

## POLHILL SPORTS- CLUB DINNER

WOKING  
HERALD.

12 NOV.  
1960.

On Saturday the Polhill Sports Club held its annual dinner at the home of the Secretary, Mr. J. C. Wick-Poulter, of Cabot House, Hermitage Road, Staines. Colonel R. W. Polhill, who had travelled to Woking from Birmingham specially for the occasion, gave a review of the summer's cricketing activities. He said the most notable event had, of course, been his cricket team's tour of Northern Italy. Cricket was a game almost unknown in Italy, and the villagers who followed their progress were only too eager to learn.

Referring to his unfortunate accident while climbing in the Dolomites, he expressed thanks to the many people who had sent him fruit and goodwill messages when he was recuperating in hospital.

Replying, the Secretary said that without the backing of the Colonel, it would be impossible to continue successfully, and as a token of the club's esteem, he presented him with a record of one of Frederick Purcell's later works for percussion, of which Col. Polhill is very fond.

Willeden Chronicle  
23 June 1961.

## POLHILL S.C. v. WYKE AND NORMANDY

In their annual all-day home match against Wyke and Normandy Veterans on Saturday, Colonel R. W. Polhill's XI were soundly beaten. Bating first, the Veterans finally declared at 285-6. Tomkin scored 81 and Harper 72.

The Polhill team were in trouble from the start and were dismissed for 125. Colonel Polhill, the club's president and founder, scored 51.

## HIS HERO IS ALIVE

The news fairly  
bowled over  
ex-P.O.W. man

To the Editor

Dear Sir—I cannot tell you how delighted I was to learn that Col. Polhill is back in cricket. The last time I saw him was at Weihaiwei, Japanese P.O.W. camp, in 1942.

It may interest your readers to know that, even during his internment, the Colonel never gave up his love for cricket. As soon as he arrived at the camp he began dismantling his bunk and converting the boards into a bat and stumps. At first the Japanese were suspicious, and mistook the cricket bat for an escape implement! Later, however, they showed a keen interest in the game, and entered a team in the camp league, organised by the Colonel. The Japanese Commandant, who spent his duty hours playing or watching cricket, insisted that a special request for equipment be sent to the British Army, and in due course we received a Don Bradman autographed bat.

WOKING HERALD

In 1944, the Colonel was transferred to the notorious Aliwal North camp, and I had always been led to believe that he had been killed in the massacre of June 1945.

I lead a very solitary life now, and the knowledge that the hero of Weihaiwei, who brought solace to so many prisoners, is still alive and cricketing, although well over 70, was a tremendous encouragement for me.

Yours truly,  
G. J. MURGATROYD (Major)  
(late Indian Army)

The Lodge,  
Bridgend Farm,  
Ottershaw.

[Major Murgatroyd's letter was prompted by a report, in our last issue, of the annual dinner of the Polhill Sports Club, which was held at Cabot House, Hermitage Road, St. John's. Col. R. W. Polhill had travelled from Birmingham specially for the occasion.—Ed.]

NOV. 18 1960

Willeden Chronicle  
30 July 1961

## CHORLEYWOOD STOICS v POLHILL

Chorleywood's openers put on 46 in the first hour on Saturday. The side eventually declared at 147-8 after Durrant had contributed a lusty 28 and Sims had taken 5-56.

Polhill were soon in trouble and only a fighting stand between Albert Smith and Col. R. W. Polhill avoided complete disgrace. This made 47 out of a total of 55.