Oval. Both are very closely related of course.

The Illawarra Hotel and its patrons are once again the major source of our income and this year has probably been our most successful from raffles. I would like to extend my thanks to Lloyd Callender and his drinkers for their generosity and also to the few (unfortunately) of our chaps who regularly sacrificed their valuable time to sell the tickets. We have taken slightly in excess of \$3,100 (gross) from raffles since the Annual General Meeting.

The Illawarra Master Builders Club is also responsible in no small way for the successful functioning of our club. Their annual allocation which covers the cost of our football jumpers is very much appreciated and it enables us to use our income in other areas of club development.

On the other side of the coin, some of our members (?) have been not quite so generous in paying their annual subscription (\$5) and match fees fo (\$1 per week). To date I have collected only \$240 in subs and \$540 in match fees. You don't have to be Einstein to realise that these are way down. By way of comparison some of our expenses relating solely to football this year are as follows: IDRU Levies \$620, Footballs and other gear \$342-60, Ground costs \$185-40, Laundry of gear \$147-50 and Advertising \$39-90. All in all the support of our members has been very good and I would like to thank everyone for their assistance, particularly the chaps who helped in the collection of match fees in the absence of team managers. In this field some of our blokes make the Scarlet Pimpernel look like an amateur.

The Social and Touring Committees once again operated independently. We have entered into an agreement with the Wollongong City Council to purchase the canteen on Keira Oval. This gives us exclusive trading rights to the canteen and a firm hold on the

ground for the next ten years. Our Social Committee has worked very hard and profitably from the canteen on our home games and Tewy and his cronies deserve a big pat on the back for their work in this area and also in the organisation of our recent very successful Annual Ball. The Touring Committee was off to rather a slow start with Joe Browne having been transferred to Darwin and Gavin Steele being out of town in his job. More recently Brian Silver has been doing a great job with the 200 clubs to raise money for the trip away. Latest reports indicate that this fund raising may almost fully pay for the trip.

After all this the club remains in a healthy financial position and available figures as at 30th September are as follows:—

1. Main Account	\$ 641.31
2. Social Committee	\$1,268.08
3. Touring Fund	\$1,571.72
4. Interest Bearing Deposits	\$5,000.00
5. United Permanent B/Soc.	\$ 516.00
TOTAL	\$8,997.11

Accounts 1 to 4 are conducted at the Commonwealth Bank, Town Hall Branch, Wollongong.

We still have not received an account for the installation of lights on Keira Oval (approx. \$1,750), the Social Committee cheque for (\$540) owing to the Chicken Spot for the ball has not yet been presented and the Gold Coast raffle prize is still to be collected.

The annual report is not due until the end of the year and will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

In conclusion, I would like once again to thank everyone associated with the Club for their assistance over the past 2 years and wish them every success in the future.

Mick Greenhalgh.

P.S. Anyone wishing to purchase ties (\$5 each) or Club T-Shirts (\$6 each) please do not hesitate to contact me.

FIRST GRADE REPORT

Waratahs 1st XV were again unlucky to miss out on the semis. I feel sure had we made them we would have won the grand final. We showed our true form when playing against the top teams by drawing with Vikings, Teachers and Kiama and defeating Technical College 12-6. Wet weather and unlucky matches cost us vital points for a semi final placing. Injuries and representative games seemed to fall when we needed our strongest side.

The forwards benefited greatly from Martin Fraser's experienced leadership, he was a strong driving force especially with his vocal encouragement in the games. It was good to see the forward pack working in so well together which made them one of the strongest in the district. This was attributed to second rowers John Wilkie and Tony Plekan who also proved their worth in the lineouts. Flankers Ron Wessell and Mick Wilkins were invaluable in the rucks and mauls as was Col Gamble. Len Barker proved his value by winning a lot of ball from the scrums and general loose play for the backs which

was distributed by Graham Collinson-Smith in his usual capable manner. Paul Murray was a great asset to the back-line sharing his representative experience and knowledge with them. Dave Johnston again turned in many good games in attack and defence. John Cauduro won us many games with his reliable kicking. It was very encouraging to see young Garry Wheeler step into first grade and perform so well. Brian Moore also proved to be a reliable player under pressure with his general play. Brian Silver was a safe and valuable player on many occasions.

Alan Thommeny's speed and John Dawson's tackling were greatly missed when they were side-lined due to injuries.

Many thanks to Mick Fraser, Brian Warnock, Ian Kent, "Spike" Cario, Mal Pearson, Mal Davies and all others who stood in throughout the season.

The Waratahs owe much of their early success to the enthusiastic coaching of Paul McCann who we wish all the best in his new appointment.

I would like to thank the committee, selectors, managers, trainers, coaches and most of all the players for giving me their support and encouragement after taking over from Paul.

Mark

1st Grade Team Photo



BACK ROW (left to right): Mick Wilkins, Mark Hotchkis (Coach), Mal Davis, John Wilkie, Tony Plekan, Brian Moore, Martin Fraser, Col Gamble.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Graham Collinson-Smith, Brian Silver, Dave Johnstone, Gary Wheeler, John Cauduro, Len Barker, Ron Wessel, Paul Murray. ABSENT: Paul McCann (Coach).



SECOND GRADE REPORT

Although failing to achieve a prominent position on the points table the Seconds turned in many notable and pleasing performances. We finished with 11 points from five wins and a draw – the draw being with Tech. College, eventual Grand Finalists. Unfortunately we were beaten by only a handful of points on most occasions. The bounce of the ball being the deciding factor in many games.

Injuries again cost us dearly and it proved very hard to maintain a winning combination when players of the experience and calibre of Rusty Stevenson, Geoff Dunn, Mal Pearson, Dennis Buske, Mick Greenhalgh, Rod Coleshill and John Dawson were forced to miss vital games.

Many players achieved first grade status through the year. Ian Kent, Bruce Boulding, John Haywood,

Gary Towner, 'Spike' Corio, Bob Fleming, Mal Pearson, Mal Davis, Gary Wheeler, John Dawson, Geoff Wells, and Brian Warnock all filled in admirably in the top grade.

My thanks to Mush and all those third graders who were confronted at the end of their game and made second appearances on the paddock. We almost found out how many positions Robbo could play.

New players to the Club Gary Wheeler, Greg Clarke, Ian McDonald and Ian Haywood all had an excellent initial season. I am confident they will fill the ranks as regular first graders in the not too distant future.

Special thanks to Paul, Mush, Johnny Hayward, Dave Johnson, Mick Wilkins, and the 'Whale' for their invaluable assistance and guidance throughout the year. A special cheer also to those first graders and club officials who managed to come along early on Saturdays and supported all grades.

I will conclude by congratulating all trophy winners and thanking the entire second grade side for their support through the year.

Jim Pettit.

2nd Grade Team Photo



BACK ROW (left to right): Jim Pettit (Coach), Mal Pearson, Spike Corio, Ian Hayward, John Hayward, Ian Kent, Pat Atkinson, Mick Greenhalgh, Denis Burke, Brian McGrath, Roger Zimmerman, Rod Coleshill, Bruce Boulding, Mick Fraser, Ron Robertson.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Graham Dougherty, Geoff Wells, Greg Clarke, Ian McDonald.

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3RD GRADE REPORT

To reflect on the Waratah third grade effort for 1977 conjures up some unforgettable memories. Not that we fared all that well in the competition, but the spirit in which every game was played was a tribute to the players themselves.

Who could forget our first game against Camden in the first round at Camden. "Captain" Steel leading the team onto the field, "Coach" Mal calling the shots and "The Enforcer" Leo giving the half-time pep talk. We had to win, Camden were too confused. Who could forget the second round win against Camden. They forfeited, we played 7-a-side (to keep our tremendous physical condition) and managed to send Pat Atkins to hospital for three stitches above the eye (we play tough football no matter who we come up against).

Our win against Kiama in the Second Round, a stirring performance, and those who said it was because we had a new captain, new kicker and a new incentive to win are wrong. Don't you believe them Gav.

And Wilf, you didn't get that achilles tendon trouble because of general play or rough-house tactics. It was because someone tried to rip your boot off without untying your laces.

There are many more memories to numerous to mention in these few short words and we (the regular third graders) take this opportunity to thank those people who were part of third grade in some way.

To Mal Davis, Coach. With what you had to work with (15 eager players every Saturday), regardless of the final score, the temperament of the players and

their attitude towards the game was a tribute to you. Your expertise in this field is undoubted.

To Gavin Steel, Captain. Your solid leadership for most of the season was inspiring if only to stand in awe at how you belittled the opposition with retorts and phraseology that surely must have been damaging to them.

To Bryan Leo, Vice Captain and Captain in the last few games. Your experience and leadership was a driving force for the younger and less experienced players.

To Paul McCann, Mark Hotchkiss and Jim Pettit (not forgetting Paul Murray). Your efforts were very much appreciated at training and on the sidelines.

To Mick Wilkins, Club Trainer. Whether there were all of us there all of the time or all of us there some of the time or some of us there some of the time or any of us there any of the time, your efforts to bring the team to some sought of condition are appreciated also.

To those players who passed through on their way up to the senior grades and those who were relegated by way of returning from injury or to fill gaps which appeared from time to time, thank you for being part of a great team.

To the Executive. President Neil, Secretary Mike and Treasurer Mick. Your support was also appreciated.

To the Waratah supporters, thank you. It's good to see the numbers along for the earlier game.

The Year of '78 is going to be a great year for the third grade and we take this opportunity to wish the other grades every success.

Wayne Collard (for Mal Davis).



BACK ROW (left to right): Gavin Steele, Mal Davis (Coach), Wilf Hedley, Pat Atkinson, Roger Zimmerman, Rob Benjamin, Charlie Hotchkis, Jim Harpley, Tony Johnson, Wayne Collard, Graham Dougherty.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Ron Robertson, Bill Norris, Graham Dunn, Brian Leo, Brian McGrath, John Palmer.



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NETBALL REPORT

Another unfortunate story for the girls "Next year's our year" as the popular saying goes. The Waras zoomed to the finals being only defeated once. However the north breeds them strong and fit so a team from Helensburgh pushed us out of the competition. Our goal shooter and goal attack are dangerous and vulnerable positions as can be seen from the state of Lesley Hayward and Margaret Fleming. Congratulations, girls and we hope you'll be back with us next season. Best wishes also go to Jenny Wright and Kim Haigh on their recent engagements. A most memorable game was against IMBS when

there was a friendly discussion on rules. It was decided that scratching, biting, punching pinching and pushing were not in the rule book. Waras won the game despite the loss of skin and bruises.

Jayne Bruce had her first season with us and we are grateful to her for her encouragement and scoring ability. We do need more in the cheer squad as John and Lesley's silky terrier found it lonely on the sideline.

Unfortunately the Tahs were off to a bad start not being able to find sufficient numbers. Any newcomers are always welcome so GRAND FINALS here we come.

Barbara Johnston.





TEAM TRAINER'S REPORT

1977 was the first time I had assumed the responsibility of training and conditioning teams of footballers and I look back on the experience with mixed feelings.

It can be a rewarding and satisfying job if the trainer has the co-operation of the players and the coaches. During the year I had the full co-operation of all coaches, which I greatly appreciated. I thought we worked together very well. Unfortunately the same co-operation was not forthcoming from all the players.

There is only one way to get fit and stay fit — hard work. No-one has yet developed an easy way. If somebody ever does find an easy way, I want to know about it, because I'm not particularly keen on hard work either. But meanwhile, every footballer from the fourth reserve for third grade to the best

player in first grade must face the fact that to play Rugby you must be fit, and to get fit you must work hard and consistently.

Early season training, in particular, must improve next year if we are to get away to a decent start in 1978. Our 46-0 loss in first grade in the first game could be directly attributed to lack of conditioning and lack of practice. The hiding finally cost us a place in the semi-finals, and possibly a premiership. Have a look at the position on the table of 2nd and 3rd grades. It wasn't lack of ability that put them second last in both grades.

To the players who trained consistently throughout the year — thank you for your support. I wish the best of luck to next year's trainer, and I hope the fellows who could have done better this year will have a serious look at their responsibilities to their team mates and their club, and come back better than ever next year.

Mick Wilkins.

UNDER 18's REPORT

The inaugural Waratah Under 18 side was formed towards the latter half of the 1977 season.

The formation of a junior side was an accomplishment long overdue, and welcomed by every club member. The future of our club rests with young players moving up through the ranks. The players of this side have already exhibited a keenness and willingness to learn Rugby Union which will surely benefit the club in future years.

All the boys came to us from Warrawong High School and their sporting backgrounds included Soccer, Hockey and Rugby League. Warrawong High School Principal Mr. Jim Dombroski gave tremendous help and Mr. Josh Tierney further encouraged the boys to try their hand at Rugby Union.

Paul McCann lent invaluable assistance to the early coaching of the basic fundamentals of Rugby. Training attendances reflected their enthusiasm and put to shame the training efforts of many senior players.

Our club formed the sixth side in the Illawarra Under 18 competition and the team played each of the other sides. Results indicated that our Under 18 side in 1978 will command a great deal of respect from every other club.

Every player acquitted himself well with determined displays and it is a bit unfair to name particular players. However, players to stand out through their ability and enthusiasm were — No. 8 and team captain Alfeo Dela-Libra, both props — the Tsiantarlis brothers, Steven and Spiro, halfback Graham Bath and fullback Ronald De Hass. All other players contributed wholeheartedly to the overall team and this was indicated by the success the boys achieved in a game completely new to all of them.

We look forward to the 1978 season with confidence and hope to receive the support of all club members to foster the potential talent which the boys have shown in the few games they have played in 1977.

Brian Silver and Mick Wilkins.



CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Again Waratahs had a successful season on and off the field. First grade just missed out on a semi final berth due to four drawn games and lack of conditioning at the start of the season. Off the field some of the grand performances were:—

Its-a-its-a-Tews hot dog for hangover remedies, want-to-buy-a-ticket John Palmer. I'll-take-my-ball-and-go-home Brian Silver. The-two-tree-monkeys Brian Warnock and Gavin Steel and ever retiring Bob Fleming.

This has been a big year for Waratah players being selected in Illawarra games. Illawarra made it to the final of the "Wills Trophy" and congratulations to Paul Murray, Martin Fraser, Graham Collinson-Smith, Brian Silver. Also these players had big games at Country Week.

This year Waratahs first grade had their biggest chance of making the semi finals. We started the season very slow with some losses and drawn games due to poor condition and lack of team work. When the players realised that they had to train and put more team effort into the games, results started to show. Some of these wins were against Port Surf, Shoalhaven and Tech. College. The drawn games which were unlucky not to be won were Vikings, Teachers College and Kiama.

Second grade started the season as a very strong team and were unlucky not to win more games. Due to district commitments and injuries second graders were called on to play first grade and this weakened their side. In most of the games there was only a couple of points difference in the score. Some of the players responsible for these close games are Rodney "Your shout" Coleshill, Mick "Bandage" Greenhalgh, Bruce "One for the road" Boulding, John "Retread" Dawson.

Third graders didn't win many games but they had good team spirit (mostly the night before).

The backbone of third grade were Gavin "Semi retired" Steele, Brian "The ghost" Leo, Charlie "Off side" Hotchkis. If matches could be won by consistency third grade would have had more points on the board. Some of the consistent players were Wayne Collard, Pat Atkinson, John Wheelahan and Brian McGrath.

This is the first season the Waratahs started an Under 18 side. Although they didn't win many games they will be a good base for a good side next year. Some of the people responsible for starting this side were

Brian Silver, Mick Wilkins with help from Paul McCann and Graham Collinson-Smith. Thanks go to the supporters for helping out with transport and side line encouragement of these players.

The Waratahs have made a big step by leasing the Keira Oval canteen and this will ensure the club with a home ground and training facilities.

The social side was in good spirits throughout the season with functions being held at Graham Dunns, Tewys and after game functions at the Illawarra Hotel and Master Builders Club. Some of the highlights of these functions were Warnock and Steele being hosed out of a tree, Passionate embraces seen at Paul McCanns farewell. Also wives being sozzled by a flagon or two.

At our main function the Ball, the Waratahs found out who was "the most beautiful looking fellow", the girl with the biggest "Norks" and who is the best player in the club.

I would like to wish all the Waratahs a successful and prosperous 1978 season.

Mark.

CWA AWARD

This year as in others there are numerous characters who specialise in riotous behaviour both on and off the field, and in other locations. On numerous occasions the referees found it necessary to move spectators back from the sideline usually as a result of abuse or should I say misdirected comments rather than the spectators overflowing onto the field.

One gentleman in particular who generally sells technique somewhere for a living but gives lip for free, warrants this award as a result of his sarcasm on the field, his witicism on the sideline and his carols down at the Hotel, after an ale or two after the game.

Usually known as "Whale" Geoff Wells has managed to upset many referees during the game, have numerous penalties awarded from the sideline, apart from thinning out the crowd. The Publican at the local, delights in his song particularly when the regulars complain, and the unknowns walk in one door and straight out the other.

Out local constabulary so far haven't been blessed with the pleasure of his company and hopefully will not have that honour.

Congratulations Geoff, for you and you alone have won this award for outstanding sarcastic abuse usually directed to the opposition, referees and the like. For your Rugby songs that you manage to keep alive until closing time, sometimes 9.30p.m. and for your general stirring overall.

Without your continual co-operation toward this goal our CWA trophy would not have the same creative importance it will no doubt create on the eve of its latest presentation to your Whale (Geoff Wells).

TRIP AWAY

After a lengthy and in many ways frustrating season, the men of the Waratah's boarded the bus for their annual trip away. Wagga (Scales' territory) being the fortunate venue chosen and good 'old' Joe at the helm.

We departed from the Illawarra amidst cries of "kidnap me — please" from various married male members who much to their dislike were the victims of thumb print indentations. Our numbers were drastically reduced and only 19 of the original touring party finally moved onwards towards Wagga.

However, someone must have forgotten to let Joe know about the reduced party because beer and catering supplies were plentiful. Reaching Macquarie Pass was highlighted by the echoed noises of pulling cans and shouts of "I'll have an old" and the constant rushing (falling) of passengers towards the fountain at the door.

"Hey, we're in Goulburn" — time for a pit stop. Bus Driver reluctantly yielding to pressure allows a half hour stop for freshening up. Ha! straight across the park up the stairs and a beer and a game of pool were enjoyed in the Goulburn Rugby Union Club.

Some-what late we boarded the bus for a quiet relaxing journey's end. Not so — the cans were still freely flowing with Tony Plekan (no sleep Tony) setting a hectic pace. "Hello, someone's asleep — quick wake him up". Staminas eventually were sapped and the previous noise of cans pleasantly popping gave way to an endless variety of snoring.

We're here! 3.00a.m. a group of sleep lacking zombies fell out of the bus and were quickly in bed. After a great amount of difficulty in downing breakfast we were met by some of the Wagga City Rugby Union "officials". The question of a game was discussed but unfortunately many of their players were out of town so an adjournment was called for and after a leisurely walk through the streets of downtown Wagga we found ourselves, surprisingly enough, in a pub yet again.

After a little of the "hair of the dog that had bitten us" a game of darts was started and some abusive remarks about one of our player's intelligence led to the derogatory nickname of the BRAIN. This name has since been regarded by Tony as a term of endearment.

Saturday afternoon was spent adding to the coffers of the local bookmakers at the Wagga race track. Here it was noted that we had a slow-moving, sleepy South American animal with us and it was none other than Col "the sloth" Gamble. As he slowly moved around the bookmakers ring it was obvious that he has had a South American upbringing by the way he slowly pawed his money out to the "bet these prices" gentlemen.

That night commenced at our hotel with the Wagga

City boys joining us in lubricating our palates and then moving on to the Australian Rules Club where Joe must have felt at home. The author at this early stage of the evening found the club's tables very comfortable and soon he was in the land of nod and later found himself in the back of a car at a house some miles away in Koorringal.

I'm advised that the pace didn't slacken and that the Wagga women didn't either. Upon leaving the club a lift was sought back to the hotel and a few found an obliging offer in a Holden utility. Mick Wilkins at this stage met with success (?) when the driver in a high pitched voice asked Mick to join him at his place for a few drinks and . . . However, Mick displaying his loyalty to the Golden Amber didn't accept the man's kind invitation but, later revealed that an offer of a dozen KB would have won him.

Sleep was still hard to come by as the bus was opened and cartons of beer were removed and drunk in battled OScarred hotel rooms.

A barbecue was organised for Sunday and so after breakfast we headed out in the Wagga country side amidst anguished cries of "Oh, my aching head". Sure enough the customary keg arrived at the property and later left some-what lighter.

Touch football commenced when the black snake stalking hunters returned and what a game it turned out to be. Quite innocent and severely handicapped Jim Pettit invited Mick to run onto his pass after first "accidentally" dropping the ball into some manure. Mick's white T-shirt was no longer and the laughter quickly subsided as Mick sought revenge — first Col copped it, then Dennis and then, and then and so on until it was on for young and old. Participants, however, managed to maintain some cleanliness by diving into a creek on the property but the water in the creek also had the same brown smelly aspects. Showers were necessary before leaving for the Leagues Club. Here, the Waratahs showed light footedness on the dance floor which belied some of their clumsiness on the football field.

Monday morning heralded packing of belongings and memories aboard the bus for the distant return to the 'Gong. The return journey got away a little later than planned as some party members were 'lost' from Sunday night so where better to wait for them than in the Pub.

The trip home is best described as being an exact duplication of the trip down — still drinking, no sleeping and a stop at Goulburn.

In conclusion I'm sure I speak for everyone in saying we had a fantastic time and strongly advise all of those Club members who haven't yet experienced an end of season trip that they are missing the opportunity of enjoying spirited fun, close friendship and of course — a rotten hangover. Look out Canberra!

Brian Silver.

* *
THE SOCIAL SCENE
 * *

Well another year has nearly come to an end.

On the social scene the year has been quite successful. The committee has worked well together, including Tewey's angels, Sue, Julie and Jane. Thanks, angels.

The canteen this year branched out into a wider variety of items available to the people i.e., cigarettes, pies, coffee, tea and soup. Thanks go to all those who assisted in making the canteen a success.

The after match functions at the Illawarra Hotel were a great success and very well patronised by the Waratahs. Thanks go to Lloyd and his staff for their assistance.

We commenced the cent a number competition mid way through the year. This turned out very success-

fully thanks to the efforts to Bob (Keg) Lawrence, Bruce (The Boorawa Kid) Bolding and all their sellers.

During the year we have held 3 good functions at Bulwarra Street. At one of these Brian (Old Man of Rugby) Leo, took a liking to pavlova and the Italian heritage.

Besides some of our players showing good form on the field they also were in good form with the voices off the field, i.e. Geoff (Whale Caruso) Wells, Len (Olanza) Barker and Paul (Sinatra) Murray.

Our annual cricket match against the staff of the Master Builders again was a great day. The result is still unknown, both sides claiming victory.

The Ball was held at Corrimal Community Hall. I feel sure everyone who attended had a good night. The band as usual was fantastic, same can be said for the food.

Brian you were only being humoured about being the best looking bloke at the Ball.

If anyone knows of any cleaning jobs going I can recommend Mick Fraser, Wayne Collard (really something on the broom) and Wiz Wilkins.

Apparently not many recovered to make the recovery Barbecue at Mullet Creek.

Neil Tew.



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CRICKET REPORT

Not being content with bruises on the football field some of the lads gallantly picked up the noble art of bat and ball for Corrimal CC during the summer months.

The competition began well for us, our reputation had obviously preceded us and Wests failed to turn up for the game. Ten points and the Tahs lead the comp doing it easy.

Next game, full of confidence the lads take on TIGS. Well, you wouldn't have guessed it, whether TIGS were shell shocked out of the game by the vicious googly bowling of Smithy or tricked into giving their wickets away by that master of flight and deception, the Brain, the Tahs hung on for well deserved wicket victory.

Oh, but alas the strain of leading the comp was beginning to show and the boys although turning in many fine individual performances (some as cricketers) failed to cement their position at the top and proceeded to slide down the table, to rot in a mire of missed catches midway on the points score.

Some indication of the potential of this side was given during the last game of the season. The scene was Nicholson Park, notorious for its floating mats and marshy swamps. Here again the captain lost the toss and soon after his wicket when he failed to follow the swing of the third bounce and succumbed, numbed, codpiece before wicket.

Kenty carried on gloriously stroking balls on both sides of the wicket.

Blook, Robbo and Zombie chipped in with a few runs while Mushroom and Sooty confounded the experts and were out failing to make a significant impact on the total. Our score 41.

Opening the bowling from the Tin Shed end the Brain soon had the square leg umpire ducking for cover. Kenty and Blood managed to put a few more balls onto the pitch, the opposition was out – a victory to the lads 41 to 40.

Just to finish off I would like to thank all fellows who played this season. We're doing it again so let's see if we make a fortune and back the 100-1 shot in the Fourth Grade Comp.

Some awards issued by the judges this year were:–

Bob Fleming – Best Unsuccessful LBW Appeal.
Brian Silver – Shortest Opening Bowler.
Ian Kent – Doug Walters Look Alike Comp.
Tony Plekan – Widest Wide of the Season.
Smithy – Longest throw from the Boundary.
Dennis Bourke – Most Wickets in a Season.
Ron Gordon – Acrobat of the Season.
Julian Sullivan – Most Games in a Season.
Garry Towner – Biggest Hit of the Season.
Mick Wilkins – Fastest Climber of the Batting Order.
Ron Robertson – Most Decorative Hat.

To all others I have not mentioned I'm sure we all deserve the Best Fielding Side Award.

See you in the nets.

Jim.

MISSED AGAIN

Tewy was driving his new boiler home from the pub. Both were 21 years old (approx).

"Tewy", said the bird, "you are the first guy I ever loved".

"Dammit" said Tewy, "I've drawn another beginner".

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THE BRAIN

"Gimme a schooner of old" Tony yelled to the Barmaid as he entered the Coniston Pub.

"Be quiet or you'll get me into trouble" said the Barmaid.

Tony replied, "Maybe later, but right now I just want a drink".



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TAH'S – PREMIERS, WINTER 1977

1977 was the year of the "Tah's" with reward coming to those undaunted female basketballers with a win in the E Grade Grand Final 49-25 having lost only 1 of their 18 games – the major semi final by 1 point.

The year commenced with the Tah's obtaining a semi final berth in the pre-winter competition, only to be eliminated in the semi's. With the onset of the winter competition the seasoned competitors of the pre-winter competition were joined by "dainty foot Bev Davis" and "Thunder pass Thompson".

The determination and dedication shown by this band of female gladiators both at training and in games was beyond reproach and was befitting that of a professional team.

1977 saw several other highlights in addition to the premiership, Marilyn-ooh-Hick and Alison-hoopy-Parkhill topped the individual points score for the grade. Linda-Thunder pass-Thompson proceeded to

Women's Basketball Team Photo



**BACK ROW (left to right): Sharon Ryan, Marian Hicks (Capt), Linda Thompson, Robyn Savage, Alison Parkhill
FRONT ROW: (left to right) Bev. Davis, Joc. Fraser, Tony Barnes (Coach) Noreen Parish, Sue Barrow.**

break the odd finger or two, and Sue-barreller-Barrow was seen to set many an unsuspecting opponent on their tail while Noreen-Nimble feet-Parrish dazzled opponents with her lightning dashes through the zone. Ably supporting our offence was a solid defence which was seen to deliver some SAVAGE blows around the ring.

While Sharon-smiling-Ryan yet to be seen ruffled and Jos-ballet-shot-Fraser completed our formidable if at times bewildering defence. 1977 also saw the final conversion of Sharon and Lynda away from that girls game Netball.

To date 3 games have been played in D grade in the pre Christmas competition with a win, a forfeit and a loss – to last competition's grand finalists by only 8 points.

Thank you, ladies, for your support and dedication during 1977 and apart from the hypertension, blood pressure, ulcers, lack of sleep, new rifts in friendships and bad temper it has been my pleasure to coach you through 1977. Now for D Grade and 1978.

Tony Barnes.

Tug-O-War Team



Dave Johnston, Mick Fraser, Mick Wilkins, Ian Kent, Tony Plekan, Col Gamble, Ron Wessel, Charlie Hotchkiss

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WARATAHS PULL TOGETHER

The astounding ingenuity of our so called authority namely the Illawarra District Rugby Union this year brought about a Grand Final victory to the Tahs with a very closely fought victory against a Weerona combination which on paper looked unbeatable.

The authority in their wisdom decided that one way to encourage the individual clubs to attend the final of the Wills Cup game against Riverina at Vikings field was to entice the clubs with an 19 gallon keg of beer to battle it out in a winner take all Tug-of-War.

Well the Tug-of-War idea proved to be successful as most clubs nominated all their heavies to represent their clubs for the prize no doubt of an 18 gallon keg.

After a forfeit and a victory or two the tahs consisting of Dave Johnston, Mick Wilkins, Tony Plekan, Ian Kent, Ron Wessel, Charlie Hotchkis, Col Gamble, Mick Fraser with Neil Uew reserve and the two Brians, Baird and Silver rather than getting the boys pulling in unison, managed to generally confuse the issue all trying for that keg.

So just prior to the big game the most important event of the day was about to take place which also had the biggest audience I might add, the final of the Tug-of-War between Waratahs and Weerona.

For the first pull we held them for a while but the Weerona heavies just managed to get the nod. With Bairdy and Silver nearly hoarse, that keg looked lost as Weerona pulled the boys to within an inch of defeat but that keg started to look real and Weerona were losing ground. Now it was one all with one to go.

Weerona in the third and final round hardly had their feet on the ground when Waratahs walked off with a very diminished 18 gallon keg.

Who said Waratahs weren't capable of winning a Grand Final. If only there were more kegs about!

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Presented to the Club by his family following his death in a car accident in 1963. Bill was a foundation member of the Club and during his years played top grade football.

BARNEY LYONS MEMORIAL TROPHY

Presented to the Club by his family and friends after his death in Vietnam while serving as a National Serviceman. Barney was a regular 3rd grade player.

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AWARDS FOR – 1977

BEST AND FAIREST

A Grade	G. Collinson Smith	(14)
B Grade	G. Wells	(13)
C Grade	B. Leo	(13)

MOST IMPROVED

A Grade	G. Wheeler	
B Grade	I. McDonald	
C Grade	G. Dougherty	
Top Point Scorer	J. Cauduro	
Best Clubman	M. Greenhalgh	
C.W.A. Trophy	Geoff Wells	
Most Consistent Player	Graham Dougherty	

TOTAL No. OF PLAYERS

A Grade	30
B Grade	38
C Grade	36

No. OF PLAYERS RECEIVING B & F POINTS

A Grade	19
B Grade	29
C Grade	22

No. OF GAMES PLAYED

B. Boulding	18
G. Collinson Smith	18
C. Hotchkiss	18
D. Johnson	18
I. Kent	18
M. Wilkins	20

POINTS FOR AND AGAINST

A GRADE

	For	Against	Comp. Points	Position in comp.
Total	124	199	20	5th

B GRADE

	For	Against	Comp. Points	Position in comp.
Total	108	190	11	9th

C GRADE

	For	Against	Comp. Points	Position in comp.
Total	40	305	9	9th

Overall Position in Illawarra Championship	6
No. of Registered Players	57
Financial No's	60

STATISTICS — OVERALL RESULTS

A Grade	Played 18; Won 7; Drew 4; Lost 8
B Grade	Played 18; Won 5; Drew 1; Lost 12
C Grade	Played 17; Won 3; Drew 1; Lost 13

BEST AND FAIREST PLAYER — A GRADE

Previously presented to—

1963	John Steele
1964	Ted McMillan
1965	Reg Piper
1966	Allan Elliott
1967	Alan Bateman and Terry Churchin
1968	Kerry Medway
1969	Mick Twernlow
1970	Dave Johnston
1971	Ron Brady
1972	Tim Young
1973	Tim Young and Graeme Smith
1974	Mark Hotchkiss
1975	Len Barker
1976	G. Collinson Smith

B GRADE

1969	Rick Deem
1970	Stuart Baikie
1972	Pat O'Shea
1973	Phil Tindall
1974	Barry Doyle
1975	Joe Browne
1976	G. Wells

C GRADE

1968	Kevin Callaghan
1969	Geoff Thomas
1970	Malcolm Graham
1971	Graham Cottom
1972	John Martin
1973	Barry Doyle
1974	Paul McCann
1975	Graham Smith
1976	B. Leo

BEST CLUBMAN

Previously presented to—

1964	Peter Head
1965	Reg Reeves
1966	Geoff Wells
1967	John Millar
1968	Chris Tyrrell
1969	Doug Roser
1970	Adrian Russell
1971	Bruce Carr
1972	John McGoldrick
1973	Neil Tew
1974	Gavin Steele
1975	Mick Wilkins
1976	M. Greenhalgh

LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Isaacs, Brian Baird, Geoff Wells, Bruce Carr

