

Annual Report Year ending 31st March 1945. Presented at the Annual Meeting held at the Commercial Travellers Club, Melbourne, on Friday 29th June, 1945.

OFFICERS 1944

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

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege and pleasure to submit for your consideration the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council covering the year ¹⁹⁴⁴. The South Australian, Victorian and Western Australian Associations all report a successful season.

Congratulations are extended to the very efficient and enthusiastic officers of these Associations who have worked tirelessly to ensure that lacrosse is kept alive during these critical years.

DEATHS IN THE WAR: Unfortunately the death roll has been extremely heavy - twenty-three of our comrades have made the supreme sacrifice since my last report. To their bereaved relatives the Council extends its sincere sympathy.

ADAMS; R.J. Member Malvern Lacrosse Club missing presumed dead, air operations.

ADDISON, Private Don, Member Malvern Lacrosse Club. Killed in action Solomon Islands 16th March, 1945.

BLACK, G. Served with the R.A.A.F. Member Caulfield (Vic.) Lacrosse Club.

BUTLER R. Member of the Caulfield Lacrosse Club, (Vic.) Killed while serving with the R.A.A.F.

BROWN, Stuart, Served with the A.I.F. Killed in Yugoslavia, member of the Caulfield Lacrosse Club, Victoria.

BURNLEY, Flight Lieutenant B, lost his life while serving with the R.A.A.F. member of the Port Adelaide Lacrosse Club.

GRABTREE, E. Missing (believed killed) on air operations. Member of Wattle Park (Vic.) Lacrosse Club.

CRAIG, H. Killed in action while serving with the A.I.F. Member Power House Lacrosse Club, (Vic.)

DAYMOND, Flying Officer Thomas, Albert, Charles, lost his life in aircraft accident in North Queensland 2nd July, 1944. Member Mt. Lawley Lacrosse Club (W.A.)

ELLIS, Sergt. E. Lost his life while serving with the A.I.F. Member of the East Torrens Lacrosse Club (S.A.)

GASKELL, J. Killed while serving with the Royal Australian Navy. Member Melbourne University Lacrosse Club.

GAULT, Ray. Member of the Malvern Lacrosse Club (Vic.) Killed while serving with the R.A.A.F.

GLENDINNING, Flying Officer W. Missing (believed killed) New Guinea 29th October, 1944. Member Malvern Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

LESLIE, K. (Mac.) Killed while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member Malvern Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

MAJOR S. Killed in action while serving with the A.I.F. Member Melbourne High School Old Boys Lacrosse Club.

MIDOLO, J. Reported missing while serving with the Royal Australian Navy. Member Wattle Park Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

PHILLIPS, Flying Officer C.A. Lost his life while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member St. Peters (Glenelg) Lacrosse Club, S.A.

ROBERTS, Flying Officer J. Died while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member Brighton Lacrosse Club (S.A.)

SAYCE, G.W. Killed while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member Old Trinity Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

SELTH, Flight Lieutenant J.B. Lost his life while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member East Torrens Lacrosse Club (S.A.)

SMALLHORN, Warrant Officer F.E. Killed on 7th November 1944 while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member of the M.C.C. Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

TORR: G. Warrant Officer G. Lost his life as result of an aircraft accident in Buckinghamshire on March 6th 1945, while engaged on his 34th Operational Flight. Member Adelaide University Lacrosse Club. S.A.

WILLIAMS, L. Killed while serving with the R.A.A.F. Member Hawthorn Lacrosse Club (Vic.)

DECORATIONS:

Burnley, Flight Lieutenant B. Distinguished Flying Cross
(Posthumously) S.A.

Shean, Lieutenant Max.

"For great courage, skill and determination in a hazardous enterprise when commanding a Midget Submarine in European waters."

Was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (W.A.)

FINANCIAL: When presenting the financial statement tonight the Hon. Treasurer will report a credit balance at the Commonwealth Bank of £2 1 2. The assets of the Council amount to £29 8 2.

CONSTITUTION: The Sub-Committee appointed to revise the constitution gave consideration to the further suggestions made by Western Australia and Queensland and their recommendations were incorporated in a new draft which has been submitted to the State Associations and agreement on all points has been reached. Tonight the amended Constitution will be submitted to the Council for adoption.

REMEMBRANCE DAY: The suggestion made in the last Annual Report that a Day of Remembrance be set aside each year for those lacrosseurs who have lost their lives in the War, has been unanimously adopted by all States. Throughout Australia on the opening matches of the season a simple but impressive ceremony was conducted. Henceforth this will be an annual ceremony.

OBITUARY: We regret to record the passing of Mr. George Beech and Capt. J.H.Fearon, both of the Victorian Association.

The late Mr. George Beech was the first Australian Lacrosse player and the father of the game in the Commonwealth. He was a foundation member of the Melbourne lacrosse and later on being transferred to Sydney started the game in that State.

Mr. Beech gave many years of valuable service to the Victorian Association of which he was a life member and retained his interest up till the time of his death.

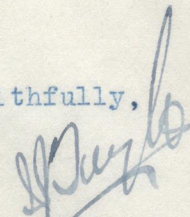
The late Captain Fearon, who was a life Member and a Past President of the Victorian Lacrosse Association was an enthusiastic worker for lacrosse and his interest in the junior player particularly was well known throughout the Commonwealth. He sponsored many interstate visits for junior players and his passing is a severe loss to Australian lacrosse. The Council extends its sympathy to their bereaved relatives.

LACROSSE STICKS. It will be recalled that the last meeting of the Council mention was made of the acute shortage of lacrosse sticks, the matter being left in my hands to take whatever action was practicable. Advice has since been received from our suppliers Messrs. Lalley & Co. that owing to their output being taken over by the Canadian Government they could not accept any orders until after the war. It therefore became necessary to look for a fresh source of supply. At the suggestion of the South Australian and Victorian Associations I communicated with Senator George McLeay, who was a delegate to the San Francisco Conference and Mr. J.H. Buckley of the M.C.C. who was proceeding to the U.S.A. on business, asking their assistance to locate new suppliers. Both gentlemen gladly agreed to do whatever they could while in America. At the time of writing this report I have not had any communication from them, but doubtless will hear shortly as to the result of their enquiries. In the meantime experiment with the manufacture of a stick made from imported hickory are being made in Melbourne. A sample has been submitted which appears quite equal to any imported article. Actual playing tests have yet to be made and should the stick stand up to

match conditions and provided the price is reasonable this should go a long way to solving our problem. Further developments will be watched with interest. The best thanks of the Council are due to Senator McLeay and Mr. J.J. Buckley for their assistance.

CONCLUSION In conclusion I wish to thank State Secretaries for their assistance in carrying out my duties.

Yours faithfully,



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