

# **CARDIFF ATHLETIC CLUB**



## **Report**

**for the period**

**September 1939 to 30th April 1946**



Mr. D. BERNARD MORGAN.  
Chairman of the Cardiff Athletic Club.



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## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

1945-1946.

*Chairman* : D. BERNARD MORGAN, M.A.

R. A. CORNISH.	G. PERCIVAL.
D. E. DAVIES.	T. W. RICHARDS.
EWAN G. DAVIES.	N. V. H. RICHES.
FRANK DAVIES.	D. SMITH.
E. C. DOLMAN.	IVOR STEPHENS.
Capt. H. J. M. EDWARDS.	H. W. TAYLOR.
W. J. EVANS.	G. A. THOMPSON.
G. E. HESLOP.	L. W. THOMSON.
K. I. INGLEDEW.	B. R. TURNBULL.
G. V. WYNNE JONES.	C. A. WILLIAMS, M.A.
L. G. MULLER.	

*Hon. General Secretary* : N. V. H. RICHES.

## FOOTBALL COMMITTEE.

(in continuation from Season 1939-40)

*Chairman* : R. A. CORNISH.

*Captain* : J. MATTHEWS.

J. BATSTONE.	G. E. HESLOP.
D. E. DAVIES.	G. V. WYNNE JONES.
F. DAVIES.	J. THOMAS.
W. J. EVANS.	

*Co-opted Members* :

B. H. JENKINS.	H. JOHNSON.	L. M. SPENCE.
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*Hon. Secretary* : R. A. CORNISH.

*Team Selection Committee* :

R. A. CORNISH.	D. E. DAVIES.	G. V. WYNNE JONES.
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## INTRODUCTION

*by the Chairman of the Management Committee*

By way of introduction to this Report, I have been asked, as Chairman of the Management Committee, to try, in a few remarks, to bridge the gap of the war years between the last pre-war report, namely, that for the year ended May 6th, 1939, and this, the first of our Post War Reports.

As far as the Club was concerned the immediate result of the outbreak of the War was that our then General Secretary, Mr. L. C. Watters, left to take his place with the Colours, with the natural consequence that the General and Management Committees had to deal with a number of problems as and when they arose, without the assistance of the Club's senior administrative official. Realizing that this would entail a considerable amount of work and that owing to blackout regulations and the like, the attendance at frequent meetings was difficult for certain of its members, the Committee immediately appointed a War Emergency Committee from its number with full powers to look after the Club's interests, and gratefully accepted an offer from Mr. Arthur Cornish and Mr. N. V. Hurry Riches to act as Honorary General Secretaries.

At the outset, the War Emergency Committee realized that the Club's position was materially different from that obtaining in August, 1914. In August, 1914, there were but two bodies, The Cardiff Rugby Club and The Cardiff Cricket Club, which while they were in many respects separate and distinct, in other respects had numerous ties which bound them together; there was no Athletic Club as we know it to-day, no Lawn Tennis Section, no Bowls Section, no Hockey Section and no Social Section. The result of this was that during the period 1914-1918, the two Clubs, for practical purposes closed down, with the exception of certain charity football matches played towards



the end of the War. By contrast in September, 1939, it was realised that the Club had wider interests than in 1914, and that while organised cricket and football matches might be impossible, it was highly desirable that Bowls and Lawn Tennis, as well as the social amenities of the Club's premises should be maintained as long and as fully as possible in the general interest of the Club and in particular in the interest of members seeking relaxation from war duties. As a result of these considerations the War Emergency Committee decided that it would endeavour to conduct the Club as fully and actively as possible, so long as circumstances permitted. At the same time it was appreciated that due to war circumstances, revenue, particularly by way of gates, would inevitably be considerably curtailed. In consequence, to offset this the War Emergency Committee immediately took every possible step to cut down any form of expense which, however desirable it might be in peacetime, was unnecessary in wartime. This, in fact, was the general policy of the Committee throughout the war period.

Shortage of labour and shortage of supplies impeded activities but in spite of the manifold difficulties which arose from these two main factors all sections carried on, giving considerable pleasure to those who were able to make use of the facilities provided, and in each case, affording a valuable springboard for building up the Club in the immediate post-war years. Particularly the Rugby Club, making use of what playing material was available, the quality of which fluctuated according to circumstances, played a number of matches during each of the wartime seasons. Attendances at these matches, which admittedly were not of a standard up to that which is generally associated with the Cardiff Rugby Club, were very much smaller than the attendances in peacetime, but nevertheless these matches produced quite a reasonable income from which several thousand pounds were devoted to charity. But, and this is even more important, there is little doubt that the very excellent and remarkable first post-war season of the Rugby Club was largely the result of the enthusiasm and hard work put in by Mr. Arthur Cornish and the other members

of his Committee during the war years, who were determined so long as they could, to keep the flag of Rugby Football flying in Cardiff, although elsewhere to a large extent, it was allowed to go by default.

Unfortunately the Club's premises suffered very severe damage during an air raid on this City on January 2nd, 1941, when a large land-mine dropped immediately behind the goal at the west or river end of the football ground. As a result of this the ground could not be used for any of the larger war-time charity matches, such as the war-time series of Internationals which were played between various Service sides. Further, the damage sustained on that night has still to be made good with the result that the large crowds which have attended our matches during last season were seriously inconvenienced through inadequate entrances and exits. But, while the Club suffered severely in this heavy raid in January, 1941, it had the good fortune to escape further damage in the subsequent raids on the City.

It was generally felt by the War Emergency Committee that the requirements of members in post-war years would differ materially from those in pre-war years. In consequence this Committee appointed a Reconstruction Committee from amongst its own members, consisting of Mr. R. A. Cornish, Mr. Kenneth Ingledew, Mr. N. V. Hurry Riches and Mr. D. B. Morgan, the Chairman. This Committee was given the widest possible terms of reference. It held several meetings at which every aspect of the Club was fully and fairly discussed. Subsequently it presented a lengthy report to the War Emergency Committee and has had the satisfaction of seeing several of its principal recommendations implemented and brought into being. Of these I would particularly refer to one. Prior to the war any person wishing to take part in any of the Club's activities could join the particular section in question, e.g., a cricketer need only join the cricket section to play cricket. Consequently the Club was in the peculiar position of having virtually no members over and above the original or life members because persons tended to join only a particular



section rather than the Club itself. As a result of a recommendation of the Reconstruction Committee this state of affairs was changed at the last Annual General Meeting of the members of the Club. To-day the position is that membership of any section is confined to members of the Club and that as a consequence anyone wishing to join a particular section such as the cricket section can no longer be merely a member of that Section as was formerly the case but must first join the Club. It is my opinion that this change was long overdue and will more than anything else contribute to the future well-being of the Club. Previously the Club consisted of several sections, the members of which were independent of each other and took no interest in the Club proper, together with a number of life members who, to a large extent no longer took any active interest in the affairs of any particular section of the Club. By contrast, to-day, anybody making use of the Club's facilities must first be a member of the Club with the result that the membership of the Club has to a large extent been strengthened and rejuvenated and interest in the Club itself stimulated.

As a result of these changes there has been a considerable influx of new members during the past year, in consequence it would I think be fitting that the opportunity should be taken of bringing to their notice the Aims and Objects of the Club. I cannot do this better than by quoting that portion of the Report of the Reconstruction Sub-Committee, in which it set forth the Aims and Objects which, in its opinion, constitute the real purpose of the Club in their relative order of precedence in the following terms :—

1. The provision of those facilities necessary for the playing by the members, in the best possible conditions of such outdoor and indoor games as may from time to time be considered desirable. In this connection the Sub-Committee recommends that the Club should, at any rate, for the time being, consist of the following sections : Rugby Football, Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Bowls and Hockey, it being clearly understood that this recommendation does

not preclude the addition of further sections, such as, e.g., Squash Rackets, should the provision of such facilities be considered desirable at some future date.

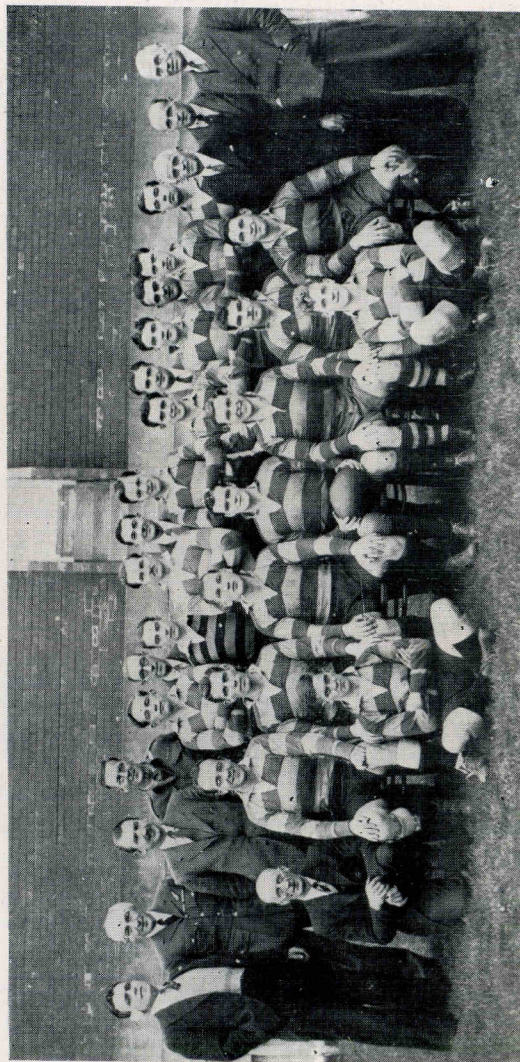
2. The provision of the best possible facilities for watching the activities of the various sections by those members of the Club who are not actually participating in them.
3. The provision of those amenities of a social nature which a member would expect to enjoy in a club of this type and standing.
4. The provision of suitable facilities to enable those members of the public who, although not members of the Club, are interested in the activities of the various sections to view these activities in a suitable and proper manner.

In conclusion, I am sure I am voicing the wishes of all the members of the Club in thanking all the members of the various committees for the very hard and often apparently profitless work which was put in during the difficult war years, but above all I would thank both personally and on behalf of the Club Mr. R. A. Cornish and Mr. N. V. Hurry Riches for the wonderful work they have put in and for the service they have rendered as Honorary General Secretaries of the Club, and also Mr. Kenneth Ingledew, the Club's Honorary Solicitor who was always ready to advise the Club in the many difficulties with which it was confronted with regard to the requisitioning of its premises for various war purposes.

D. B. MORGAN,  
*Chairman of the Management Committee.*



A Cardiff First XV Group taken in the early part of Season, 1945-46.



CLIFF DAVIES, S. LDR. LES. MANFIELD, G. V. W. JONES, B.S.M. LES. SPENCE, J. BLACKMORE, D. E. DAVIES, LT. C. MORGAN,  
S. DAVIES, LT. L. J. CALLAGHAN, R.N.V.R., M.P., H. E. JONES, B. V. WILLIAMS, H. JOHNSON, ST. J. REES, E. MORGAN,  
G. HALE, GLYN JONES, B. H. JENKINS, R. A. CORNISH, G. E. HESLOP.  
POWELL, G. TOMKINS, M. JAMES, R. BALE, J. MATTHEWS (Captain), F./O. BLEDDYN WILLIAMS, LT. W. E. TAMPLIN, W. G. JONES.  
W. DARCH, W. B. CLEAVER.

## CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB 1939-1946

Reports and Statistics by D. E. (Danny) DAVIES

### *Peace - War - Peace*

In 1939 the shadows of War passed over Great Britain only too often, the European scene was tense. Nazi Germany was bent on world domination, and her territorial demands and acts of invasion seemed insatiable.

Most of us remember this Country's efforts to maintain peace, the late Neville Chamberlain's visits to Munich, and other events which culminated in the German invasion of Poland, and the Prime Minister's broadcast to the nation on Sunday, 3rd September, 1939, declaring a state of war with Germany and warning us all of the evil things we should be fighting.

Nobody could then foresee what would happen, but it was obvious, with Conscription and National Service upon us that sport was, of patriotic necessity, to be thoroughly subservient to the all out need of the nation to overthrow the Nazis.

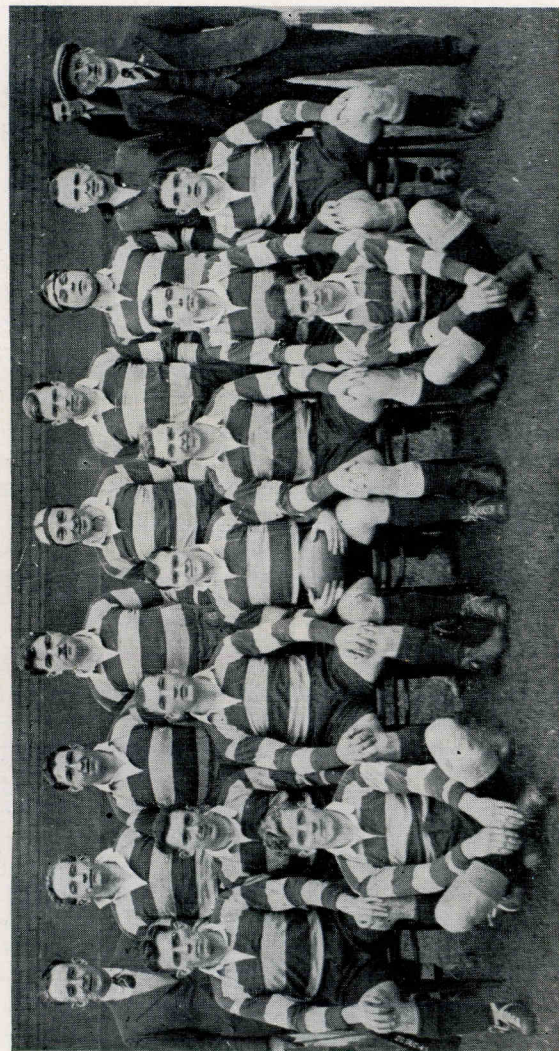
The development of the War and its world wide expansion is not the subject of this report, which will commence with September, 1939.

Two matches by the First XV and one only by the Athletic XV were played before war was declared, and at a meeting held in the Club it was decided to cease official Football activity, and, with effect from 3rd September, 1939, no fixtures arranged in time of peace were carried out. Peculiarly enough this decision created unbeaten records for the Club in 1939/40, as the only three official matches played were won; I mention this, however, as being of mere arguable interest.

The official records of those matches were maintained, as were also results of "Charity matches organised and



The Cardiff team that played the "Kiwis" at Cardiff Arms Park on 26th December, 1945.



Back Row : W. J. EVANS (Linesman), J. BLACKMORE, W. G. JONES, W. E. TAMPLIN, L. MANFIELD, H. E. JONES, C. DAVIES,  
T. JONES (Referee), J. POWELL (Hon. Mascot).  
Second Row : M. JAMES, B. V. WILLIAMS, R. BALE, J. MATTHEWS (Captain), B. WILLIAMS G. JONES, D. ST. JOHN REES.  
Front Row : W. B. CLEAVER, W. DARCH.

played in Time of War, i.e., for 1939/40, but which are not included in the Official Club Records."

Reverting to September, 1939, it was realised that some games could be arranged and thanks to some hard-working effort, the support of various Commanding Officers, in allowing leave for players, the occasional advent of a player or two to nearby stations, a few on normal Service Leave, the help of a few reserved occupational ones, the game was kept going at no cost to the Club, and the financial results devoted almost wholly to the cause of charity.

Mr. R. A. Cornish, the joint Hon. Secretary, following the departure of the former General Secretary to H.M. Forces, with the valuable help of Mr. Brice Jenkins and the occasional assistance of a few of the Committee, who in the main were actively engaged on Civil Defence, succeeded in arranging matches from time to time throughout the stress of war when sporting diversions—particularly Rugby Football—were so welcome and necessary.

On many occasions, Representative matches were staged, all for Charitable causes, from the Red Cross to the Burma Fund, and many depressing items of war news were—temporarily at least—forgotten in the thrills of war-time Rugby Football on the Cardiff Arms Park.

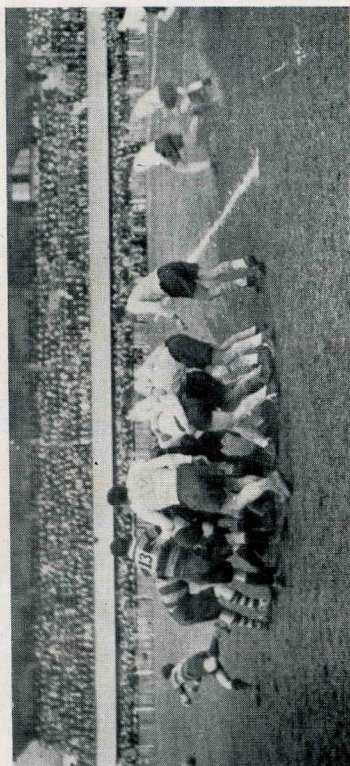
Many were the outside tributes paid by Military and other organisations to the officials mentioned for their efforts, and when 1945/46 Season arrived, the Club was fortunate to possess quite a large nucleus of war-time players on which to build up a peacetime team.

No records in Book Form were, however, maintained after 1939/40, until the restarted season 1945/46 and the statistics for these seasons are given at the end of this report.

Originally it had been intended that an Honours List should be compiled of our players, but the operation of Conscription and Civil Defence brought everybody under the War effort, many honours were won by our players and, alas, gallant lives were lost ; but any roll of honour would



STADE NANTAIS U.C. v. CARDIFF, at Nantes,  
31st December, 1945.



W. DARCH CARDIFF'S SCRUM HALF, GETS THE BALL AWAY.

reflect glory and lustre to the Cardiff Rugby Club for the actions of its players in the defence of their country.

In May, 1945, the following of the continuing Committee met :—R. A. Cornish, D. E. Davies, G. V. Wynne Jones, J. Thomas, Gerald Heslop, Brice Jenkins (co-opted during the war).

In view of the favourable Allied war situation, this Committee resolved that full football activity should be resumed on an "Official" basis including fixtures and records; at that time, the W.R.U. had not resumed its full peace-time functions.

Mr. R. A. Cornish agreed to act as Football Hon. Secretary and a Sub-Committee (Messrs. D. E. Davies, Gerald Heslop and G. V. Wynne Jones), was appointed to arrange fixtures, which work later devolved on Mr. D. E. Davies, as Hon. Fixture Secretary.

Regard was paid to our former strenuous fixture lists, to the necessity for avoiding mid-week matches, and the wishes of Committee, players, and Members for the attractive and open type of football with which we regard the name of Cardiff as synonymous.

A list, as attractive as any of the Club's former ones, was made, and it had added variety in the names of Dominion, Colonial, and French Teams, including that of the famous "Kiwis" whose team appeared against Cardiff on "The Park" unbeaten, to Cardiff, also unbeaten, on Boxing Day, 1945.

We started off in September with not more than 35 probable players to furnish our two fifteens, but fortunately, the First XV (under the Captaincy of Dr. Jack Matthews) blended quickly and played so extraordinarily well as to win its five September matches by 121 points to 21, against Cardiff and District, Leicester, Australian R.A.A.F., Neath and Wasps.

When, in a game of thrills on Saturday, October 6th, we beat Newport so handsomely and spectacularly by 28 points (5 converted goals and 1 try) to 17 points (one





SOME OF THE CARDIFF PARTY ARRIVING AT COGNAC.  
In the beret—Behotegny—French International of the 'Twenties.

try, two penalty and two dropped goals) it was apparent that our first XV, given average luck, would be the best for many years.

Let the results of the three following matches speak for themselves as it were :

Oct. 13th	..	Cardiff v. Gloucester (H)	..	Won.	40	points	to	9
„ 20th	..	„ v. Swansea (A)	..	Won	17	„	„	6.
„ 27th	..	„ v. Llanelly (H)	..	Won	35	„	„	3.

These matches were followed by the game against New Zealand Services on November 3rd ; one in which attacking skill and defensive qualities were magnificent. This was a grand match, for the Colonials were an exceptionally strong and well blended team of experienced players. In fact, on this same day, their reserve XV were so strong as to beat Northampton at Northampton.

Amidst much excitement and enthusiasm of a large crowd, Wilfred Wooller—repatriated Lieutenant from the Far East—kicked off, and the ball struck the overkeen photographer, Mr. Harvey Harris, much to the amusement of the spectators. It proved to be a grand, full-blooded game, abounding in skill and thrills, and the really brilliant covering and defensive qualities of the New Zealanders against persistent attack by our fast running backs was a feature.

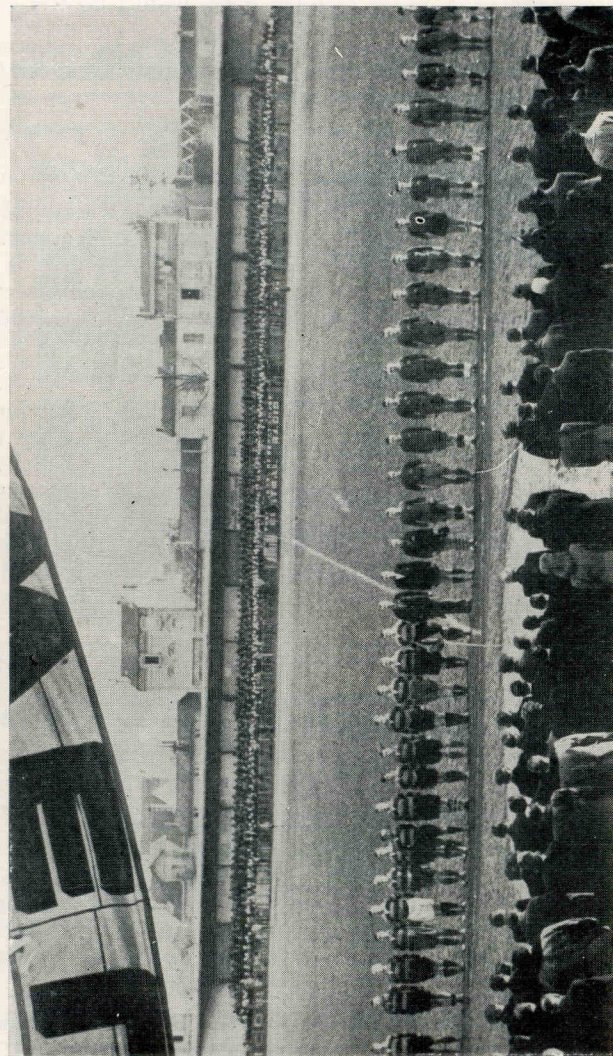
There was little in the scoring at half-time, but in the second half, our brilliant attacking efforts brought us reward and we ran out winners by 14 points to 3 in a game which was extremely exciting and enjoyable.

Some New Zealanders expressed the view that this Cardiff team was the finest they had ever seen or played against.

Supporters “rolled up” with enthusiasm, Cardiff Rugby was “news” once again, comparisons with famous teams and players and captains of the past were made—many rash or wild, many well judged and critical, but all reflecting that pride and enthusiasm for his team which is the glory of the real Rugger enthusiast.

Once more Rugby Football was vitally alive in Wales, and Cardiff was its very healthy heart.





"THE MARSEILLAISE." AN IMPRESSIVE PHOTOGRAPH OF BOTH TEAMS.

The form of the Blue and Blacks was brilliant and they went from success to success, creating too, record gates on away Grounds, and the first shock received was that from Newport at Uskside—where the start was delayed to allow all the spectators to get in, and where, in a dramatic and extremely thrilling last five minutes, Cardiff pulled the game out of the fire to win by 10 points to 6. Since the previous match on the Park, Newport had improved and were "all out" for our scalps, and very anxious to avoid taking the 28 points to 17 medicine of October 6th.

Whilst Cardiff's success was becoming widespread, Coventry were maintaining their exceptionally fine record and eager to clash arms with the "Champions of Wales." The Midland side had maintained a war-time team, and a very fine one Cardiff met on the 17th November. It included such grand players as the Wheatley Brothers, Walker and Wyman in the pack, with Stock and Preece at half and Greaseley and Pateman behind, but Cardiff defeated them on the Midland ground by 16 points to 3 in a match abounding in such keenness and skill as to delight the record crowd which saw Coventry's unbeaten Home record from April, 1940, smashed.

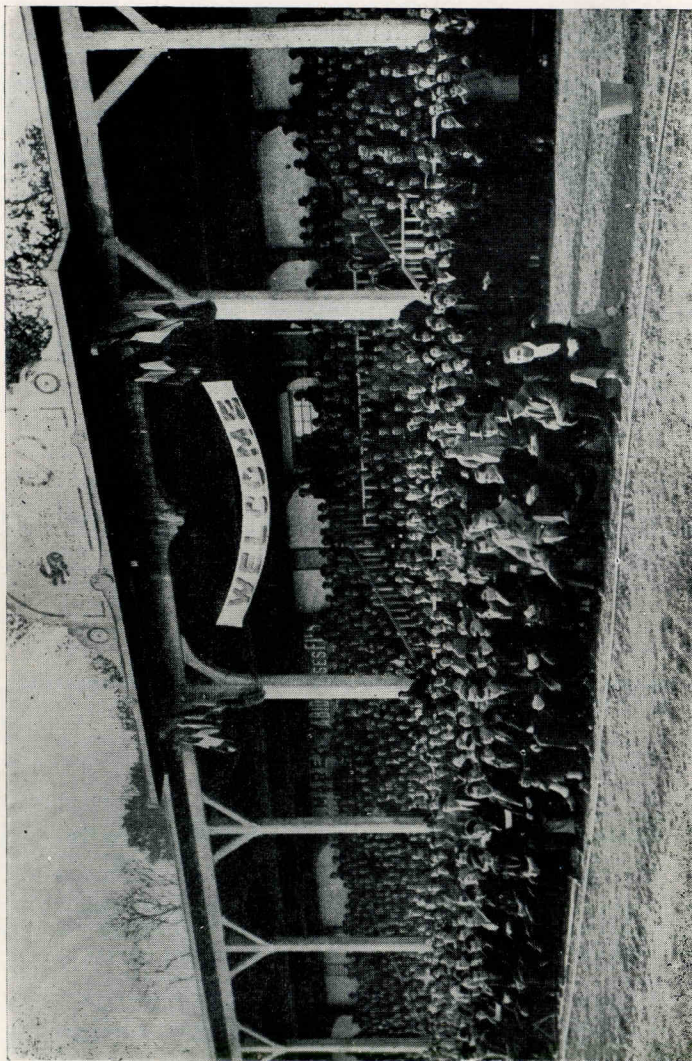
Highly appreciative were Coventry's officials and players too, for they lost no time in congratulating the Cardiff team as the better team, in fact, one remark (of Cardiff) was "The finest *team* I've ever seen on this ground."

The famous Kiwis were at this time carrying all before them, but so well were the Blue and Blacks playing, that they were tipped in certain Press circles as the only Club side likely to give these New Zealanders their first defeat.

Pontypool, the next victims, were beaten 25 points to nil on the Park, then we were into the month of a fateful December, during which a Welsh Trial, the "International" v. France were played, and the Kiwis to be met on Boxing Day.

Wilfred Wooller made his one solitary appearance against the Richmond-Blackheath combination in London,





U.S. COGNACAISE V. CARDIFF, AT COGNAC, 1ST JANUARY, 1946.

Cardiff having nine first players away when we played Swansea on the Park, almost a similar number were playing against France, but the spirit of the remainder and the reserves was tremendous and we maintained an unbeaten record until Boxing Day when we met the "Kiwis" before an "All Ticket" crowd on a heavy ground following rain.

Space forbids a description, but this was "The" match of the Season, with everyone "keyed up" to a pitch described by the New Zealand broadcaster, Winston McCarthy as a "Wales—New Zealand" affair, and how, "in Wales, Rugby Football is a religion, with its fervent singing too."

The Skipper played with damaged ribs, and the Kiwis won by a solitary try, a very good one though, following a movement from their scrum to five-eighth, then to the wing who moved fast (but should have been tackled IMMEDIATELY) and passed inside; a "jump" ahead and a further pass beat our defence. Cardiff could not get the ball away cleanly, neither could the All Blacks; both defences were remarkably keen, and the Packs had a rare battle. Our smaller eight, though outweighed, played magnificently and no quarter was asked or given.

Our touch finding was erratic, but Scott, the New Zealand full back often drove us back over ground very hardly won, and this, coupled with the one serious lapse in tackling, in my view, cost us the match.

True we failed at a penalty goal from an easy position in the last minute—but there it was, excitement and pent up keenness did not pull out of the fire a very hard game, more close, than spectacular, but one in which most critics considered we earned a draw; the Kiwis themselves considered they were rather lucky, yet few, if any of our supporters appeared despondent at losing the Record, for truly the Blue and Blacks had played very gallantly.

What were the main factors in Cardiff Rugby successes? First we commenced with a sound nucleus of war-time players, strengthened by the inclusion of a few newcomers



U.S. COGNACAISE v. CARDIFF, 1st January, 1946.



BLEDDYN WILLIAMS HAS CUT THROUGH, LEAVING HIS WOULD-BE TACKLERS BEHIND.



A LOOSE FORWARD RUSH. HUBERT E. JONES IN FOREGROUND.

and the assistance of others still on Service with the Forces. A team was blended almost at the outset, the pack a little on the small side though fairly well built. This pack came in for early criticism for its smaller physique than the average, but the selectors' policy of "build and blend" rather than wholesale change was fully justified. In fact this pack was very rarely beaten, it could pack low, handle, heel from the loose mauls and always got a good share of the ball from the set scrums. Led by Ray Bale this pack raised the admiration of many opposing eights who envied often its lasting powers.

We had at Centre, the Captain, Dr. Jack Matthews, with Bleddyn Williams at half, W. B. Cleaver and W. Darch, the wings had a fairly easy task for so well were the backs served that the Cleaver-Matthews-Williams triangle developed brilliantly in attack and defences were non-plussed by speed, strength, straight running and side-step work, whilst Cleaver's grand screw-kicking was always accurate and valuable.

Imbued with the spirit of open type of Rugby—traditionally Cardiff—the Cardiff team earned and deserved the success it achieved. In fact its fame was referred to in the House of Commons, and, during the debate on Ways and Means Budget Resolution, i.e., that on the Entertainments duty concession, Mr. James Callaghan, M.P. for Cardiff South, described ours as the finest Rugby Club in the four countries.

Mr. Callaghan is a keen follower of Rugby Football, and an ex-Streatham Club player, and—this in a whisper—a former Income Tax official.

This is an extract from Hansard—Col. 2751 of the 17th April, 1946 :—

"Mr. James Callaghan (Cardiff South): I join in the congratulations which have been offered to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on this concession. In South Wales, particularly among the struggling Rugby Clubs, it is welcome as a valuable help. Speaking as



WASPS v. CARDIFF.



A COMBINED GROUP OF BOTH TEAMS TAKEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE MATCH AT SUDBURY,  
13th APRIL, 1946.

one who has the honour to represent the City which has the finest Rugby Club in the four countries—

Hon. Members : No.

Mr. Callaghan : I must appeal for your protection, Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I repeat—doubtless I shall be contradicted in later speeches if Hon. Members do not agree with me—that Cardiff Rugby Football Club is undoubtedly the finest Rugby Football Club. On their behalf, and on behalf of all those other Rugby clubs, particularly the smaller ones, in the South Wales area, who have been struggling very hard, I welcome this as a valuable concession.”

Prior to embarking on a French Tour, we played at Bristol on Saturday, December 29th, but with reserves in the centre, we managed only to make a draw. The same night we were en route to play Stade Nantais U.C. on the Monday following and the Union Sportive Cognacaise on the Tuesday after. The first match in France was won comfortably, but the second lost by a solitary point, in both games, however, particularly the first, Cardiff demonstrated their high class standard of team work attack, much to the delight of the Frenchmen, including visitors from many French Rugby Clubs from all parts of France.

We were afforded a wonderful reception at Nantes and Cognac and at each town, receptions at the Mairie were followed by Banquets given by the French Clubs.

The President of the S.N.U.C., Monsieur Marcel Pedron, had, in his own words, the honour of playing for Cardiff in the early twenties, and the name of Percy F. Bush—who had done much to establish good Rugby at Nantes, is very well remembered.

At Cognac, whose president, M. Massoulard, has a strong personality, all the officials, including those whose names one would hardly associate with the French, i.e., Messieurs Hennessy and Martell, did everything to make our brief visit a happy one, and their hospitality was boundless. Gifts were made to each of our Party by both



**CARDIFF PAST v. PRESENT.**  
 Played at the Cardiff Arms Park, 1st May, 1946.



*Back Row* : G. BLACKMORE, T. HOLLEY, W. E. TAMPLIN, R. ROBERTS, W. G. JONES, H. E. JONES, IVOR WILLIAMS, DR. GLYN JONES, G. TOMKINS.  
*Third Row* : L. M. SPENCE, D. E. DAVIES (Linesman), COLIN JONES, J. CASON, M. JAMES, G. LEWIS, D. JONES, ST. J. REES, DUNCAN BROWN, GRAHAM HALE, G. PORTER, A. TURNBULL, A. COOMBS, CLIFF DAVIES, B. H. JENKINS (Linesman).  
*Second Row* : J. POWELL (Hon. Trainer), R. BAILE, H. JOHNSON, DR. JACK MATTHEWS, SIR WM. REARDON SMITH, BT., W. WOOLLER, BLEDDYN WILLIAMS, I. JONES, LES. MANFIELD, R. A. CORNISH (Referee).  
*Front Row* : R. KNAPP, J. E. BOWCOTT, W. B. CLEAVER.

French Clubs who also sent us later, photographs for each player. The Nantes Club presented to Cardiff a film of the Nantes visit and the match there, and as a mark of appreciation, bestowed the very unusual honour of Life Membership on Dr. Jack Matthews, Bleddyn Williams and D. E. (Danny) Davies. Truly we found the French were our Allies, indeed, at the Banquet at Cognac for instance we learned in a speech from the Chef de Police that he himself had been a very active member of the "Maquis" or French resistance movement.

In some measure Cardiff must return this hospitality, and steps are already being taken to try and arrange a visit of a combined Cognac and Nantes team to Cardiff and Bristol in September, 1947, a step with which I think all our members will agree, for surely variety on a fixture list can be an added spice of football.

Unfortunately we were due to play Leicester on the following Saturday, whilst Wales were playing the "Kiwis," but it should be remembered that "International" matches eight in all in addition to the "Kiwis" matches, were arranged after we had completed our Club fixture lists.

With so many players chosen for these internationals, the strain on our excellent record was bound to be severe, but nevertheless the results in the second half of the season were very remarkable, and we lost only to Newport (twice), by a Dropped and Penalty goal to one Penalty, and by two tries to one, and then only once again to the Barbarians, the match with whom brought a tremendous crowd, and record receipts.

A Cornish Tour had been arranged for the second half of the Season, and it proved very successful from both a social and playing point of view.

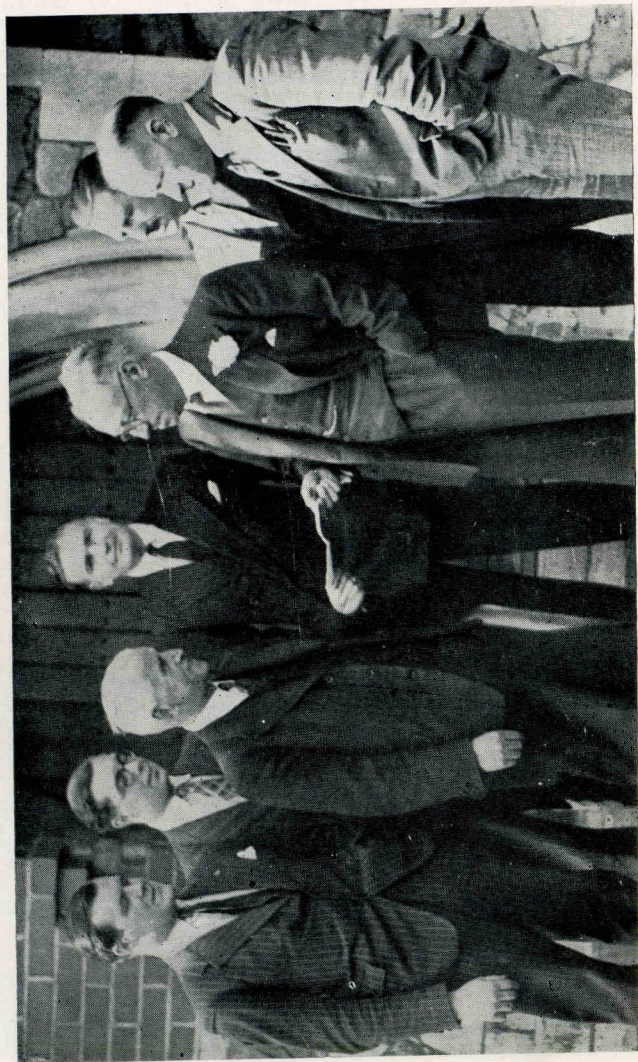
All three home Clubs were beaten, R.N.E.C., Penzance, Newlyn and Redruth in the third match.

A strong R.A.F. XV were beaten next, then the Wasps at Sudbury, before we were due to meet the Barbarians.

The "Baa Baas" match was delightful and thrilling



BRICE JENKINS on behalf of the Cardiff Rugby Club, presenting a cheque for £1,401 to Sir Wm. Reardon Smith, Bt., for the benefit of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary.—Proceeds of Past v. Present game at Cardiff, 1st May, 1946.



JE JACK MATTHEWS, GLYN JONES, BRICE JENKINS, HUBERT JOHNSON, SIR WILLIAM REARDON SMITH, Bt., SID. CRAVOS, ARTHUR CORNISH.

to all, the best of all Rugger was seen, and the result mattered not, though we lost a wing-three-quarter after five minutes play.

Our Captain, Dr. Jack Matthews, had a good day, but an exceptionally good drop goal by the Baa Baas' full back, Lloyd Davies, in the second half turned the tables. In the first half (we had then only seven forwards), Haydn Tanner had "stole silently away" to score a try near the posts at the river end.

Losing by a single point to the Barbarian Combination, which included two Kiwis, W. Meates and E. G. Boggs in their backs was no disgrace, indeed this match gave pleasure and thrills abundantly in this season of brilliant Rugby spectacles on the Park.

Truly—given sunshine—the Baa Baas' match, is always a wonderful Easter Parade, and between no two Clubs is old friendship so strong. (PS.—Emile de Lissa was there—his 34th visit in 35 years from 1901, having missed but one owing to illness—*verb. sap.*)

This season in which we had scored 661 points and provided 13 players for representative Welsh matches was brought to its conclusion by our participation in the Middlesex seven-a-side at Twickenham, following an invitation from the Middlesex C.R.F.U., and by a CARDIFF PAST V. PRESENT EVENT.

The "Kiwis" were participants in the "Sevens" and, having won all earlier rounds with ease, were strongly fancied to win the Cup. St. Mary's Hospital with a very fine seven of experienced first class players, were, with ourselves and London Scottish regarded as likely finalists.

We beat the Wasps and London Scottish to enter the semi-final and play the "Kiwis" in a match which proved the sporting tit-bit of the day. Cardiff defeated the Kiwis by a try to nil amidst tremendous excitement, after a most thrilling and dramatic encounter. The try scored by Cliff Davies was one of the most gallant efforts it has been my privilege to witness; a French visitor attributed it to "The Celtic Blood," a trite observation too.



A neat attacking movement from a scrum and an inside pass to Davies backing up, left him half-way, midfield—with a Kiwi (Allen) two yards behind. Cliff made direct for the corner with the menacing Kiwi always behind, and the excitement as the distance to the line lessened was indescribable; with about 15 yards to go, about 10 yards from the right touch line, Davies made a half-feint-half-look around kind of thing, thus forcing a slight hesitation on the part of Allen, then, making his final and exhausting effort he succeeded in diving over for a most memorable try. And all Twickenham cheered, thunderously, and never was applause more gallantly earned.

All Kiwi efforts to pull the game out of the fire were checked and we ran out very worthy winners to the unbounded congratulations of all, first of which came from Major C. B. Saxton, the Kiwis Captain, and his players.

Our team was :—

DAI JONES, DR. JACK MATTHEWS, BLEDDYN WILLIAMS, W. B. CLEAVER, HUBERT JONES, CLIFF DAVIES and GEORGE TOMKINS.

But this effort, and our previous match against London Scottish had sapped our energy and we faced St. Mary's Hospital in the final rather tired.

"Marys" had had the luck of the draw, were fresher, having had easier matches to reach to the final, and these factors coupled with their experience in the Sevens allowed their very good team to beat us.

Mr. Gadney was the Referee and disallowed what I thought a perfectly good try to Bleddyn Williams near the post; still we had other chances and failed—through lack of extra stamina—to take them, and St. Mary's were worthy winners in a very enjoyable and exciting tournament.

Cardiff's display was excellent, and, as one of the "Old Pillars" of Rugby opined, "Cardiff always put up a good show whatever their team."

The Grand Finale to the season was the entertaining Past v. Present match for the benefit of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary for which good cause, a sum of more than

£1,400 was made, the result of excellent organisation and hard work by the Organising Sub-Committee.

Suffice to say that the "Old Uns" gave the "Present" many rude shocks; for Wilfred Wooller, Ianto Jones and a few others "not so old" turned out and displayed so much cunning and ability as to worry the "Present" quite a lot, and helped to make the match so enjoyable.

On September 29th, 1946, the Cardiff Rugby Club bed was dedicated, and a suitable plaque unveiled in the William Diamond Ward of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. During the brief but dignified ceremony, a further cheque for £148 2s. 5d. (the proceeds of Cardiff's share in the Middlesex seven-a-side Tournament) was handed over to Sir William Reardon Smith, Chairman of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary Board, and, in the presence of Members of the Committee, Players, and Lady helpers of the Past v. Present event, and the Ward inmates, etc., the Dedication was made by the Rev. Emrys Rees, M.A., Vicar of Whitchurch (father of Cardiff full back, St. John Rees), and the plaque unveiled by R. A. Cornish, Chairman of the Football Committee.

In well chosen words, Sir William Reardon Smith acknowledged sincerely the hard work which had culminated with the ceremony and wished all success to the Rugby Club.



## CARDIFF ATHLETIC XV

In terms of match results, the Athletic XV did not approach the successful record of the First XV, though it won more matches than it lost.

The decision to restart season 1945/46 was made, however, on the principle that the success of a premier side must largely depend on a healthy nursery; but the Athletic XV had in effect to be re-born.

We were limited both in numbers and quality, but gradually a very useful team was built up after a lot of "growing" trouble. It was not until the season had been well advanced that a permanent Captain was appointed and R. H. Millar, back from the forces, assumed this important role. Some 80 players were tried out, but few won the laurels of promotion to the First XV. The foundation for 1946/47 was laid, however, and with a fuller fixture card and a return to normal conditions it is confidently expected that an improvement in the Athletic XV will result.

### OBITUARY.

Alas, some of the old officers are no longer with us, and the deaths took place of some of our old officials who had given many years of loyal service to the Club. Many will miss W. M. (Billy) Douglas, and D. L. Evans, who gave much of their time and administrative ability so that our Club should continue and remain amongst the best in the Country where all that is finest in Amateur Sport and Rugby Football in particular is traditionally maintained.

### THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

Amongst those who gave their lives in the service of their country in the war are the following former Cardiff Rugby Players:—Pat Cox, C. R. (Cecil) Davies, Frank Gaccon, G. V. Heslop, Ken Jones, Trevor Ransome, Howard Roblin, Ken Street, V. Neil Taylor and Maurice Turnbull.

## RECORD OF RESULTS SEASON 1939/40

### FIRST FIFTEEN

Captain : W. WOOLLER.

Vice-Captain : LES SPENCE.

Date	Opponents	H. or A.	Rslt.	Score for					Score against					
				G.	T.	DG	PG	Pts.	G.	T.	DG	PG	Pts.	
1939														
Sept. 1	Cardiff & Dist. . .	H	Won	3	5	1	..	34	..	1	1	1	10	10
„ 2	Bridgend . .	H	Won	2	2	1	..	20	..	1	..	2	9	9

### CARDIFF ATHLETIC FIFTEEN.

Captain : KEN STREET.

1939													
Sept. 2	Llanharan ..	A	Won	1	5	..	1	23	..	..	..	..	0

OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR NO. 2.—SEPTEMBER, 1939.

CHARITY MATCHES.—Organised and played in time of war are not included in the official Club records.

## SEASON 1945/46

### FIRST FIFTEEN

Date	Opponents	H. or A.	Rslt.	Score for					Score against					
				G.	T.	DG	PG	Pts.	G.	T.	DG	PG	Pts	
1945														
Sept. 1	Cardiff & D.R.U.	H	Won	5	6	..	..	43	..	..	..	1		3
„ 8	Leicester ..	H	Won	..	4	..	..	12	..	1	..	1		6
„ 15	Australians (RAAF)	H	Won	2	5	..	1	28	..	..	..	1		3
„ 22	Neath ..	A	Won	1	1	..	1	11	..	2	..	1		9
„ 29	Wasps ..	H	Won	3	4	..	..	27	..	..	..	..		0
Oct. 6	Newport ..	H	Won	5	1	..	..	28	..	1	2	2		17
„ 13	Gloucester ..	H	Won	5	5	..	..	40	..	1	..	2		9
„ 20	Swansea ..	A	Won	1	3	..	1	17	..	1	..	1		6
„ 27	Llanelly ..	H	Won	4	3	..	2	35	..	1*	..	..		3

\* Penalty Try.



# First Fifteen.—continued.

Date	Opponents	H. or A.	Rslt.	Score for					Score against				
				G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.
Nov. 3	New Zealand S.	H	Won	1	3	..	2	14	..	..	..	I	3
" 10	Newport	A	Won	2	..	..	..	10	..	2	..	..	6
" 17	Coventry	A	Won	2	2	..	..	16	..	I	..	..	3
" 24	Pontypool	H	Won	2	5	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	0
Dec. 1	Richmond-Blhth.	A	Won	2	1	..	I	16	..	2	..	I	9
" 8	Bristol	H	Won	2	1	I	I	20	I	..	..	..	5
" 15	Harlequins	A	Won	4	I	..	..	23	..	I	..	..	3
" 22	Swansea	H	Won	..	I	I	I	10	..	I	..	I	6
" 26	N. Zealand Army (Kiw)	H	Lost	..	..	..	..	0	..	I	..	..	3
" 29	Bristol	A	Drn.	..	I	..	..	3	..	..	..	I	3
" 31	Stade Nantais UC.	A	Won	4	3	..	..	29	I	I	..	..	8
1946													
Jan. 1	US. Cognacaise	A	Lost	3	1	..	..	18	2	3	..	..	19
" 5	Leicester	A	Lost	1	..	..	I	8	I	I	I	..	12
" 12	London Welsh	H	Won	2	3	..	..	19	..	2	..	..	6
" 19	(a) Bath	A											
" 26	Neath	H	Won	1	I	..	..	8	I	..	..	..	5
Feb. 9	Gloucester	A	Won	3	I	..	..	18	..	..	..	I	3
" 16	Newport	H	Lost	..	..	..	I	3	..	..	I	I	7
" 23	Richmond-Blhth.	H	Won	1	3	I	I	21	2	I	..	..	13
Mar. 2	Newport	A	Lost	..	I	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	6
" 16	Llanelly	A	Won	..	I	..	I	6	I	..	..	..	5
" 21	Bath	A	Won	1	2	..	..	11	..	I	..	..	3
" 23	Coventry	H	Won	1	2	..	..	11	..	..	..	I	3
" 30	R.N.E.C.	A	Won	3	2	..	2	27	..	2	..	..	6
Apr. 1	P'z'ce & Newlyn	A	Won	2	3	..	..	19	I	I	..	..	8
" 2	Redruth	A	Won	..	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	I	3
" 6	R.A.F.	H	Won	2	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	I	3
" 13	Wasps	A	Won	3	2	..	I	24	..	I	I	..	7
" 20	Barbarians	H	Lost	1	..	I	..	9	..	2	I	..	10
" 22	Harlequins	H	Won	1	3	..	..	14	..	2	..	..	6
" 23	R.N. (Devon S.)	H	Won	2	1	..	I	16	..	..	..	..	0
" 27	Pontypool	A	Drn.	..	I	..	..	3	..	..	..	I	3

a Cancelled owing to frost.

RECORD FOR SEASON	Played.		Won.		Lost.		Drawn.					
	40		32		6		2					
	SCORE FOR.						SCORE AGAINST.					
	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	M.G.	PTS.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	M.G.	PTS.
	72	77	4	18	—	651	10	34	6	19	—	233

Captain : Dr. JACK MATTHEWS. Vice-Captain : RAY BALE.

## OTHER RESULTS.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY "SEVENS" at Twickenham. (Proceeds for Charity).

Date	Opponents	Rslt.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.
Apr. 27	Wasps—5th Round	Won	1	1	..	..	8	..	1	..	..	3
"	London Scots 6th	Won	1	1	..	..	8	..	2	..	..	6
"	Kiwis—Semi-Final	Won	..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	0
"	St. Mary's H.—Final	Lost	..	1	..	..	3	2	1	..	..	13

CARDIFF PAST V. PRESENT.—All proceeds in aid of Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

		Rslt.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.
May 1	Present	..	..	Won	4	1	..	23	1	3	..	17

## FIRST XV SCORERS.

Tries : Bleddyn Williams, 30; Dr. Glyn Jones, 28; Graham Hale, 19; Dr. Jack Matthews, 12; Hubert E. Jones, 9; W. B. Cleaver, 8; Selwyn Evans, 8; W. Darch, 6; J. Mahoney, 6; G. Blackmore, 4; Ray Bale, 3; B. V. Williams, 3; Cliff Davies, 2; D. St. John Rees, 2; Geo. Tomkins, 2; Selby Davies, 1; Len Evans, 1; Maldwyn James, 1; R. John, 1; David J. Jones, 1; H. Loveluck, 1; Lyn Williams, 1.

Drop Goals : W. B. Cleaver, 1; L. Coughlin, 1; Ross Johnson, 1; Dr. Jack Matthews, 1.

Penalty Goals : Maldwyn James, 12; W. E. Tamplin, 4; L. Coughlin, 1.

Converted Goals : Maldwyn James, 53; W. E. Tamplin, 15; L. Coughlin, 2; D. St. John Rees, 1.



# CARDIFF ATHLETIC FIFTEEN

Date	Opponents	H. or A.	Rslt.	Score for					Score against				
				G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	Pts.
1945													
Sept. 8	Kenfig Hill	A	Lost	..	..	..	I	3	..	I	..	I	6
" 15	21st ITC, Brecon	A	Lost	..	..	..	..	0	I	I	..	..	8
" 22	R.A.F. Pembrey	H	Won	2	6	..	I	31	..	I	..	..	3
" 29	Old Illydians	A	Lost	1	I	..	..	8	..	I	I	2	13
Oct. 6	Newport United	A	Won	2	2	..	..	16	..	I	..	..	3
" 10	Cardiff Medicals	H	Won	2	5	..	..	25	I	..	..	I	8
" 20	R.A.F. Shawbury	H	Won	2	I	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	0
" 27	Tredegar	A	Won	..	3	..	..	9	..	2	..	..	6
Nov. 10	Newport United	H	Won	..	4	..	..	12	..	I	..	..	3
" 17	Cardiff Medicals	H	Won	1	..	I	I	12	..	..	..	..	0
Dec. 8	Bristol A.	A	Lost	..	2	..	..	6	2	..	..	I	13
" 22	Bristol Aero Coy.	A	Lost	2	2	..	..	16	..	5	..	I	18
1946													
Jan. 12	Maesteg	A	Lost	..	2	I	..	10	2	I	..	..	13
Feb. 2	<sup>a</sup> Taffs Well	H											
" 9	<sup>a</sup> Old Illydians	H											
" 16	Penygraig	A	Lost	..	I	..	..	3	3	4	I	..	31
Mar. 2	Bristol Aero Coy.	H	Lost	I	3	..	..	14	2	I	..	I	16
" 16	Bristol "A"	H	Won	I	3	..	..	14	..	I	..	I	6
" 23	Briton Ferry	A	Lost	I	..	..	..	5	..	2	..	..	6
Apr. 6	Clydach Vale C.I.	A	Won	I	4	..	..	17	I	2	..	..	11
" 13	Kenfig Hill	H	Won	..	2	..	I	9	..	2	..	..	6
" 20	<sup>b</sup> Old Illydians	A											

<sup>a</sup> Cancelled owing to wet state of Ground.

<sup>b</sup> Cancelled by Mutual Arrangement.

RECORD FOR SEASON	Played.		Won.		Lost.		Drawn.								
	19		10		9		0								
	SCORE FOR							SCORE AGAINST							
	G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	M.G.	PTS.		G.	T.	D.G.	P.G.	M.G.	PTS.		
	16	41	2	4	0	223		12	26	2	8	0	170		

Captain: R. H. MILLAR.

# CAPTAINS AND VICE-CAPTAINS.

## FIRST XV

### RUGBY.

Captain.		Vice-Captain.	
1876-7	.. T. S. DONALDSON SELBY	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1877-8	.. E. C. FRY	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1878-9	.. R. H. FOA	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1879-80	.. W. D. PHILLIPS	B. E. GIRLING	..
1880-1	.. W. D. PHILLIPS	B. MANN	..
1881-2	.. B. E. GIRLING	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1882-3	.. W. D. PHILLIPS	W. H. TREATT	..
1883-4	.. H. J. SIMPSON	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1884-5	.. H. J. SIMPSON	W. D. PHILLIPS	..
1885-6	.. F. E. HANCOCK	A. F. HILL	..
1886-7	.. W. M. DOUGLAS	A. J. HYBART	..
1887-8	.. C. A. YOUNG	A. F. HILL	..
1888-9	.. A. F. HILL	C. S. ARTHUR	..
1889-90	.. C. S. ARTHUR	S. H. NICHOLLS	..
1890-1	.. W. E. O. WILLIAMS	D. W. EVANS	..
1891-2	.. D. W. EVANS	F. N. JONES	..
1892-3	.. T. W. PEARSON	A. LEWIS	..
1893-4	.. N. BIGGS	R. B. SWEET-ESCOTT	..
1894-5	.. A. F. HILL	R. B. SWEET-ESCOTT	..
1895-6	.. R. B. SWEET-ESCOTT	F. MILLS	..
1896-7	.. J. E. ELLIOT	S. BIGGS	..
1897-8	.. S. BIGGS	E. GWYN NICHOLLS	..
1898-9	.. E. GWYN NICHOLLS	T. DOBSON	..
1899-1900	.. E. GWYN NICHOLLS	H. V. P. HUSSEY	..
1900-1901	.. E. GWYN NICHOLLS	J. BLAKE	..
1901-2	.. H. B. WINFIELD	D. L. BOWEN	..
1902-3	.. H. B. WINFIELD	C. STRANAGHAN	..
1903-4	.. E. GWYN NICHOLLS	C. F. BIGGS	..
1904-5	.. C. F. BIGGS	W. NEILL	..
1905-6	.. PERCY F. BUSH	GEO. NORTHMORE	..
1906-7	.. PERCY F. BUSH	GEO. NORTHMORE	..
1907-8	.. RHYS T. GABE	J. BROWN	..
1908-9	.. PERCY F. BUSH	F. SMITH	..
1909-10	.. J. L. WILLIAMS	F. SMITH	..
1910-11	.. R. A. GIBBS	J. PUGSLEY	..
1911-12	.. L. M. DYKE	J. A. POWELL	..
1912-13	.. W. SPILLER	W. J. JENKINS	..
1913-14	.. W. J. JENKINS	R. F. WILLIAMS	..
1914-19	.. EUROPEAN WAR.		..
1919-20	.. F. GACCON—W. J. POWELL	W. J. JENKINS	..
1920-21	.. CLEM LEWIS	R. A. CORNISH	..
1921-22	.. R. ARTHUR CORNISH	J. RICHARDS	..
1922-23	.. DR. T. WALLACE	J. RICHARDS	..
1923-24	.. IDRIS RICHARDS	T. A. JOHNSON	..
1924-25	.. T. A. JOHNSON	D. E. DAVIES	..
1925-26	.. D. E. DAVIES	W. J. DELAHAY	..
1926-27	.. W. J. DELAHAY	D. E. DAVIES	..
1927-28	.. B. R. TURNBULL	B. O. MALE	..
1928-29	.. B. O. MALE	K. P. TURNBULL	..
1929-30	.. S. C. CRAVOS	H. POOLE	..
1930-31	.. B. R. TURNBULL	S. C. CRAVOS	..
1931-32	.. HOWARD POOLE	H. M. BOWCOTT	..
1932-33	.. TOM LEWIS	B. R. TURNBULL	..
1933-34	.. GRAHAM JONES	R. GABE-JONES	..
1934-35	.. A. SKYM	T. STONE	..
1935-36	.. T. STONE	L. M. SPENCE	..
1936-37	.. L. M. SPENCE	T. STONE	..
1937-38	.. A. H. JONES	H. REES	..
1938-39	.. W. WOOLLER	W. E. N. DAVIS	..
1939-45	.. WORLD WAR NO. 2.		..
1945-46	.. JACK MATTHEWS	R. BALE	..



# RUGBY FIXTURES

for

## SEASON 1947/48

### Cardiff First XV

### Cardiff Athletic XV

Date	Opponents	H. or A.	Date	Opponents	H. or A.
1947			1947		
Sept. 3	Cardiff & Dist. R.U.	Home	Sept. 3	Llanharan .. ..	Away
" 6	Pontypool .. ..	Away	" 6	Blaenavon .. ..	Home
" 13	Bristol .. ..	Home	" 10	Newport H.S.O.B.	Home
" 20	Nantes & Cognac ..	Home	" 13	Bristol A. .. ..	Away
" 27	Australians .. ..	Home	" 17	Kenfig Hill .. ..	Home
Oct. 4	Newport .. ..	Home	" 20	Treorchy .. ..	Away
" 11	Gloucester .. ..	Away	" 27	Briton Ferry .. ..	Home
" 18	Swansea .. ..	Home	Oct. 4	Newport United ..	Away
" 25	Wasps .. ..	Away	" 11	Gloucester United..	Home
" 27	Cambridge U. .. ..	Away	" 18	Abergavenny .. ..	Away
Nov. 1	Llanelli .. ..	Home	" 25	Treorchy .. ..	Home
" 8	Newport .. ..	Away	Nov. 1	Talywain .. ..	Away
" 15	Leicester .. ..	Home	" 8	Newport United ..	Home
" 22	London Welsh .. ..	Home	" 15	Resolven .. ..	Away
" 29	Leicester .. ..	Away	" 22	Glynneath .. ..	Away
Dec. 1	Coventry .. ..	Away	" 29	Nantymoel .. ..	Home
" 6	Richmond .. ..	Away	Dec. 6	Maesteg .. ..	Home
" 13	Blackheath .. ..	Home	" 13	Mountain Ash .. ..	Away
" 20	Harlequins .. ..	Away	" 20	Wales v. Australia	Cardiff
" 26	Wasps .. ..	Home	" 27	Old Iltydians .. ..	Away
" 27	Watsonians .. ..	Home	1948		
1948			Jan. 3	Glam. Wanderers ..	Away
Jan. 3	Neath .. ..	Home	" 10	Bristol A. .. ..	Home
" 10	Bristol .. ..	Away	" 17	International Date	
" 17	Bath .. ..	Home	" 24	Glam. Wanderers ..	Home
" 24	Neath .. ..	Away	" 31	Kenfig Hill .. ..	Away
" 31	Rosslyn Park .. ..	Home	Feb. 7	Cardiff H.S.O.B. ..	Away
Feb. 7	Penarth .. ..	Home	" 14	Nantymoel .. ..	Away
" 14	Plymouth Albion ..	Home	" 21	Gloucester United ..	Away
" 21	Gloucester .. ..	Home	" 28	Glynneath .. ..	Home
" 28	Llanelli .. ..	Away	Mar. 6	Abergavenny .. ..	Home
Mar. 6	Newport .. ..	Away	" 13	International Date	
" 13	Wales v. England (Schoolboys)	Cardiff	" 13	Cardiff H.S.O.B. ..	Away
" 13	Penarth .. ..	Away	" 20	Maesteg .. ..	Away
" 18	Oxford U. .. ..	Home	" 27	Tredeggar .. ..	Away
" 20	Coventry .. ..	Home	April 3	Newport H.S.O.B.	Away
" 20	Barbarians .. ..	Home	" 10	Briton Ferry .. ..	Away
" 27	Harlequins .. ..	Home	" 17	Llanharan .. ..	Home
" 29	Devon Services .. ..	Home	" 24	Blaenavon .. ..	Away
April 3	Welsh Sec. Schools (Wales v. France)	Cardiff			
" 3	Devon Services .. ..	Away			
" 5	Penzance & Newlyn	Away			
" 6	Falmouth .. ..	Away			
" 10	Newport .. ..	Home			
" 17	Swansea .. ..	Away			
" 24	Pontypool .. ..	Home			

## CARDIFF HOCKEY CLUB

Season—1945-1946.

Chairman : J. R. THOMAS. Captain : G. PERCIVAL.

Hon. Secretary : K. H. INGLEDEW.

Committee : J. C. HOPTON, K. G. HUGHES and T. WALLACE.

In May, 1945, the Management Committee of the Cardiff Athletic Club decided, as part of its post-war reconstruction plans, to form a Hockey Section. At this time there was no hockey club in active operation in Cardiff. The Cardiff Hockey Club had been forced to cease its activities in September, 1939, and although the Kingsholm Hockey Club had managed to carry on until the spring of 1942, the problem of finding sufficient players then became too difficult to solve, and for the last three war years, the game had only been kept alive by the Colleges and the High School.

In June, 1945, a Committee was formed by members of the old Cardiff and Kingsholm Clubs with K. H. Ingledew as Hon. Secretary. G. Percival, the Welsh International and former Newport player, accepted the Captaincy and a full list of fixtures for 1945-46 was arranged. There were some team difficulties at the beginning of the season, but as more players returned from the services the position eased, and after Christmas, it was found possible to run an additional team.

A General Meeting of the members of the old Cardiff Hockey Club was held in the later part of the season, and it was decided to terminate the Club's existence as a separate entity and to reconstitute it as a Section of the Athletic Club. The Cardiff Hockey Club, which was originally founded in 1895, thus in its fifty-first year enters upon a new phase of its existence.

From the playing point of view, the season was a very successful one. Although some of the opposing sides were not up to pre-war strength, the Cardiff team did put up some good performances.

In all, 32 matches were played, 25 won, 2 drawn and 5 lost. It is an interesting coincidence that 139 goals were scored by Cardiff and 49 by their opponents giving an average of 2.836. The Cardiff Rugby Football Club scored 661 points against 233—an average of 2.836. Principal goal-scorers were :—G. J. Lewis, 33 ; L. Bird, 20 ; C. A. P. Noseworthy, 19 ; and H. G. Pugh, 16. Noseworthy, the right back, scored all his goals from penalty corners.

Cardiff maintained an unbeaten record until December 15th, winning their first ten matches. An outstanding event was the first visit of the R.A.F. Representative XI to Cardiff in December ; they proved too strong for the home side, winning by 6-2. Newport



were played five times, Cardiff winning all the matches with a goal aggregate of 19 to 1. Seven members of the Club played in the South Wales team against the R.A.F., and six in the match against the West of England.

Detailed results :—

Sept. 29th	Cardiff Medicals	..	..	away	..	Won	5—3
Oct. 6th	Newport	..	..	away	..	Won	7—0
13th	R.A.F., St. Athan	..	..	home	..	Won	3—2
20th	G.K.B., Port Talbot	..	..	home	..	Won	8—0
Nov. 3rd	32 M.U., St. Athan	..	..	home	..	Won	5—3
10th	Cardiff High School	..	..	away	..	Won	9—1
17th	Old Grammarians	..	..	home	..	Won	6—3
24th	Chepstow	..	..	away	..	Won	8—0
Dec. 1st	Newport	..	..	home	..	Won	2—0
8th	Cardiff University	..	..	away	..	Won	8—0
15th	21 I.T.C., Brecon	..	..	home	..	Lost	2—4
22nd	Old Grammarians	..	..	away	..	Drawn	1—1
29th	R.A.F.	..	..	*home	..	Lost	2—6
Jan. 19th	32 M.U., St. Athan	..	..	away	..	Drawn	1—1
26th	Cardiff High School	..	..	home	..	Won	6—0
Feb. 2nd	Cardiff University	..	..	away	..	Won	2—1
9th	Newport	..	..	away	..	Won	4—0
16th	R.A.F., St. Athan	..	..	home	..	Won	5—1
23rd	Newport	..	..	home	..	Won	3—1
23rd	R.A.F., Stormy Down	..	..	away	..	Won	8—1
Mar. 2nd	32 M.U., St. Athan	..	..	home	..	Won	3—2
2nd	21 I.T.C., Brecon	..	..	away	..	Lost	1—2
16th	Cardiff Medicals	..	..	home	..	Won	10—2
16th	Old Grammarians	..	..	home	..	Lost	2—7
23rd	Newport	..	..	away	..	Won	3—0
23rd	Chepstow	..	..	away	..	Won	4—2
24th	Downside School	..	..	away	..	Won	2—1
31st	Imperial	..	..	away	..	Lost	2—3
Apr. 6th	Cardiff High School	..	..	away	..	Won	5—0
6th	Chepstow	..	..	*home	..	Won	5—1
13th	R.A.F., St. Athan	..	..	away	..	Won	5—0
13th	Cardiff Medicals	..	..	†home	..	Won	2—1

\* Barracks Field.

† Harlequins.

## CARDIFF CRICKET CLUB DURING THE WAR

At the outbreak of the Second World War there was some doubt as to whether Club Cricket could be carried on successfully. A Committee Meeting was held on December 7th, 1939, when, after a lengthy discussion, it was decided to play during the 1940 season. Fixtures were arranged, and it was ultimately seen that there would be sufficient Members to warrant running a Second XI. Owing to travelling restrictions, all away matches were arranged within a 20 mile radius of Cardiff and the number of available opponents was limited. Right through the 1940 season the weather was very good and only one Second XI game had to be cancelled; the season was a very successful and enjoyable one, and went to prove that Club Cricket could be carried on despite the War. As a result, the Cardiff Cricket Club functioned successfully throughout the remaining War years, playing two XI's on Saturdays and several Wednesday evening matches. From 1941 onwards the weather was generally bad, and no fewer than 48 games had to be abandoned.

Several extra matches were arranged, apart from the official fixtures, on Sundays. These included 2 games against the Battery on the Flat Holm Island. These Flat Holm games were immensely popular for two main reasons; the games were very evenly contested and the trip across and back was very enjoyable. A third reason that might be considered good was the fact that the Officers and Sergeants Messes were open.

A great deal of the credit for the successful running of the Club Cricket during the War must be given to Mr. J. Horspool (the Hon. Sec.), Mr. C. South (Scorer) and Mr. W. Pritchard (Umpire).

A very large number of members joined various branches of the Services, and the following lost their lives in action :—R. W. Brock, C. C. Hill, G. V. Heslop, C. Randall and H. Wilkins.

During the War several prominent old Cardiff cricketers passed away :—H. G. Symonds, J. R. Tait, W. G. Bowden, F. W. Pipe, G. E. Cording and Capt. J. H. P. Brain.



# CARDIFF CRICKET CLUB DURING THE WAR.

		<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>D.</i>	<i>L.</i>	<i>Abandoned</i>
1940	First XI	.. W. J. Evans	.. 19	8	3	8	.. 0
	Second XI	.. H. J. Bartlett	.. 18	5	3	9	.. 1
1941	First XI	.. J. Valentine	.. 18	8	0	6	.. 4
	Second XI	.. A. R. Shilson	.. 20	8	3	5	.. 4
1942	First XI	.. N. K. Contractor	23	6	7	2	.. 8
	Second XI	.. O. Herbert	.. 18	6	1	7	.. 4
1943	First XI	.. E. C. Dolman	.. 21	8	3	5	.. 5
	Second XI	.. O. Herbert	.. 20	7	6	2	.. 5
1944	First XI	.. E. C. Dolman	.. 21	6	8	3	.. 4
	Second XI	.. F. Shanahan	.. 19	11	3	1	.. 4
1945	First XI	.. F. Thomas	.. 22	10	4	4	.. 4
	Second XI	.. F. Shanahan	.. 19	7	2	4	.. 6

The following headed the batting and bowling averages :—

		<i>Batting.</i>	<i>Bowling.</i>
1940	First XI	.. T. C. Phillips .. 44.0	N. K. Contractor 13.4
	Second XI	.. C. W. Knowles .. 45.0	B. W. Forster .. 13.8
1941	First XI	.. J. P. Harrison .. 46.0	N. K. Contractor 8.3
	Second XI	.. G. Hogg .. 25.4	A. G. Reid .. 5.4
1942	First XI	.. N. K. Contractor 27.2	A. G. Reid .. 9.6
	Second XI	.. F. Shanahan .. 20.2	D. Herbert .. 6.5
1943	First XI	.. E. L. James .. 30.28	J. Valentine .. 10.53
	Second XI	.. L. E. King .. 17.6	D. Herbert .. 7.54
1944	First XI	.. N. K. Contractor 26.5	T. C. Waters .. 10.0
	Second XI	.. H. T. Page .. 39.4	D. Herbert .. 4.6
1945	First XI	.. E. L. James .. 39.8	J. Valentine .. 10.0
	Second XI	.. G. Gibson .. 29.6	D. Herbert .. 5.6

# CAPTAINS.

## CRICKET.

From 1867 to 1876 there is no record of Captains.

1877	.. E. W. JONES	1909	.. A. GIBSON
1878	.. E. W. JONES	1910	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1879	.. E. W. JONES	1911	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1880	.. E. W. JONES	1912	.. N. V. H. RICHES and J. HORSPOOL
1881	} Names of Captains not recorded.	1913	.. J. HORSPOOL
1882		1914	.. J. HORSPOOL
1883		1915	} EUROPEAN WAR
1884	.. J. P. JONES.	1916	
1885	.. J. P. JONES.	1917	
1886	.. J. P. JONES	1918	
1887	.. W. H. WILLIAMS	1919	.. J. HORSPOOL
1888	.. W. H. WILLIAMS	1920	.. H. G. SYMONDS
1889	.. W. H. WILLIAMS	1921	.. G. E. CORDING
1890	.. A. MORRIS	1922	.. G. E. CORDING
1891	.. A. MORRIS	1923	.. T. R. MORGAN
1892	.. W. H. BRAIN	1924	.. H. W. TAYLER
1893	.. W. H. BRAIN	1925	.. F. W. MATHIAS
1894	.. W. H. BRAIN	1926	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1895	.. J. H. BRAIN	1927	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1896	.. J. H. BRAIN	1928	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1897	.. J. G. CLARK	1929	.. A. N. MORGAN
1898	.. J. G. CLARK	1930	.. A. N. MORGAN
1899	.. J. G. CLARK	1931	.. N. V. H. RICHES
1900	.. J. H. BRAIN	1932	.. E. C. DOLMAN
1901	.. J. H. BRAIN	1933	.. G. L. RATTENBURY
1902	.. J. G. CLARK	1934	.. J. T. MORGAN
1903	.. V. T. HILL	1935	.. J. T. MORGAN.
1904	.. V. T. HILL	1936	.. F. W. MATHIAS
1905	.. J. P. CADOGAN	1937	.. F. THOMAS.
1906	.. A. GIBSON	1938	.. W. J. EVANS.
1907	.. A. GIBSON	1939-45	WORLD WAR No. 2.
1908	.. A. GIBSON		

# LAWN TENNIS 1940-45.

In 1940, 90% of the Members of the Tennis Section were serving in H.M. Forces, and the remaining Members were subject to work of National Importance, Home Guard and Civil Defence Duties.

Under the Chairmanship of Mr. D. B. Morgan, a General Meeting of the Section was held in March, 1940, at which only very few members were present, and the decision was taken that everything possible should be done to keep Lawn Tennis in existence no matter



what conditions prevail. The Chairman was of the opinion that as a duty to those Members serving in H.M. Forces, this was necessary, and for those left at home, some relaxation was of great importance and could be best obtained through Sport.

Very little Tennis was played, and all official activities connected with the Sport were "frozen" for the "Duration of the War."

During the years 1941/2/3, conditions worsened considerably. Tennis Balls were unobtainable, although eventually a scheme came into being whereby old balls could be reconditioned. During one Season only three dozen balls were used—this was a great effort—but essentially necessary, as there was no definite source of supply. On one occasion, the Club received one dozen balls from Australia at a cost of approximately £2.

In 1943, all Equipment was showing real signs of wear and tear—nets needed repair, the wire netting surrounds had perished and in places completely disappeared. The shortage of labour, petrol, motor mower repairs and a hundred and one things affected the Club very severely. The Court surrounds and hedges became overgrown and almost became a wilderness, but despite this the members endeavoured to get as much Tennis as their leisure would permit, although most of the time was spent hunting the hedges for lost balls.

1944-45 brought improvement. The few members who were still able to support the Club set to work; the hedges were cut back, the surrounds were cut, the nets were repaired and a great deal of weeding and rolling was done, and our thanks and congratulations are extended to the Chairman, his Committee, and a few members who succeeded in keeping the Club open; THE CLUB HAS SURVIVED.

## CAPTAINS.

### LAWN TENNIS

<i>Men's</i>			<i>Ladies'</i>		
1923	..	T. J. HOPKINS .. ..			
1924	..	T. J. HOPKINS .. ..	Miss E. CLARE.		
1925	..	T. J. HOPKINS .. ..	Mrs. G. D. HORSPPOOL		
1926	..	T. J. HOPKINS .. ..	Miss D. A. CALDER		
1927	..	F. C. ORAM .. ..	Miss D. A. CALDER		
1928	..	F. C. ORAM .. ..	Mrs. M. JERMAIN		
1929	..	E. R. HANCOCK .. ..	Miss M. OXENHAM		
1930	..	W. L. BRIGHT .. ..	Miss M. OXENHAM		
1931	..	W. L. BRIGHT .. ..	Miss M. OXENHAM		
1932	..	T. W. RICHARDS .. ..	Miss E. TAYLOR		
1933	..	D. B. MORGAN .. ..	Miss W. CORNWELL		
1934	..	W. DAVID .. ..	Miss W. CORNWELL		
1935	..	W. L. BRIGHT .. ..	Miss M. NIGH		
1936	..	J. BROAD .. ..	Miss E. BELMAN		
1937	..	J. M. HOPKINS .. ..	Miss W. CORNWELL		
1938	..	A. C. TAYLOR .. ..	Miss W. CORNWELL		
1939-45	..	WORLD WAR NO. 2.			

## CARDIFF ATHLETIC BOWLING CLUB

### Seasons 1939 to 1945.

During the war years, the Bowling Section fully maintained its activities, which were appreciated by the members, since it provided relaxation from the strain of those years. Full lists of fixtures were arranged for both First Team and "A" Team, and fulfilled, despite the calls on members in connection with A.R.P., Home Guard, and other war-time duties.

Club Competitions (Championship, Handicap and Pairs):—were completed each season, and although space does not permit us to give the names of all the winners, the following were the Club Champions for the respective years:—

1938	..	W. TUCKER.	1942	..	H. J. SALTER.
1939	..	W. GREGORY.	1943	..	O. S. THOMAS.
1940	..	J. E. MAILE.	1944	..	A. E. TAYLOR.
1941	..	E. J. TOWNSEND.	1945	..	F. GROVES.

The list of Captains is given in the appendage to this report, and the names of Captains of the "A" Team are as follows:—

1938	..	W. J. OLD.	1942	..	W. T. WILLIAMS.
1939	..	P. CLARKE.	1943	..	A. H. USHER.
1940	..	F. MALE.	1944	..	W. H. BOWEN.
1941	..	J. GREY.	1945	..	C. E. WATTS.

The Club's playing records during the period under review were felt to be no criterion, in view of war conditions, however, we continued to extend the hand of welcome to other Clubs, and our popularity was fully maintained and confirmed by the requests for fixtures.

By the deaths of Messrs. J. D. Roberts, J. Aspinall, T. Jewell, and W. Daw, the first-named an ex-Captain, the Section has lost the services of members who were associated with it for a number of years, and the passing of these genial friends is greatly deplored.

It is incumbent upon us to record here the best thanks of the members to Mrs. Goldsmith and her team of lady helpers for unfailingly providing the members and our visitors with teas on each Saturday during the playing seasons; a really great achievement, when taking into account the difficult food situation during the war years, and to Miss Filer, our courteous Stewardess, for the provision of other forms of refreshment, both of which enhanced considerably the enjoyment of our games.

Our Charity efforts during the war period were also continued, and contributions were made to the Welsh Bowling Association War Charities Fund, the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, Cardiff Blind Institute and the Red Cross.



The Bowling Green, which was considered one of the best in Cardiff, naturally suffered depreciation in the war years, owing to the shortage of labour, and it is of interest to recall its bespatterment on several occasions by shrapnel and other debris. Special attention is now being given to it by the Head Groundsman and his staff, and it is hoped with the attention proposed during the close Season, it will be brought back to its former excellence.

Past Captains of Bowls Section :—

1924 .. J. BATSTONE.	1935 .. A. MILSOM.
1925 .. M. WOOD.	1936 .. A. CALDER.
1926 .. W. M. DOUGLAS.	1937 .. C. W. STANDFAST.
1927 .. J. PRATT.	1938 .. T. STRONG.
1928 .. W. H. JENKINS.	1939 .. E. RIDD.
1929 .. C. A. WILLIAMS, M.A.	1940 .. W. J. OLD.
1930 .. D. L. EVANS.	1941 .. H. W. TAYLOR.
1931 .. J. OXENHAM.	1942 .. J. D. ROBERTS.
1932 .. L. C. WATTERS	1943 .. W. T. WILLIAMS.
1933 .. F. DAVIES.	1944 .. H. J. SALTER.
1934 .. W. T. GRIFFITHS.	1945 .. A. G. COUZENS.

## SKITTLES SECTION.

The Skittles Section of the Club was carried on right through War, with the exception of a few months in the winter of 1941. The "blitz" forced a cancellation of fixtures from January, 1941, until April of the same year. As an illustration of the effect the "blitz" had, the following may *now* appear rather amusing: A game had been arranged on an away alley for the evening following a very bad raid, and the Secretary of the Athletic phoned the Secretary of the opposition suggesting that, as raids or warnings were a nightly occurrence, it would be very difficult to get a representative side together, and suggested that the game be called off. The opposition Secretary agreed to this, and mentioned that, as there was an unexploded bomb outside their alley he would also have some difficulty in mustering a side.

Apart from this period, every season was a success, and the attendances throughout were splendid. Pre-war opponents were scarce, but matches were played against Army, Navy, Air Force, A.R.P. and Civil Defence teams.

The usual averages were kept of all games, and there were many fine struggles to head the list each year. At the end of the 1943/44 season, Mr. Arthur Cornish made presentations to two of the players. C. Clouter received a Silver Cup with two handles (complete on plinth) for heading the averages, and W. Goldsmith also received a beautifully engraved cup, with one handle, for being (where he *always* is) bottom of the list.



