

INTRODUCTION

This "Booklet", is an attempt to record the "Highlights" of the last, or should I say first, 25 years of the Romsey Bowling Club. It maybe amateurish, but it is an honest interpretation of "Facts", "Figures", but I hope no "Fiction", which I have put together, from the records of the Club and hearsay.

It lists the Presidents, Secretaries and Champions, since the inception. You will read of the Pennant wins, and those who played in them, of the "Greatest Working Bee", ever to be held in Romsey, mentioning the volunteers who helped to turn a piece of Parkland into a top class Bowling Club.

Over the years there have been many "Working Bees", and to attempt to name all those who attended would be impossible, so I do not say that it was only the people that receive a mention that made this Club. Many who do great work behind the scenes of any organizations are nameless, and wish to remain so, others who may appear to have been overlooked, must also receive the deepest thanks of the present and future bowlers, who have, and will benefit from all that has been done, no matter how large, or small your contribution has been.

To keep, this Club progressing, growing in friendship, numbers and conditions, we all need to retain, or recapture the spirit of the Founders, we can look at their example, copy it, build on it, and show that we can present to the public of 25 years hence, a strong, healthy and happy, Romsey Bowling Club.

(I will be looking for names to publish in the next edition of this publication, which goes to print during February 2013ad.)

N.D. (Norm) Thompson,
Hon. Secretary

THE HISTORY OF THE ROMSEY BOWLING CLUB

During the year of 1962, the Senior Constable Stationed at Romsey, Snr. Leon Aarons and the Manager of the National Bank, Mr. H.G. Mitchell, felt that Romsey should have a Bowling Club. They suggested it a Local Progress Association Meeting. A Sub-Committee was formed to test the feeling of the Romsey people, with regards to the giving of money to start the Club in the form of debentures.

And then the following meeting was called.

PUBLIC MEETING 18/2/63 TO FORM BOWLING CLUB AT ROMSEY.

Present: - Crs. E.M. Clement, L.J. Cook, Messrs. L. Aarons, A. Junor, N. Davis, J. Patterson, C. Newnham, C. Johnston, H.D. Allen, W. Tom, P.A. Mitchell, C. Fricker, R. Shaw, K. Turner, H.G. Mitchell, Dr. E.L. Francis, W. Thomas, A.E. Forbes, J.G. West.

Apologies: - L.A. McIntyre, J. Scanlon, T. Scanlon, W. Thornycroft, A. Smith.

Report from meeting of Progress Association on 21/1/63 and meeting of the Bowling Club supporters was read.

Report by Mr. H.D. Allen of Sub-Committee, formed to canvas the district, for promises of support by purchase of debentures, revealed that 69 persons had promised to purchase **£25 debentures. A total of £1725.**

Mr. Aarons reported that he had made an enquiry to the R.V.B.A. and that the cost of a green (by contract) was **£2250.**

Moved J. Patterson, Seconded L Aarons, "That a Club be formed, to be known as the Romsey Bowling Club."

Moved L. Cook, Seconded H.D. Allen, "That all persons present be classed as provisional members of the Romsey Bowling Club, and that this meeting become the inaugural General Meeting of the Romsey Bowling Club."

INAUGURAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROMSEY BOWLING CLUB.

Present (as above) Apologies (as above)

Moved A Forbes, Seconded C. Newnham "That Officers of the Club be President, 2 Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer."

Moved L. Aarons, Seconded K. Turner, "That Officers of the Club be elected at this meeting."

Mr. H.G. Mitchell who occupied the "Chair", then called for nominations of officers and the following were nominated and elected.

Office Bearers: - President Cr L.J. Cook, Vice Presidents Snr. W. Tom, Jnr. H.G. Mitchell, Hon. Secretary L. Aarons, Hon. Treasurer Cr L.A. McIntyre.

At this stage of proceedings, the chair was vacated by H.G. Mitchell and President Cr. L.J. Cook took charge of proceedings.

Debenture Holders

H.D. Allen	I.B. Allen
N.E. Anderson	D.E. Carroll
F.S. Clark	E.M. Clement
R.C. Colliver	L.J. Cook
A. Day	H.T. Day
N.J. Davis	N.A. Dicker
W.E. Donnan	J. Else
A.E. Forbes	E.L. Francis
K.A. Francis	T.K. Fraser
C.A. Fricker	D. Green
J.T. Green	H. Heath
C.G. Hillier	J.G. Hogg
J. Jackson	C.O. Jennings
B.R. Jefferies	C.S. Johnston
M.L. Johnston	R. Joyce
A.C. Junor	J.W. Laing
K. Luke	H.G. Mitchell
P.A. Mitchell	R.S. Morton
E. McCarthy	K. & J. McDonnell
L.A. McIntyre	C.A. Newnham
T.W. Ochiltree	T.L. Parks
J. Patterson	H. Pennington
D. Reid	E.F. Reynolds
J.C. Reynolds	E. Scanlon
J. Scanlon	T.J. Scanlon
J. Shaw	R.C. Shaw
G.F. Skehan	A. Smith
M. Smith	J.M. Spring
M. Spring	W.J. Thomas
W.J. Thornycroft	P.G. Toomey
D.M. Tom	J. Tom
W. Tom	K.G. Turner
G. Weire	R. Twiss
J.G. West	D.J. & M. White

The Bowlers of the past, present and future, have received a fine Bowling Club, thanks to the generosity of those listed above, who were prepared to "Hold" debentures of from **£25 to £100**. This enabled the **Bowling Club** Committee to finance the preparation and laying down of the green. As the Club became financial, from time to time, a draw of "Holders" was held, and a few Debentures were repaid. Again the generosity was shown, for some would not accept the return of their money, leaving it in the hands of the Treasurer as a Donation.

THE NEXT STEP

It was reported at the first Committee Meeting held 8/3/63 that the President L.J. Cook, together with L. Aarons, A. Junor and C. Newnham, met with Mr. W.J. Lowe of the RVBA and inspected the proposed site at the Romsey Park. They decided that the position was ideal and no difficulty was anticipated in the laying down of the Green, at a position south of the Golf House, (now known as the Old Golf House.

It was moved by A. Mitchell, seconded by K. Turner, "That application be made immediately to the Romsey Park Committee, to put down a Bowling Green and to remove all trees necessary to this end."

MEN OF ACTION

The men of this first Committee were certainly "Men of Action," for also at this meeting, arrangements were made to: - Purchase Precast concrete for the ditch - Agricultural pipes - Fowl manure - To advertise for volunteers - They discussed Excavation work - Working Bees.

Left in the hands of Messrs. Turner, Tom and C. Newnham, was the transfer of an Electric light and the digging of a fresh hole. L. Cook, W. Tom, and C. Newnham were to bring in samples of sand. K. Turner and C. Newnham were to approach Mr. F. Stephens, regarding the felling and removal of the trees. The President L. Cook, was to approach Mr. Hemphill, to obtain some Fowl manure. C. Newnham kindly offered the use of his loader and trucks for carting the sand were to be enlisted.

THE WORKING BEE

The "Hearsay" section of this report is about, (using the words that were said to me,) "the best Working Bee ever to be held in Romsey"

To mention the names of those who attended would be impossible, for some were working at shoveling cinders from old Railway Line, some were shoveling sand at Keith Patterson's and others at Charlie Hayes' property at Lancefield. There were trucks of all shapes and sizes, some were tip trucks, and loaded donated by the donated loader, but many were farm tray trucks, on which the sand or cinders had to be shoveled on and off.

Then there were those who were spreading the material as it was dumped. What a mammoth task! What a great bunch of volunteers worked on the foundation of our Green!

Prior to the "Sand-day, a grader leveled the site, a vibration roller was used to consolidate the area, a ditch digger dug the drains and the agricultural pipes were laid. Then came the cinders, screenings, sand leveling, topsoil, more leveling with wires and hundreds of pieces of wood.

A temporary wire fence was erected around the site, thanks to fence posts loaned by L. Cook and wire from W. Tom and M. Clements. Later in the year the existing steel posted wire fence, set in concrete was erected, thanks to Norm Davis and his then young son Ken.

The Ladies Section

At what was called the Annual Meeting 21/11/69, it was decided to convene a meeting of Ladies, regarding the forming of an Associates Section of the Club, on a motion of L. McIntyre, seconded by A. Forbes.

Inaugural Meeting of Romsey Bowling Club Associates Held 9/12/63

Present: -

Mesdames; H. Tointon, N. Anderson, T. Ochiltree, P.A. Mitchell, K. Fraser, R. Shaw, A. Junor, C. Newnham, D. Carroll, J. Else, W. Spring, J. Reynolds, W. Thomas.

Apologies: - Mrs N. Scanlon, L. Aarons.

President of the Romsey Bowling Club L.J. Cook, spoke to those present on the formation and progress of the Romsey Bowling Club and the necessity for the forming of an Associates group.

It was moved by Mrs. L Cook, that an Associates Committee be formed.
Seconded By Mrs. N. Anderson and carried.

Nominations were called for and resulted as follows.

President	Mrs. H. Tointon	Nominated by Mrs. L.J. Cook
Vice President Snr.	Mrs. K. Fraser	Nominated by Mrs. P.A. Mitchell
Vice President Jnr.	Mrs. J. Reynolds	Nominated by Mrs. K. Fraser
Secretary	Mrs. N. Anderson	Nominated by Mrs. C. Newnham
Treasurer	Mrs. W. Thomas	Nominated by Mrs. K. Fraser
Auditor	Mr. C. Fricker	Nominated by Mrs. M. Ochiltree

Committee: - Mrs K. Fraser nominated all present as members of Committee.

Mrs. Fraser moved a vote of thanks to Mr. L.J. Cook and Mr. L. Aarons for the interest shown in forming the Associates.

Carried by acclamation.

As there was no further business for discussion, the meeting then closed.

Associates Foundation Members.

Mrs. H.G. Aldridge – Mrs. I. Allen – Mrs. I. Amess – Mrs. N.E. Anderson
Mrs. D. Carroll – Mrs. L.J. Cook – Mrs. C. Coghill – Mrs. K. Corry
Mrs. N.J. Davis – Mrs. W.E. Donnan – Mrs. J. Else – Mrs. K.H. Fraser
Mrs. T. W. French – Mrs. D. Graham – Mrs. D.J. Green – Mrs. H. W. Heath
Mrs. B.R. Jefferies – Mrs. A. Junor – Mrs. N.A. Knox – Mrs. D.J. Linehan
Mrs. L. McIntyre – Mrs. J. McIver – Mrs. P. Mitchell – Mrs. R. Morton
Mrs. C. Newnham – Mrs. R. Newnham – Mrs. T. Ochiltree – Mrs. F. Peacock
Mrs. E.H. Rea – Mrs. J.C. Reynolds – Mrs. A. Robb – Mrs. T.J. Scanlon
Mrs. E.H. Shaw – Mrs. J.F. Shaw – Mrs R.C. Shaw – Mrs. A.E. Smith
Mrs. W. Spring – Mrs. W.J. Thomas – Mrs. W.E. Tom – Mrs. H.G. Tointon
Mrs. J. Turnbull - Mrs G.D. Weire – Miss. D.P. White – Miss. M.A. White.

Working Together.

As soon as the Ladies Section was formed, the Ladies proved that they were equal to their Men by excellent efforts, not only for the Fund Raising and Catering, (which they were into straight away,) for when the Green was made available to Members and Debenture Holders early in 1964, they showed that they would soon be a force to be reckoned with as Bowlers also.

The Pennant Teams, Fours, Pairs and Singles wins, over the years, (even to the present day) by far excel that of the Male Members.

IN the beginning, the Golf Club kindly shared the use of their Club House with the newly formed Bowling Club. The Ladies first Meeting of the 1964/65 season was held in what was then called "The New Pavilion", a new building, erected by the Park Committee, for use of the Golf and Bowling Clubs and later the Cricket and Football Clubs. There is mention very early in the Men's Minutes, of a Donation of **£200 to the Park Committee, towards the cost of the "New Pavilion."**

Again the Ladies showed their abilities and were straight into the task of equipping the new building. They decided to donate the Cup Saucer and Plate sets and 38 members gave either 6/6 or 13/- each towards the purchase of 4 dozen sets, (four pastel shades) at a total cost of **£15/3/4.**

Manu of the items that go to Make a Club were donated, to mention by whom would be a mistake, for someone may be overlooked, suffice to say that many early members, from both sections of the Club, were very generous, not only with organized giving but also with the giving of special items, some of which are listed below.

The Flag Pole – Chairs – Honour Boards – Outside Seats – A Clock – Name Tag Boards – Crockery – Cutlery – The Silver Cup for the Men's Championship (donated by a Lady.) The "Yard-sticks – and many trophies over the years.

Even to this present day, here in our second "New Pavilion" (which we still share with the Golf Club) the donations still continue. A folding Lounge for the "Sick-bay", various fittings and equipment.

The un-named Donors know who they are and many others know also. I am sure that the present members would like their thanks recorded, so on behalf of all, a big "THANKS" to all donors of anything' be it goods or that most valuable gift of Time, from all who benefit from your efforts.

When the move from the old Golf House to the first New Pavilion was made, both Clubs enjoyed the improved conditions which it provided but there were no toilet facilities and with all the catering that is needed in the social side of a Bowling Club, as the years went by, ideas were being put forward to have the building extended. Various plans were drawn up, with the thought of adding Toilets and extending the Kitchen.

The final outcome of these discussions, amongst the Members, Park Committee and Shire, was the handing over of the Club Room to the Cricket and Football Clubs, on the completion of a New Pavilion, built b the Shire and contributed to by the Golf and Bowling Clubs.

The New Pavilion was opened by Mr. T.C. Reynolds MLA on 17th September 1983.

Achievements.

Gisborne District Ladies Bowling Association

Premiers 1967 - Romsey

P. Mitchell	S. Linehan	E. Reynolds	D. White
P. Else	M. Scanlon	M. McIntyre	E. Newnham

Gisborne District Ladies Bowling Association

"B" Grade 1968 - Romsey

M. McIver	P. Shaw	M. Ochiltree	E. Newnham
I. Shaw	I. Amess	M. McIntyre	K. Cook

Gisborne District Ladies Bowling Association

"B" Grade 1969 - Romsey

M. McIver	M. Ochiltree	L. Shaw	D. White
I. Shaw	I. Amess	M. McIntyre	E. Newnham

Gisborne District Ladies Bowling Association

"A" Grade 1971- Romsey

P. Mitchell	M. Scanlon	M. McIver	D. White
D. Tointon	M. Ochiltree	M. McIntyre	K. Cook

Central Highlands District Ladies Bowling Association

Premiers Division 2 - 1986

M. Webster	J. Johnston	N. Wheller	P. Bruce
M. Dalziel	M. Gardiner	W. Laing	E. Moritz

Central Highlands District Ladies Bowling Association

Premiers Division 3 - 1986

B. Milley	L. Marion	K. Wait	M. Lees
D. Lunn	D. Thompson	R. Moore	G. Webster

Achievements.

Central Highlands District Ladies Bowling Association

Premiers Division 2 - 1987

M. Davis	W. Laing	L. Marion	P. Bruce
J. Johnston	N. Wheller	R. Moore	E. Moritz

VLBA State Championships

GDLBA 1967/8 - Singles Winner

P. Else

VLBA State Championships

GDLBA 1969/70 - Singles Winner

D. Tointon

VLBA State Championships

GDLBA 1972/73 - Fours Winners

V. Fraser	E. Reynolds	M. Scanlon	P. Mitchell
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VLBA State Championships

GDLBA 1972/73 - Pairs Winners

L. Robb	L. Shaw
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VLBA State Championships

(1974/75 - Into Last Eight Country Section)

M. Scanlon	E. Reynolds
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VLBA State Championships

CHDLBA 1980 - Pairs Winners

M. Scanlon	E. Reynolds
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Romsey Bowling Club - Ladies Section

Honour Roll

Date	President	Secretary	Champion
1963/63	D. Tointon	N. Anderson	
1964/65	D. Tointon	N. Anderson	E. Reynolds
1965/66	D. Tointon	N. Anderson	E. Reynolds
1966/67	E. Reynolds	N. Anderson	P. Else
1967/68	E. Reynolds	N. Anderson	P. Mitchell
1968/69	I. Shaw	N. Anderson	E. Reynolds
1969/70	I. Shaw	N. Anderson	P. Else
1970/71	M. McIver	N. Anderson	P. Mitchell
1971/72	M. McIver	N. Anderson	M. McIntyre
1972/73	V. Fraser	N. Anderson	K. Cook
1973/74	V. Fraser	N. Anderson	E. Reynolds
1974/75	I. Amess	N. Anderson	I. Amess
1975/76	I. Amess	N. Anderson	M. Scanlon
1976/77	E. Reynolds	N. Anderson	E. Reynolds
1977/78	E. Reynolds	N. Anderson	M. Scanlon
1978/79	P. Mitchell	N. Anderson	P. Mitchell
1979/80	I. Shaw	N. Anderson	M. Scanlon
1980/81	I. Shaw	N. Anderson	P. Mitchell
1981/82	P. Cruise	N. Anderson	P. Bruce
1982/83	P. Cruise	N. Anderson	P. Cruise
1983/84	M. Webster	N. Anderson	P. Bruce
1984/85	M. Webster	D. Lunn	M. Webster
1985/86	W. Laing	D. Lunn	E. Moritz
1986/87	W. Laing	D. Lunn	M. Webster
1987/88	D. Thompson	L. Marion	

Romsey Bowling Club - Mens Section

Honour Roll

Date	President	Secretary	Champion
1963/63	L. Cook	L. Aarons	
1964/65	L. Cook	A. Smith	D. Coghill
1965/66	L. Cook	W. Donnan	R. Shaw
1966/67	W. Tom	W. Donnan	N. Davis
1967/68	W. Tom	W. Donnan	N. Davis
1968/69	J. West	W. Donnan	N. Davis
1969/70	J. West	D. Robb	N. Davis
1970/71	A. Forbes	D. Robb	P. Mitchell
1971/72	A. Forbes	D. Robb	N. Davis
1972/73	T. Fraser	D. Robb	T. Ochiltree
1973/74	T. Fraser	D. Robb	R. Shaw
1974/75	H. Tointon	D. Robb	P. Mitchell
1975/76	C. Johnston	D. Robb	P. Mitchell
1976/77	C. Johnston	D. Robb	C. Johnston
1977/78	C. Johnston	D. Robb	P. Mitchell
1978/79	C. Johnston	D. Robb	P. Mitchell
1979/80	C. Johnston	D. Robb	D. Robb
1980/81	C. Johnston	D. Robb	J. Cuthbertson
1981/82	W. Tom	D. Robb	R. McIldowie
1982/83	P. Mitchell	D. Robb	J. Cuthbertson
1983/84	N. Thompson	D. Robb	K. Newnham
1984/85	N. Thompson	D. Robb	K. Newnham
1985/86	N. Thompson	D. Robb	K. Newnham
1986/87	R. Robb	N. Thompson	K. Newnham
1987/88	R. Robb	N. Thompson	A. Caneva

Achievements.

VLBA State Championships

CHDLBA 1981/82 - Singles Winner

P. Bruce

VLBA State Championships

CHDLBA 1985/86 - Singles Winner

P. Bruce

Central Highlands Bowling Association

Premiers "B" Grade - 1970/71

Romsey Men

"Snippets"

Green Committee, 21/11/1963 – P.A. Mitchell, K, Turner, N. Davis, A. Junor.

Norm Davis appointed Green keeper - 8/10/1964

R. (Rob) Shaw appointed Green keeper 19/06/1969

On official opening of the Green Lady Luke rolled the first Kitty,

And Sir Kenneth Luke the first Bowl.

**1965/66, Dresses 13" from the ground, belts must be worn.
1966/67, Dresses 14" from the ground, belts must be worn.
1967/68, Dresses 13" from the ground, belts must be worn.
1970/71, Dresses 14" from the ground, no mention of belts.
1975/76, Dresses 15" from the ground ** Bank and Front**.**

November 1966 Green closed to install a sprinkler system.

"More Snippets"

The Club joined the Indoor Bowling Competition 9/03/1967

The Southern Fence was moved back during 1974.

Due to ill health R. Shaw resigned as green keeper 18/10/1982.

L. Barrow kindly took over the Green until June 1983.

**A verandah was added to the New Pavilion early 1984.
Shelters on the Southern end are the next project.**

10.02.1988

**The Ladies Pairs Champions M. Lees & J. Cropley were "Runners-Up"
in the CHDLBA section of the Victorian Pairs Championships.**

Life Members.

C. A. Newnham	Mrs. N. Anderson
R.C. Shaw	Mrs. I. Shaw
D.A. Robb	Mrs. E. Reynolds

**Also a Life Membership was bestowed by the CHDLBA in May 1982 to
Mrs. J.C. (Edna) Reynolds**