

THE AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

Annual Report for Year ending 31st March, 1945. Presented at the Annual Meeting held at the Commercial Travellers Club, Melbourne on Friday June 28th, 1946.

OFFICERS 1945

President	Mr. J.S.Hutcheon
Vice Presidents	Messrs. C.A.M.West and T. Fulton
Hon. Secretary	Mr. I.J.Taylor
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. G.J.Flood
Hon. Auditor	Mr. K.H.Boykett

Mr. President & Gentlemen,

In submitting for your approval the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council, it is pleasing to record, that taking the prevailing circumstances into consideration, the year under review must be regarded as being entirely satisfactory.

The sound policy, as advocated in the Annual Report of 1940, of keeping the game alive during the period of the war in the junior division and among those players who were forced to remain in essential services, has paid handsome dividends in Victoria, South and Western Australia. Unfortunately, Queensland and New South Wales were unable to carry on after 1940 and were forced into recess for the duration.

We trust that the difficulties of reviving the game in these States will soon be overcome and that their absence will not be of long duration.

END OF WAR During the year under review the World War has happily been brought to a successful conclusion with complete victory for our Commonwealth and Empire and the United Nations.

In achieving this great victory, Lacrosseurs - as in the World War 1914-1918 - nobably played their part. Although the Council's records are far from complete it may be stated that nearly 2,000 volunteered for active service, while many others who were forced to remain behind rendered conspicuous service in the A.R.P. V.D.C. the munition factories, Patriotic Movements, and other essential services. Unfortunately casualties have been

extremely heavy and I regret to report that 105 of our members lost their lives in this terrible conflict. The South Australian Association suffered 51 deaths, Victoria 40 and Western Australia 14.

Many of our members have been decorated for gallantry, included in these honours are:-

8	D.F.C.
1	D.S.O.&.Bar
1	D.S.O.
1	M.C.& Bar
3	M.C.
2	D.F.M.
2	Mentioned in despatch

To those who made this great victory possible, both the living and the dead we gratefully give thanks and pray that the ideals for which they fought and gave their lives will not have been in vain.

DEATHS IN THE WAR I regret to report that twenty-one of our members lost their lives on active service during the year. To their relatives the Council extends its deepest sympathy.

BROWNE, Flight Sergt. Neville T. R.A.A.F. who died as the result of an aircraft accident in Queensland, was a member of the Perth Lacrosse Club.

BAUMAN C.H. A.I.F. Killed in action 6th June, 1945. Member University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

COOPER J. Sgt. Pilot R.A.A.F. Killed in action, member of Brighton Club, South Australia.

CRAVEN J. A.I.F. Died of illness member University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

CRELLIN A R.A.A.F. Killed member Essendon Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

DOBBIE F.A. A.I.F. Died Prisoner of War 15th August, 1943, member Old Trinity and Army Lacrosse Clubs, Victoria.

FRANCIS H. Sgt. Pilot. R.A.A.F. Reported missing member Brighton Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

GILCHRIST A. Private A.I.F. Died of illness member of the Brighton Club, South Australia.

GOTTS R R.A.A.F. Missing, believed killed member University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

HODGSON Len A.I.F. Died Prisoner of War Malaya, Member Coburg Lacrosse Club Victoria.

LIND Pilot Officer Gilbert Owen Hugh, previously reported missing over Germany 21st March, 1945, now presumed to have lost his life on that date. Member of the Mount Lawley Lacrosse Club, W.A.

LIVINGSTONE F.G. R.A.A.F. Killed member of University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club.

LAURANTI D. Pilot Officer R.A.A.F. Member of the Brighton Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

MCPHERSON D. Sgt. Pilot, R.A.A.F. Killed in action. Member of the Brighton Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

MCMULLIN RAY R.A.A.F. Killed member University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

PHILLIPS H.G. Lt. R.A.N. Killed in action member of Brighton Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

QUIGLEY G. A.I.F. Died Prisoner of War 28th June, 1945 member Malvern Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

STONE? W. R.A.A.F. Killed member University High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

TUCKER D Flying Officer R.A.F. Member of the Brighton Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

VOKES W.R. Flight Sgt. R.A.A.F. presumed killed in air operations 6th July, 1944. Member of 5 D.N. Kipling Boys Lacrosse Club, South Australia.

WOODS Cpl. A.E. A.I.F. Accidentally killed at Wagga, N.S.W. 21st May, 1945. Member of the Como Lacrosse Club.

REMEMBRANCE DAY Instituted last year Remembrance Day was again appropriately observed on the opening matches of the Season, in all States.

FINANCIAL The Hon. Treasurer when presenting the financial statement tonight, will report a credit Balance of 15/3. The Assets of the Council amount to £26 17 3.

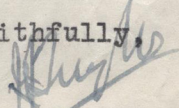
LACROSSE STICKS At the request of the State Association the Council consented to act as the Importing Agent on their behalf, for Lacrosse Sticks from Canada. Thanks to the efforts of Senator George McLeay and Mr. J.L.Parson, we were able to contact the best manufacturer of sticks in Canada and as a result a few days ago we landed a very welcome shipment. At the time of writing this report I had not inspected the goods but the maker assures me that he has given us a particularly good selection. As these sticks are the first to arrive since 1939, they will be very welcome.

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE CARNIVALS The War being happily a thing of the past many of our Kindred Associations are resuming Inter-state matches and All Australian Carnivals and if Lacrosse is to prosper and maintain the interest of its players we must give very serious consideration to an immediate resumption of the Australian Lacrosse Carnivals and also the possibility of an International visit in the next future. Tonight members will be asked to give consideration to the holding of the next Carnival in Perth during the 1947 Season.

CONGRATULATIONS The Council extends congratulations and good wishes to our former President Mr. Justice Abbott on his elevation to the Supreme Court Bench of South Australia.

CONCLUSION The rehabilitation of lacrosse after six years of war calls for hard work for everyone concerned, thanks, however, to the sound policy adopted of keeping the game active during the period of war, we have a solid foundation to work upon and the game is now in a much healthier condition than after the peace of 1918.

Early reports indicate the great interest being shown throughout the Commonwealth and this is reflected by the publicity the Press is giving to the game. Knowing the ability and enthusiasm of the Executive Officers of the State Associations, I am confident that their efforts will soon bring results and before very long lacrosse will once again be without a peer in amateur sport.

Yours faithfully,

 I. J. TAYLOR.
 HON. SECRETARY A.L.C.