

K.W. Millage. Died in Wellington, New Zealand, 8 July 1982

Ken Millage was one of the great personalities of pre-war Rugby Fives. His enthusiasm for the game was boundless, and understandably he was elected to the Committee at the first Annual General Meeting of the Rugby Fives Association. In those days the Association played a number of representative games, and he was its match secretary.

He was a very good fives-player, who represented his county at the game, and in 1934, in partnership with C.R. Black, reached the final of the Amateur Doubles Championship for the Cyriax Cup.

He, with the help of C.R. Black (sadly, killed in action in the war) and A.H. Buck, formed the Old Blues Fives Club. Ken Millage had great personal charm, and this, allied to a high degree of sportsmanship, impressed itself on this Old Boys' Club and made it popular wherever the game was played. Those of us who played against the Old Blues at Horsham in those days will remember with nostalgia the splendid games we had there, followed by generous hospitality afterwards at the Fox and Hounds, brightened by Ken's playing on the piano. For Ken was a man of parts. He was an accomplished pianist and a club cricketer of some skill.

He spent his whole working life with the Royal Exchange Assurance. Regrettably he was lost to Rugby Fives in 1935 when he was posted abroad, first to India and later on to New Zealand, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Ken Millage was made a Vice-President of the Rugby Fives Association as a mark of appreciation for all he had done for the game. It is due to players like Ken that the Association came into being and survived those early years. He will be long remembered.

W.H.P.