

THE HISTORY OF MARTZBURG BOWLING CLUB

7 September 1954, The President referred to the death of Mr Sam Powell and a letter from his son Mr Sam Powell Jr., to have something done in memory of his Father on behalf of Himself and his sister Mrs. Collins. The Hon Secretary to write to Mr Powell to enquire what amount he is prepared to donate?

15 September 1954, letter from Mr Powell in re memorial to his father, the form to be left in the hands of the committee and to notify him the cost thereof.

7 October 1954, letter from Mrs Weir-Mason, offering a cup for a club competition, in memory of Her husband. Hon Secretary to write and inform Mrs Weir-Mason that trophies exist for all club competitions and suggesting, another form of Memorial to be considered by the committee.

13 December 1954, letter from District of a suggestion, of the organisation of a pairs competition, similar to the Openheimer Cup in Durban, to be considered, at the next District Meeting. The club delegate was instructed not to agree to this, being finalised without being referred back so that the clubs can consider this suggestion.

10 January 1955, Mr. J. Garnett and Mr. McLennan reported on their discussion and made a suggestion that a new Merit Board including all Honours be erected as a Sam Powell. Weir-Mason Memorial, provided that donors did not object to it being combined. The Approximate cost £70.0.0. and suggested that this be done when the building project was completed.

Both donors agreed to this suggestion.

7 March 1955, The pump motor for pumping the river water was damaged by the recent floods, and that repairs were necessary.

4 April 1955, it was agreed to repair the pump motor and at the same time to resite it further up the bank to prevent further flood damage. To resite the pump would involve purchasing extra piping, it was suggested that the fire department be approached with, the view of selling the club the necessary length of fire hose needed. On closer examination it was discovered that the Motor was badly rusted and would have to be replaced and the cost of a new Motor was £60.0.0. It was resolved to have the repairs done.

9 May 1955, Mr. Garnett's proposal was submitted in his absence and it was decided to hold back the presentation for the Honours Board, pending the completion of the proposed internal alterations to the Clubhouse. The president would contact both parties and explain the position and enquire what amounts they were willing to donate.

20 June 1955, it was decided due to the distance, the fixture with Kithbank in Ladysmith be cancelled.

The suggested alterations to the Clubhouse were discussed at length, and it was agreed that no special resolution would be put to the Special General Meeting on the 25 June 1955.

In operating the meeting The President would outline the scheme and Mr. Jackson would then explain the proposed alterations. However it was, considered that it would be necessary for the club to raise a larger amount than first anticipated.

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25 June, 1955 at the Special general meeting it was suggested to levy the members £1.0.0. per annum with the view of raising the amount required to finance the building alterations. The Secretary was requested to have a circular sent to all members informing them of the resolution passed at the Special Meeting.

6 July 1955, Mr. Jackson would endeavour to have provisional plans prepared for the committee to consider on Saturday afternoon. This was necessary to enable the President and Treasurer to submit the application to the City Council for a loan.

8 August 1955, Mr. Campbell the President informed the meeting that the circular regarding the special levy had not yet been posted to members as it was his intention to make it in a more personal appeal to members rather than the bare facts of the resolution.

12 September 1955, Mr Campbell the President explained that the circular to members regarding the £1.0.0. levy was not posted as there was a move afoot to have the Special General Meeting decision rescinded. Mr. Jackson intimated that it was his intention to move such a motion, but asked that the matter be discussed after the financial report by the treasurer. Agreed.

After hearing the financial report Mr Jackson asked if the committee had any objections to his moving a motion to rescind the, special levy of £1.0.0. Mr. Jackson asked the committee if they had any objections in this matter. Agreed that the motion appear on the agenda for the Annual General Meeting.

21 October 1955, At the Annual General Meeting, The President explained that the committee decided that they would act as a Building Fund Committee, and therefore did not appoint a separate committee. The club was authorised to raise a loan of £1000.0.0. from the Municipality and to proceed with the proposed alterations. These arrangements were going ahead, but the builders advised that building only be started after the Christmas holiday break.

Notice of motion.

Mr Anderson in Moving His motion which read as, follows :-

"The decision of the S.G.M. held on the 25 June 1955, to levy an amount of £1.0.0. per member per annum be rescinded." Mr. Jackson pointed out that the club had ended the year in a satisfactory financial position, and that the levy was tantamount to again raising the Subscription by £1.0.0. The club would require £103.13.6. per annum for interest, and it was considered that, this amount could quite easily be raised without levying members. Motion was carried.

He also mentioned that the members would be put to a certain amount of inconvenience during building operations. Woods will have to be kept at home.

The building of the alterations to be commenced on 16 January 1956.

The Secretary mentioned that the Major work on the alterations would be completed before the Natal Tournament in May.

12 December 1955, Mr. A. E. Mason offered free advice on the

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painting and colour scheme and was prepared to supply the point at a reduced price.

5 March 1956, Mr Campbell asked the committee to consider a request by Mr Fielder to allow his son of 19 years of age to join the club. It was suggested to allow him to come along for a time to see whether he would settle down before actually applying for membership.

7 May 1956, it was decided that the Official Opening of the New Clubhouse would be held on the 2nd June 1956, and it was felt that it would be fitting that the, Opening Ceremony, should be performed by Mr. Joe Garnett and Mr. Tom Gibson Snr.

Invitations to be sent to The Presidents and Secretaries of Natal Bowling Association, Durban and District B. A., Pietermaritzburg and District B. A. and all local Clubs including the Ladies.

Special invitation would be extended to Mr. J. Henderson 11th June 1956, The President Mr. Knowles had offered to pay the account for the liquor used at the Official Opening Ceremony of the New Clubhouse. The Secretary thanked the President on behalf of the club members.

16 July 1956, Ladies Section. Mr Knowles said that the ladies were under the impression that they were restricted in regard to enrolling new members. The Committee instructed the Hon Secretary to write informing the Ladies that the club did not wish to restrict them in any way whatsoever but that male members wives should be given preference when considering applications.

13 August 1956, The final payment to the builders, was passed by the committee. The amount was £562.10.3. and sundry amounts of £48.18.9.

Mr. Garnett agreed to see Mr. Jackson in regard to the honours board

10 September 1956, On a directive from District the Hon Sec advised that, only two greens would be available for the next three months, due to top dressing one green.

26 October 1956, the President said that it was his pleasant duty to complement the Ladies Section for all the assistance in raising the money and had paid for furniture, curtains and a large portion of the cutlery, and that they are, an asset to the club.

11 March 1957, The question of the Ladies Honours Board was raised as Mr Jackson, had made a request that he be given the information by the Ladies. The Hon Sec advised that it had been discussed and He was instructed to look up the minutes to verify and report back, at the next meeting.

The Men's Honours Board would be ready shortly.

It was reported that there were white ants in the woodwork in the ladies section and urgent attention was necessary.

6 May 1957, The wording for the plaque for the Honours board was discussed. It was resolved that that the names of the donors be printed on the top of the board. The unveiling of the Honours Board would be performed on the 15 September 1957.

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Invitations to be extended to Mr. Sam Powell jr, Mrs Collins and Mrs Weir-Mason

Ladies Honours board as there was still a balance from the donations made to the club, the Secretary to enquire whether the donors were agreeable for it to be put towards the cost of the ladies board.

9 September 1957, it was reported that all three greens need levelling. The greens committee, were instructed to proceed with this at their earliest convenience.

It was also suggested that an endeavour to play off all club competitions before June or July should be made each year so that it would not interfere with the annual top dressing program. Agreed.

25 October 1957, at the A. G. M. Mr Campbell informed the meeting of a very generous offer, that had been, made to the club.

Every, £1.0.0. collected, as a donation from members an anonymous donor would add £1.0.0. Mr Campbell said a whole hearted effort to collect as many donations as possible during the coming year to enable the club to reduce the loan account.

The meeting agreed that Mr. Campbell continue with the collecting of donations for the Building Fund.

9 December 1957, Mr Redman stated that unless there is an improvement soon, he would have to close the greens for 2 to 3 weeks

9 March 1958, In view of the number of burglaries at the club it was agreed that the club enquire about, a comprehensive insurance. The Hon Secretary to make enquiries and report back at the next meeting.

14 April 1958, The Hon Secretary reported that the Insurance Companies were not very keen to cover the club against burglary due to the frequent claims submitted and the isolated situation of the club premises.

15 July 1958, Mention is made that money was collected for Tommy's Widow fund. (Tommy was the Indian Green Keeper for many years). There, is no mention, of the death of Tommy.

Mention is made that a group of British Bowlers would be in Pietermaritzburg, on the 16th, 17th and 18th December 1958. They will be playing at Martsburg West, Martsburg and Country Club.

Mr. Campbell reported on the building fund redemption and said that he was sure that members would like to know who the anonymous donor was. It was felt that the club should show some form of recognition to this member. He Moved that Mr Knowles be made an Honorary Life Member. Mr Knowles had not wished his name disclosed but the committee felt that the members should be enlightened. He now offered to make an interest free loan to the club to wipe off the balance owing to the corporation and would still pay £1 for £1 donated by Members,

The Committee agreed to confer Hon Life Membership with full Membership rights. Agreed.

Mr. Trollip the Administrator of Natal was made an Hon President.

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8 December 1958, The group of British Bowlers would visit MBC on the 17th and 18th. It was agreed to fly only the flags of our visitors and our club flag on the flagpole.

DUEL Pistols at forty Paces!!! 5th January 1958.

The Flag Issue; The Hon Secretary read two letters one from Mr F. Birch the other from Mr. N.O. Jackson the latter tendering his resignation as Senior Vice-President.

Mr McLennan then tendered his resignation from the committee and said that he felt that at this stage he had no alternative as he had already informed members of his intentions. Various members felt that should adopt the same action but Mr Campbell pointed out that we as a club had taken a very poor view of the action of the Natal Exec when in the past they had acted prematurely.

Mr. Eglinton said that he was prepared to resign as Hon Sec but would give the club time to find a replacement, he also suggested that if the committee resign "en Block" a SGM be called and that the Resignations be tendered then. The action would not leave the club in the hands of the gods.

The following members then withdrew their resignations Messrs Redman, Campbell, Robertson, Dreger, Dowsett and Burr. In terms of the club rules the committee re appointed Mr. N.O. Jackson in regard to, him accepting nomination for re appointment.

Comdr. Algar-Day emphatically stated that he did not report the affair to the Natal Witness. He said that they had approached him after receiving the information from a lady.

The Committee took a very SERIOUS view of his action in this matter.

The Hon Secretary was instructed to inform The Ladies Section that in future ALB business between the Men and Ladies should be conducted through the respective Secretaries in WRITING. In cases of emergency the business would be discussed, at presidential level.

After discussion the matter it was decided to take no further action unless called for by members.

(What? The subject of the above, mentioned issue is, is not mentioned in, the Minutes).

8 June 1959, Mr Campbell referred to the reports that there was a feeling of dissatisfaction, amongst some members of the club regarding competitive bowls. He had made a survey, and it would appear that those members, who were particularly keen on competitive bowls felt that they were not getting the opportunity to improve their game, as no arranged (bounce) games were not allowed. This was to be discussed more fully at the next meeting. 10 August 1959, There was suspicion that the staff, were responsible for the burglaries at the club. It would, be investigated, by Mr Campbell.

30 October 1959, The President thanked Mr Knowles for his fine gesture of financial assistance to the club. (Previously mentioned) The matter of bounce games was left to the incoming committee to decide.

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9 November 1959, Bounce Games it was suggested, those arranging matches should notify the Secretary at least a day before the match takes place. Furthermore, it was agreed that arranged games to be limited to the first Sunday of the month and to have nominated pairs on the second and fourth Sunday in December as a trial.

In connection with the open draw competitions Dr Cohen thought it may be advantageous in finding New skips and thirds if the present tab box was divided into four compartments, and request members to place their tabs in the position they would like play. A question was raised that if there were more members wanting to play skip than thirds, and more thirds than seconds and so on. Dr Cohen, explained than once the numbers of games could be determined. Eg Say there were enough members present to have 10 rinks then the first 10 skips drawn out would be skips. The remaining tabs would be placed in with the Thirds and so on. It was agreed to give Dr Cohen's suggestion a trial at the first available opportunity and get the general feeling of the Members.

Mr Redman said that he had borrowed a Combined Pole Forker SHARMANISER and Brusher from East bowling club and had used it on two of the greens, and found that it saved time and labour. It was decided to wait and see how the treated greens respond.

7 December 1959, The President opened the meeting by asking the committee. To sanction the purchase of the pole forker recommended by Mr Redman, saying that the greens had responded remarkably well, it was suggested that Mr Redman borrow the machine again, and that No 3 green be treated and to discuss the purchase of one at the next Meeting. Agreed.

The President then suggested that the committee earmark the proceeds of the raffle and the two recent donations towards the cost of the machine. Agreed.

8 February 1960, Mr Eglinton the President said he had a talk with Mr. N.O. Jackson regarding the proposed alterations to the back of the clubhouse.

Mr. Jackson said that he would like to meet a deputation formed from the committee and to go into the matter very carefully before deciding on the plan of action. Messrs Eglinton, Dr. Cohen and Redman would discuss the alterations with the Ladies at the joint committee meeting on before seeing Mr. Jackson.

18 July 1960, It was reported that the District Executive were interested in forming a Green Keepers Association. Mr. G. Benjamin (Convenor), Mr. Campbell (Secretary) both acting temporarily, to arrange a meeting with the view of forming the Association.

12 September 1960, A sketch plan of the suggested alterations, to the back, of the clubhouse was submitted, by Mr Jackson for the approval of the committee.

It was decided that the club endeavour to improve the finances of the club before proceeding, with this matter.

12 October 1960, The Ladies donated \$50.0.0. towards the alteration fund.

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13 February 1961, The District, were proposing the introduction of a mid-week league. The Club, were not in favour of this as it interfered with their Wednesday afternoon social bowls.

10 April 1961, District Mid-week League, majority of the clubs were in favour and it was decided at the last District meeting to call for entries with the view to the implementation of this League. The club had no option but to agree and members could enter if they wished.

14 August 1961, The District Executive requested that any clubs desiring to have their open competitions inserted in the District fixture list must notify the District Secretary by the end of August.

The District advised that they had purchased a shawing machine which, would be available to, individual clubs the cost of the rental to be decided upon later.

11 September 1961, Mr. Eglington suggested that the committee Recommend, that the District make enquires regarding the purchasing of a machine for aerating the greens, which could be rented out to the clubs in the district. This matter was to be tabled by the club's delegate, at the next meeting.

JUBILEE TOURNAAMENT it was decided that the club's Diamond Jubilee tournament be held on May 30th & May 31st 1962, and the District Secretary to insert this in the fixture list for 1962 and the Tournament to be called The Park Jubilee Tournament.

16 October 1961, Mr. Eglington reported that he had inspected the machine for drilling holes in the green and had consequently withdrawn the request to purchase the machine.

The Ladies donated £100.0.0. towards the alterations of the clubhouse or any other use as decided by the committee.

From October 1961 to 5 June 1970, no minutes could be found, the information from October 1963, comes out of the Annual General Meetings minutes, which broadly mentions the events that took place during that year, unfortunately no specifics.

October 1964, Mention is made of additions and alterations made in the Clubhouse, particularly to the kitchen and toilets.

In November 1964 No 2 (A) Green was handed over to the District to have it prepared for the visit of The Australian Bowlers that were on tour in South Africa, no date is mentioned.

Congratulations to Archie Armstrong and Ted Dryden on winning the District Pairs, It was thirty four years ago, Since this competition, was won by the club.

At a Special General Meeting the wheels were set in motion for the acquisition of a Liquor Licence, they were waiting the decision of the Liquor Licence Board, which only sits in November of each year.

The President mention that with the acquisition of the Licence further, addition and alterations would be needed to comply with the Liquor Laws. An Appeal to be made to members to assist financially if they could, until such time as the bar would be up and running, which the Committee hoped would help to fund any alterations etc.

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28 October 1965, The President Joe Brittain said that at the Special General Meeting, permission was granted to the committee by the members to apply to the Corporation for a loan to the amount R2000.00, but due to the Police Liquor Licence requirements this has now increased to R2500.00 and the committee was now asking if the members would approve the request to ask the corporation for a loan of R2500.00. Agreed.

Mr Archie Allen offered the District a trophy for a trips competition, which the District declined, due to the fact that the District was fully occupied, Mr Allen then offered it to the club which accepted with gratitude, the only stipulation the donor made was that it must be for trips competition for men with players playing three bowls.

Mr Freddie Brandt Exec Member of the District was invited to address the Meeting, he said it is a sad anomaly these days that, the Honour of a club is judged by the trophies and cups, in the Trophy Cabinet. Let us remember that the spirit of bowls must be maintained at all costs.

Honour the behaviour, Dignity and Discipline of the Club Members, those are the things that, count the most another feature which one does not often see - "They say that, Age Shall Not Weary Them Nor The Years Condemn". You must never forget the old members, You pay tribute to them and you Honour them.

Never let us forget those players who have been here for 20 to 30 years and even more, who have made this club and upheld the Name of the Club. They are the Backbone of the club he then wished the club every success in the future and thanked the club for the Honour of being asked to address the meeting. Applause.

The Bar was up and running and should provide the necessary finance to make the greens second to none the President said in his closing speech to the members.

27 October 1966, Renovations and additions to the Kitchen, Ladies and Men's conveniences as required by the Liquor Laws, had been carried out.

The President, said that when the club was freehold, an all out effort must be made to raise a substantial amount so that the Clubhouse be completely rebuilt.

The New Clubhouse to have amenities such as a library, writing room, Billard room and card room etc.

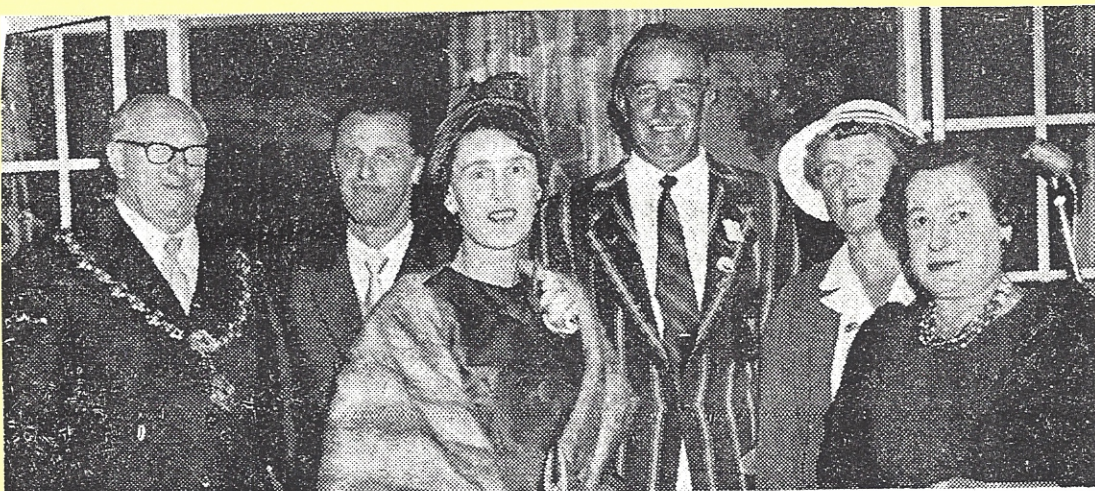
Congratulations to B. Archer on winning the club Snr Singles three years in succession.

A new mower had to be purchased and the Ladies donated R200.00 towards the cost.

20 October 1967, The President Joe Brittain reported that additions and renovations should soon be completed and that no further additions and improvements, on the clubhouse, would be undertaken in the next year by the committee. He recommended that the club, seriously think in terms of the Building a new clubhouse.

The committee, intend to pay of the Corporation loan as soon as finances are available.

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1902 - 1962

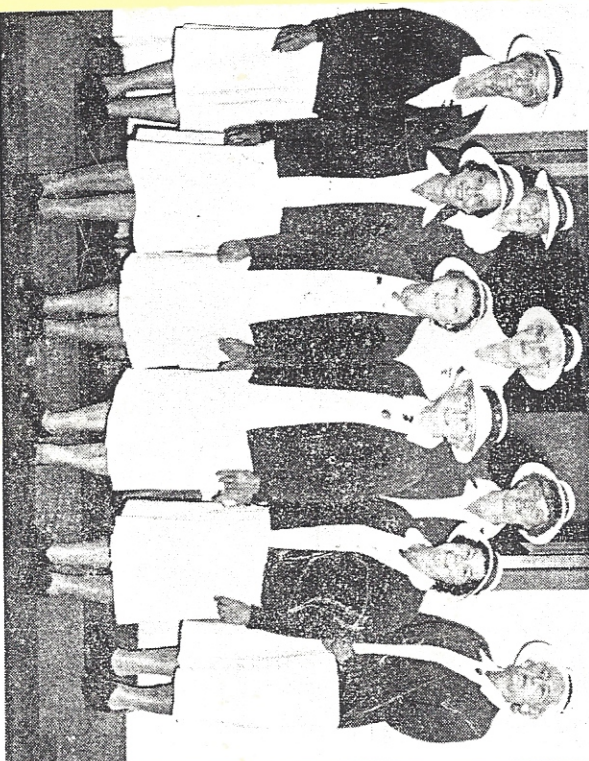


THE Maritzburg Bowling Club held a cocktail party this week to celebrate the club's Diamond Jubilee. Among the guests were (from left) the Mayor of Maritzburg, Councillor G. Bulman, the Administrator of Natal, Mr. Theo Gerdener, Mrs. Gerdener, Mr. E. H. Whitley, president of the club, Mrs. Lorna Blyth, president of the women's section of the club, and Mrs. Whitley.



COMMITTEE — 1962

Front: Tom Gibson, Mr. Ludi Cohen, Edwin Whitley (President), Basil Eglington.
Rear: Jim Readd, Archie Armstrong, Sandy Blyth, Hans Endler, Joe Brittan, Percy Dovesett.
Inset: Ted Dryden.



WOMEN'S SECTION — COMMITTEE, 1962

Rear: Mrs. Timm, Mrs. Wigham, Mrs. Gordon-Wolfe, Mrs. Blyth (President), Mrs. Kedman.
Front: Mrs. Readd, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Stacey, Mrs. Eglington.

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25 October 1968, The President Mr. J.C. Read stated that the committee's intentions were to pay a substantial amount back to the Corporation so that by the end of next year, the final amount would be paid. This was to enable the incoming committees to not be burdened with outstanding loans, if and when they wish to apply for a loan to build a new clubhouse.

30 October 1969, The President Mr J.C. Read stated that the only amount owing to the Corporation would be paid by July 1970, this he guaranteed the members, this he said will be made possible by the bar takings, and he hoped by the staging of the Azalea tournament next year.

25 June 1970 at last we have minutes again to research the happenings of the club.

25 June 1970, Azalea Tournament committee's meeting 16/7/70. It was reported that the club had suffered another burglary, but the loss was small so the committee decided not to claim. It was decided that the Chairman and Mr Meurs would go into the matter of stronger security for the bar and storeroom. The Secretary wrote to a member for repairing the doors and cupboards that were damaged by the burglars.

20 July 1970, "A Man Of His Word" The President stated that the final repayment of the Corporation Loan was made and the club was free of any Debt.

The arrangements for the House of Gordon's Azalea Tournament were well in hand and all that remained was a meeting with the ladies regarding the catering arrangements and entertainment.

The sponsors had agreed to meet all costs and to donate R250 to the club to dispose of as they wished.

The plans for the new clubhouse were in the process of being drawn up by Mr. Meurs

10 August 1970, The Building plans were being sent to various building contractors and calling for tenders.

14 September 1970, only one tender had been received so far for R28000.00.

The Azalea Tournament Committee suggested that the in the future the Tournament to be commenced on Sunday. After discussion it was resolved that this suggestion be tabled at the Annual General Meeting, also that the duration of the tournament be restricted to six (6) days.

Letter to be sent to The House Of Gordon's for their generosity and co-operation at the Azalea tournament and also for the donations of umbrellas.

Letter to be sent to BP SA Pty Ltd for donations of umbrellas. 29 October 1970, at the A.G.M. Joe Brittain suggested that the club negotiate a loan from the Corporation for R30000.00 (Thirty Thousand) at the cheapest interest available, Joe gave a brief resume of how the financial situation has gradually improved over the past 5 years.

He also mention the sever loss the club had suffered by the timely death of Errol Bailey, not only was a very good member

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but also a possible builder of the new clubhouse, which he was prepared to do at a great deal less than those quoted.

As it was now the cost of the building would be in the region of R30000. It was decided to proceed with the application for the loan.

The Ladies had committed themselves to furnish the Clubhouse Mr Hawksworth offered to install the security system free of charge provided the club supplied the material and equipment.

9 November 1970, It was decided the Administrator of Natal perform the Opening Ceremony.

The Croquet club were requested to assist with storage space of crockery and cutlery and providing hot water on bowls days and also toilet facilities for the ladies. The Croquet Club agreed and stated that their facilities were at the disposal of the bowls club.

11 November 1970, The Committee authorised the Greens Committee and Treasurer to take any action in the matter for investigating the charges of the multiple drill currently being used in the Transvaal and the availability of borrowing it the cost of transport to be at the expense of the club.

The Treasurer to make enquiries into the matter of purchasing a mower for cutting the surrounds.

Mr Redman offered to donate a machine to cut the grass on inside banks.

Joe Brittain advised that there would be a delay of about 1 month before the building could start, due to the necessary authority being obtained from the Department of Community Development.

8 February 1971, Mr. Meurs submitted a sketch of the proposed new bar counter. This was left to the Building committee to deal with

Mr. Joe Brittain and Mr. Read were to take in hand the purchase of a new mower for the surrounds, and the bank cutting machine offered by Mr. Redman. Mr Brittain had also written to a Mr. Atkinson in Johannesburg requesting more information about the multiple drilling machine they were at present using. Mr. Brian Moore Son-in-Law of Errol Bailey had offered a Trophy Cabinet to the club in Memory of Errol and Elsie Bailey. Mr. Moore to be advised when the clubhouse would be completed and ready to take the cabinet also thanking him for his fine gesture.

A notice was posted on the notice board requesting members to wear club colours when playing for the club in competitions.

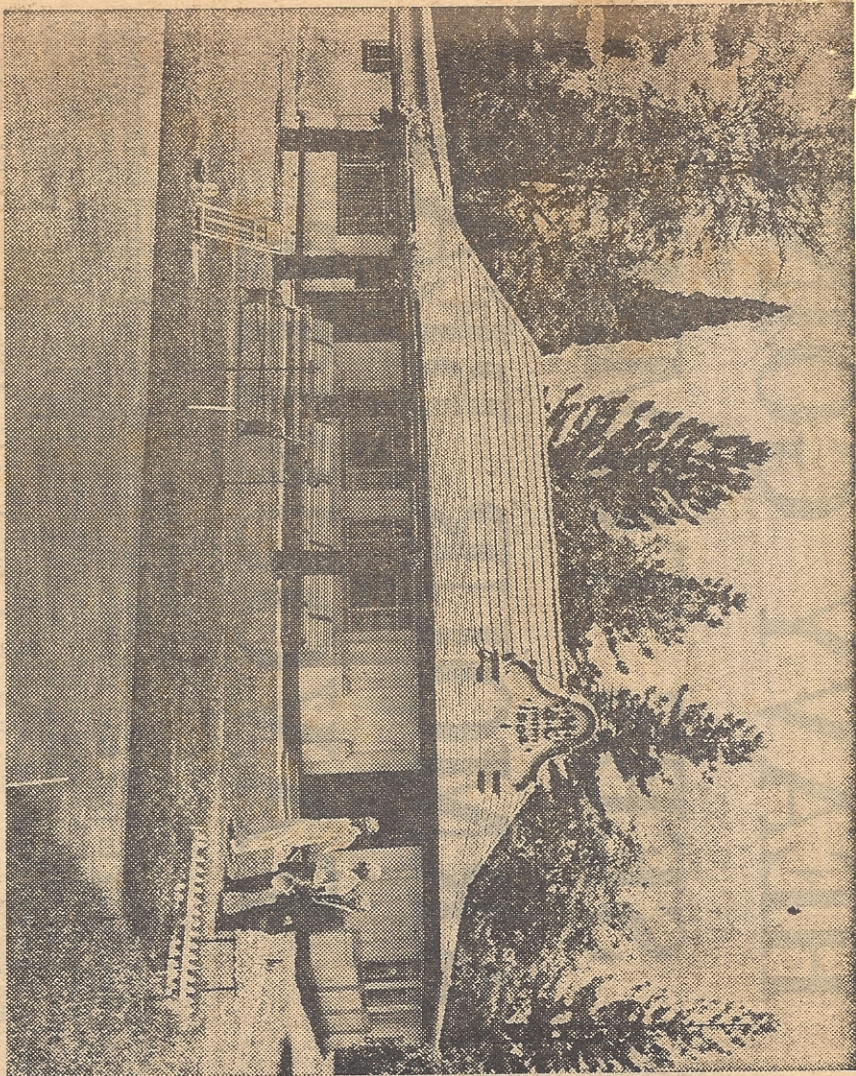
8 March 1971, Ever effort had been made to obtain a bank cutting machine without success. Mr. Redman then, offered to try and get the old one in working order at no cost to the club.

Joe Brittain advised that Kloof Country Club was in possession of a multiple drilling machine and they are prepared to demonstrate it, at their convenience.

9 April 1971, The Azalea tournament Committee requested that a Special General meeting be called on 22 nd May, so that the members may express their views on the intention to start this years tournament on the Sunday.

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Below is an article that appeared in the Natal Witness dated the 1st December 1970. The photograph shows the Clubhouse built in 1924.
"The Witness states that the club house built in 1902, is believed to be the fourth oldest bowling clubhouse in the Republic."



Historic clubhouse to be demolished

● The oldest bowling clubhouse in Natal—the clubhouse of the Maritzburg Bowling Club in Alexandra Park—will be demolished shortly. Last week the club succeeded in obtaining a loan of R30,000 from the Pictetmaritzburg Corporation to build a new clubhouse on the same site. The clubhouse, built in 1902, is believed to be the fourth oldest bowling clubhouse in the Republic. Demolishing will probably start in January, next year, and the new clubhouse is expected to be completed in May, 1971. The existing bar and a few other rooms will remain. The new clubhouse has been designed by Mr. A. Meurs (centre, above), a member of the club. He is pictured with Mr. B. Redman (right), the only surviving honorary life-member of the club, and Mr. J. O. Smyth, a club-member, yesterday.

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17 May 1971, Mr. Ormiston had made 8 coring instruments. It was stressed that the cost of tool labour was so high, it was decided to pursue the matter of the multiple drill machine, more earnestly. Mention was then made of a machine advertised in the Natal Handbook. Secretary to write. For further details.

The committee was advised that through Mr. Lambert, a Jewellery, firm were prepared to sponsor a one day tournament to be played at the club on a Sunday or Public Holiday, the prizes would be gold watches.

It was decided to accept the offer with certain suggestions to the sponsor through Mr. Lambert,

1. That the Tournament be mixed. The make up of the teams to be decided on later.
2. The tournament be held on a Sunday or public holiday.
3. Maximum of 32 teams.
4. Entry fee to be decided later.

Notice to all members. All bowls not removed from the clubhouse within two weeks will be disposed of to the best advantage of the club

The Coring (Hollow Tyne) of the greens was suspended until after the Azalea Tournament.

Mr. Redman was able to repair the, bank cutting, machine and reported that it was working very well but it would need a new blade soon.

The multiple drill advertised in the hand book was traced to a firm in Durban, and they had agreed to demonstrate the machine when the club was ready.

R4900 was drawn from the loan to enable an advance payment to the builders

Building: The following additional payments have had to be made for R80 for Burglar Guards, R150 for additional Bantu Toilets, R40 for the removal of the telephone from the club house to the temporary building and R40 renovations to temporary accommodation.

The President told the meeting that the Ladies had expressed an opinion the Kitchen was a bit small. A meeting had been held with the ladies and after the position was explained and clarified they were quite satisfied.

Mr. Allen made an offer to finance the construction of an open stoep, as this could be used for catering purposes.

Secretary was requested to write to Mr. Allen as follows: Your suggestion was fully discussed by the committee and Mr. Meurs and the Committee gratefully accept the offer.

However the committee felt that any further or extra additions should be left to a later date. It was hoped that this generous offer would still be available when required.

9 August 1971, A quote had been tendered to make lockers for R3,50 each, which included fitting in position. It was decided to accept this offer and that the lockers must measure 18" x 12" x 15" and must also be fixed at least 9" above the floor for clearing purposes, further that lockers have bale catches or similar, and with no locks. Cost of lockers not to exceed R1000.

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So far the builders have been paid R20274.65 Retention amount would be R1450 Total R21674.65. The balance of R7000 will be paid as follows: R3000 in two payments, and R4000 on acceptance of the completed Building.

The tilting of the roof had begun and every effort would be made to have the ceiling completed before the Azalea Tournament. Screens for the, public bar were donated by Mr. Read.

The District requested the use of the club and greens for the long weekend, 9 to 11 October 1971, for staging District Golden Jubilee Tournament. After discussion it was decided that the President, get the opinion of the members on Saturday, as it was they who would be deprived of their weekend bowls.

The sponsored One day, tournament for watches was accepted. The Secretary to advise Mr. Lambert that the only suitable date was the 19 September 1971, and not as suggested by him in October. The Entry fee would be R4 per team of, four the club would sponsor the session prizes.

Make-up of teams would be 2 Men and 2 Women and that preference be given to club members

An ice making machine had been anonymously donated to the club, it was decided that metric tots would be served in the public bar and imperial and metric tots in the members bar. The decision of when to convert to metric tots would be decided later. All arrangements for the Azalea tournament were well in hand, the catering would be undertaken by the Ladies Section.

It was reported that striped blazer material was available from overseas at between R8 to R9 a yard. If the material was obtainable it would be sold to members, who could then have their own blazers, made up.

19 August 1971, S.G.M. The meeting was called to discuss certain aspects of the sponsored One day, tournament offered by a Jewellery firm through Mr Lambert.

Mr Brittain informed the meeting that the, member through who the tournament had been offered, wished to make this by invitation only, and that He desired to do the invitations.

It was discussed and decided, that this tournament be accepted as an open Competition, with preference to be given to the, club members, and that all conditions to be as decided at the meeting held on the 9 August 1971. All agreed.

The Committee and members expressed their firm intention to consider club members first and foremost at all times and not ask members to make sacrifices for the sake of a few Rand.

It was proposed that the Edwin Whitty Trophy be made into a mixed drawn Fours for club members only. This would enable all members to take part in the tournament. Passed unanimously.

13 September 1971, It was reported that the Edwin Whitty trophy competition was and great success and there were 14 teams that had entered.

The cost of the lockers, was in the region of R600 and were in the process of being constructed.

8 November 1971, Mr. Paterson made the suggestion that the District should seriously think of forming our own Association

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and break away from Natal Bowling Association was discussed at length but many were against the idea and it was not accepted. 23 November 1971, A Special General Meeting was called.

This S.G.M. was called to discuss the decision of the meeting of the Sub-Committee and the Ladies Section that no children to be, allowed at the Prize-Giving and X-Mas party.

Several members were very upset about this decision, they felt that they were being discriminated against, in that they would not be able to attend the function, as it was rather difficult to obtain the services of a babysitter in the afternoon or early evening. They suggested that the children be allowed until seven p.m. or at the discretion of the parents.

The Chairman thanked all present for their frank and open discussions, and said that although he agreed with the sub-committee that, children should not be allowed. He felt that the discussions were a genuine effort, to come to an agreement, on what, was a tricky problem and suggested that the Sub-committee and ladies meet to discuss this issue as soon as possible.

What the decision of this, meeting is not, mentioned.

15 December 1971, The treasurer informed the meeting that the builders had been declared insolvent, and nothing further could be done to the building until the legal side of the matter had been settled. There was still R3729 in hand of the builder's money.

Mr Meurs was requested to draw up a detailed and very complete list of work outstanding to complete the building, for the benefit of the insolvency case. In the meantime an effort was going to be made to complete the Bar counter, lockers and pelmets.

The necessary steps to insure the building was to be taken as far as possible.

A quote of R475.50 was received to renovate the banks of all three greens, it was agreed upon and work to commence as soon as possible.

13 March 1972, a quote of R3360.00 was accepted for the completion, of the building.

Due to the increased water bill and the reluctance of the Corporation to make, any further concession, it was suggested that enquiries be made regarding a bore hole, and that an effort be made to conserve water as much as possible. Tests would be done on the water meters to establish if there was a leakage.

17 April 1972, a bad leak in one of the pipes was found and repaired immediately. In regards to a, water Bore hole the President reported that, he had been in with an expert in water affairs. This person was not in favour of a water bore hole, as in his opinion would be expensive, and there was no guarantee of how much, water would be found, and how suitable it would be for the soil on the greens. He strongly recommended river water, possibly after it, had been filtered.

The President and Green keeper to look into the matter of a filter, and the cost involved in getting the river water pump in working order again.

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The green keeper of Victoria B.C., suggested that the scarfier that was lying at the club, be lent to him, and he would attempt to put it into working order, and then it could be used by both clubs. This was agreed to with the understanding that the machine, remain the property of this club.

12 June 1972, The green keeper reported that he had made a bank cutter and it was working very well.

Opening of new Club house was discussed and decided that a sub-committee comprising all the Past Presidents, the President and Secretary be formed to decide on this matter, as the Administrator of Natal was available on the 5 August to perform the Opening Ceremony.

20 June 1972, The Sub-Committee had held two meetings and one with the Ladies, and had reached the conclusion that No opening Ceremony or any function be held. The main reason was that the Clubhouse has been in use for nearly a year and that a function would be costly, an expense the club could ill afford at the present time. After lengthy discussions the committee resolved on the recommendation of the Sub-committee not to hold any functions.

The Water bill was still very high and it was resolved to revert back to watering the greens with river water. An offer was made by a member to assist the Green Keeper if the pump needed attention. The green keeper said that the motor needed an overhaul, and he was instructed to have the work done as soon as possible. The green keeper stated that with the favourable wet weather conditions it was not that urgent to have the motor repaired but, he would keep it in mind to, have it attended to.

6 July 1972, The Green keeper was not present at this meeting had asked the President, to advise the committee, that the grass on "B" and "C" had been attacked by fungus, but they were responding to treatment, and that he was confident they would be available, for the Azalea Tournament.

The Committee decided that due to the fungus the two affected greens should be rested and given time to recover. They were also of the opinion that the grass from the nursery was sufficiently established to use on the greens if needed.

The Treasurer stated that the revenue would decline by the closing of the greens, but members, must realise that this was unavoidable.

28 July 1972, This special Committee meeting was called for the sole purpose to discuss the condition of the greens.

The services of Mr Doug Collett the Green keeper of a Durban club had been sought for advice. He had inspected the greens and came to the conclusion that the grass had been burnt and killed by the use of the wrong weed killer, and suggested that the greens be replanted with new grass.

After discussing this matter it was decided to plant small sections of the "B" green with Collegians/Frankenwald grass to ascertain if this was compatible with the soil on "B" and if so The entire green to be planted with this grass, also if there was enough, of this grass available from Collegians.

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If the Collegians/Frankenwald was not available, the grass from the nursery to be used, as this was of the utmost emergency, it must be given priority and started immediately.

At this Point Mr Brittain advised that the Azalea Tournament should be given to another club with the understanding for this year only, was agreed to Martzburg West he mentioned had shown interest in staging this Tournament, he asked the permission of the committee to approach them. Agreed.

Westmore Park had offered their greens to the club for an indefinite period at a cost of R40.00 per month for both greens was, gratefully accepted by the club as their temporary home. A notice to be posted on the club notice board.

After further discussion it was agreed that the green keeper together with Mr Collett work-out a watering, feeding, and fertilization programme. Which must be strictly adhered to. The completed building had cost the Club a total of R30025.00

18 September 1972, Mr Read the green keeper said that an analysis of the soil on the greens had been obtained from the S.A. turf Association and that the treatment of the greens had been started. The cause of the deterioration of the greens could not be specifically determined, a lot of suggestions had been made but no one could supply the answer. The only solution was to get on with the work of repairing the damage done to the greens, and to get the greens in order as soon as possible.

9 October 1972, a new scarfier had been purchased at a cost of R430.00 and the "B" be done. Grass from the nursery would be used to replant the bad patches. It was difficult, at this stage to determine when the green would be ready for play.

The programme suggested by Mr Collett was being strictly adhered to except for delays caused by adverse weather conditions.

26 October 1972, The President in his annual report thanked Westmore Park for their generous offer in allowing the use of their greens, while our greens were under repair, and to Martzburg West for coming to the rescue of the club by staging the Azalea Tournament.

The nursery grass was well established and thanks to Mr Shuttleworthy, for all his hard work in this regard, as it had saved the club a substantial amount when "C" green was under repairs, as this grass was used.

13 November 1972, Mr Read the green keeper reported that a weed killer firm had been engaged to treat the greens with "Tecto" which Mr Collett had approved of, and that every care was being taken to comply with the application instructions of this chemical.

Mr J. Brittain the treasurer that in regard to the river water pump, it was now considered essential that a length of pipe be fitted, so that the club could make use of the river water to assist with getting them back to their high standard of the past.

Foot note: The club used Westmore park greens from 6 July 1972 till the 24 th February 1973 when the greens were again opened for play.

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The pipe was obtained and a cost of R15.00 was incurred to have it fitted was authorised for payment.

8 January 1973, The green keeper mentioned that the treatment was progressing very well but was adamant, that the greens would not be used until absolutely ready, "B" he said might be ready in approximately in two weeks time, and then "A" green would be closed. "C" would only be ready by the end of February.

As the nursery grass was nearly depleted it was decided to establish the nursery again with the indigenous grass that was growing on "A". 8 Large boxes of compost as suggested by Mr Collett was nearly ready for use. This compost was made according to the specifications of Mr. Collett who was not happy with the compost being made when he visited the club at the time of the problems with the greens.

12 February 1973, it was reported that the river water pump motor had, not yet been attended to as the favourable rainy conditions recently the Green keeper said there was no immediate urgency for this at the present moment, it would never the less be done when, needed.

He also stated that if the progress continues as at present, he was hoping to open the greens by the 24 February 1973. He also Requested that when the greens were opened that, the placement of the mat to be varied freely, and especially not to play if the greens were very damp or in rainy weather, this would prevent any further damage to the greens while the grass was being established.

12 March 1973, to add to the woes of the green keeper the old mower was causing trouble, and at the present time there was no money available for the purchase of a new one. The cost of a new mower was approximately R800.00. It was suggested that a special meeting of the greens committee and management committee be called to seriously discuss this matter.

A Durban club had made enquiries about purchasing grass from the clubs nursery, this was agreed to and this was supplied to them at a cost of R50.00. The grass taken had already been replaced with the indigenous grass from "A" green.

9 April 1973, At the special meeting it was decided that an order be placed for a new mower seeing that there would be a delay in delivery of 9 to 10 weeks. As far as the funds required, the President stated that, he would make an appeal to the members to, assist by contributing towards the cost. The old machine to be repaired as best as possible.

7 May 1973, The old mower had been repaired and was working, but a complete overhaul was necessary. The main cause of the problem was that the blades on the drum were badly worn. The green keeper to take the matter in hand.

4 June 1973, The Green keeper reported that the greens were starting to respond to the treatment they were receiving, and he was very optimistic, that within a few months time they would once again be the best in the district.

Water pump. It was reported that the pump had, not yet been

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attended to. The Secretary to write to the person responsible, and bring to his attention the fact that due to the recent, hot conditions, this matter needed urgent, attention.

16 July 1973, The treasurer submitted an account for R560.76 from the Durban Saw Hospital in respect of mower parts supplied by them. The green keeper confirmed that the original quote was for R250.00 for the complete overhaul and parts required.

The cost of a new mower had been quoted at R800.00. It was felt that this account received was excessive, and out of proportion in relation to the cost of the, new Mower. It was agreed that as the parts were not used, they were to be returned to the supplier and the order of a new Mower was cancelled.

A New Scott Bonner Mower was ordered from a firm in Jo'burg 13 August 1973, The treasurer reported that the ladies section had donated R300.00 towards the cost of a New Mower was greatly appreciated by the Committee. With all, the greens now in use the financial position was again picking up, but a worrying matter was the unusual increase in resignations of members recently, there was some lengthy, discussions but no one could give any good feasible reasons. The committee would make a survey to try and establish the cause, and make an effort to try and popularise the game by more mixed novelty tabs in competitions.

25 October 1973, At the Annual General meeting Mr Brittain the treasurer commented that although every thing looks Rosy in the garden, regarding the finances of the club, mainly to the bar takings, what was of concern to him, was that the income from bowls did not, meet the bowls expenditure, he warned that the need may arise for the consideration be given to an increase in Subscriptions and/or greens fees, to which he was reluctant to implement.

The President submitted an unopposed motion that Messrs J. McLennan and J. Brittain are to be made Hon Life Members in recognition of meritorious service to the club in particular and to bowls, in general. This was unanimously accepted.

4 March 1974, The club had suffered another burglary and the committee decided that all windows and doors to be burglar proofed with heavy gauge material. The recent burglary had caused some damage that was attended to by the green keeper immediately. A quote of R240 was accepted and the work to be done as soon as possible.

8 April 1974, The treasurer mentioned that, he had carefully considered ways and means of increasing revenue, and suggested a Green Fees Levy of R10 per annum per player, applicable to week-end play. This levy in preference to an increase in subscriptions and would bring in approximately R600. Members would not be required to pay green fees on week-ends under these conditions. This would be discussed again, at the next Committee meeting, after the President had made mention of this suggestion under the bell, at bowls on week-ends, and the committee had time to discuss this with other members, in order

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to ascertain their reactions, and to come prepared to consider the matter further at the next meeting, with alternative suggestions if any.

The Bar committee should also investigate the possibility of increased bar prices. Agreed.

22 August 1974, Wags and means to increase revenue was discussed at some length. Several suggestions were put forward namely increased subscriptions, a levy of R10 payable in advance in respect of green fees and also a further suggestion alternately to increase green fees. It was eventually agreed to call a special general meeting of the members to discuss this matter on the 21 September 1974.

9 September 1974, It is recorded that it was considered advisable not to call for a Special General Meeting of the members, at this stage but rather to have the matter of increased Subs/Green fees discuss at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. It was proposed and agreed that the agenda should include a Notice of Motion to impose a levy of R10 on every member for the forthcoming financial year. At the same time members should be prepared for an increase in Subscriptions for alike amount for the year 1975/1976.

A tender from Venetian blinds to construct a storage room for empties and other items at, a cost of R169.00 was approved 24 October 1974, The treasurer Mr Brittain fully explained for seeking increased finances and detailed suggestions emanating from the committee. It was clear that the majority favoured a reasonable increase in subscriptions. The incoming committee to consider the extent of the increase, and then convene a Special General Meeting for a final decision.

14 November 1974, The committee decided that an immediate levy of R10 per member, to be made, which should be followed by amending the annual subscription to read R20 per annum in the new constitution, which would take effect from 1st October 1975. It was suggested that the Special General Meeting be on a Saturday afternoon after bowls sometime in February.

13 January 1975, The committee decided to do enquiries into the cost of a Hovercraft Mower for cutting the surrounds provided that the cost did not exceed R200.00 Air conditioners. Quotations from W.R. Christie & Co that had been received for the installation of air conditioners for the bar, were read. All members agreed that the cost was not warranted, but felt that an alternative method of providing cooling/heating for the whole premises was badly needed and should be considered. It was eventually agreed that Mr Pearson obtain two separate quotes, for the bar alone, and also for the whole building to have fibreglass installed in the ceilings. It was further agreed to obtain a quote for the installation of an extractor fan for the bar. 10 February 1975, the mower for the surrounds was purchased at a cost of R 160.55.

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10 March 1975, Quotes for the fibreglass, were mentioned Bar only R146, bar and club house R672.00 it was decided to have the bar done only, the club house could be done at a later date. It was noted that, an extractor fan, had been purchased for R96. the purchase of the fan was confirmed. It was pointed out that quotes only had been called for, it was agreed that Messrs Heamon, Hillier and Fraser would carry out the installation of the fan.

14 April 1975, Mention was made that a trophy had been donated to the District, for a triples, competition. Masters Shield as it is now known.

14 July 1975, The Bar convenor requested that consideration be given to provide more hot water for the bar, and that this be done before the Azalea Tournament was agreed to. The treasurer to have an additional geyser installed for the bar at a cost not to exceed R200. The eventual cost was R260 fully installed was approved.

26 July 1975, at this Special General Meeting to discuss the revised constitution it was decided that , Subscriptions for ordinary members be increased from R10.50pa to R16.00pa as from 1st October 1975. This figure did not include any District, South African fees, or any levies, which will remain for the account of the member.

8 September 1975 , The future of the Azalea tournament was discussed in the light of rumours, Mr Brittain was authorised to investigate the matter.

13 October 1975, Azalea Tournament. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the club would continue staging this Tournament should Gordons decide to make changes in the venue. Mr Brittain, Chairman of the Tournament committee, was given full power to call a meeting with Mr Durou and convey to him the clubs sentiments on the matter.

10 November 1975, Mr Brittain gave a full report on a discussion with Mr Durou of Gordons. These sponsors had decided to stage the tournament over alternate years in Maritzburg and Durban, which was unacceptable to this club, and Mr Durou had been informed accordingly.

In continuing the Tournament as agreed by the club, there seemed no difficulty in obtaining the support of several, well known top, notch bowlers, if invited. Mr Brittain was given full power to proceed with the advertising and other arrangements for staging annually of this tournament, during the Azalea Festival, A MARITZBURG AZALEA TOURNAMENT as it was to be known. In need the club would finance the tournament pending arrangements with a suitable sponsor.

Greens Mr Machielse (S. A. Turf Research) had paid a visit to the club and inspected the greens, and was satisfied with their condition, but was a bit concerned about water grass appearing on some. Special treatment had been recommended, and which was receiving attention. Bar. Special bar facilities for the visit of English Lady Bowlers

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was mentioned. The President, Secretary and treasurer would meet with the N.I.W.B.A. Executive to discuss the arrangements for the match and entertainment scheduled for the 25th November.

8 December 1975, Azalea Tournament. Mr Brittain reported that 36 invitations had been sent out and replies were expected before 31st December.

The question of sponsorship was left in abeyance while the concerns were giving the matter consideration.

Greens. At the request of Mr Robertson, it was agreed that coloured markings be painted on the ditch boards to enable the rinks to be correctly marked at all times.

It was noted that a burglary had taken place, the culprit, had entered by the kitchen door. Mr Hawkins had attended to the steel door, which was now being locked. It was requested that care be taken in future that the clubhouse doors and windows were properly closed before leaving.

12 January 1976, The District Executive had decided to introduce a Mid Week League to be played on Wednesday afternoons. The club was in favour of this and the club's delegate was instructed to vote accordingly.

The green keeper again reported that the 150 ft $\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose pipe had disappeared. He was authorised to replace it.

9 February 1976, It was agreed that in future green fees would be increased to 25 cents, this will not include teas, which may be obtained from the ladies at a charge to be fixed by them.

The Azalea Tournament, Mr Brittain reported that a new sponsor Messrs Gibbys were prepared to donate an amount of R1000.00 Mr V. Fouché had given much assistance towards getting this Sponsorship and a letter of thanks to be, sent to him was agreed to.

Sufficient players, including top S. A. and Master bowlers would be taking part.

Mr Brittain stated that he was satisfied with all arrangements and could not see why this Tournament could not be as successful as before.

12 April 1976, It was stressed that it was important to go ahead with the reconstruction of the implement shed. An estimated cost of R2000 was approved. A report and plan would be submitted in the near future.

Attention was drawn to the club's 75th Anniversary next year. It was suggested and agreed to start planning for the occasion.

10 May 1976, 75th Anniversary Mr A. Holden offered on behalf of his company to sponsor a special Anniversary Tournament sometime during 1977, was received with appreciation.

New Years tournament, Fordicks had offered a sponsorship of R1000, but asked that this offer be held in abeyance, pending reconstruction of the company. The Tournament would be by invitation only, and played on the clubs greens, and only 10 skips from the club will be allowed.

13 September 1976, The plans for the implement shed that were

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submitted on the 9 August and held over for discussion until after the Azalea Tournament, were discussed at length. The treasurer was requested to call for tenders for the construction of the shed, this would give the members an idea of the approximate costs. The Treasurer stated that he felt a figure of R2000 could not be exceeded.

The recent burglary when entrance was gained into the Bar, was discussed at length, and it was resolved that, the storeroom door be, burglar proofed and a cement slab be built, over the store room and that, barbed wire be placed in the ceiling, to try and secure the bar area.

The Ladies were granted, permission to accept a Sponsorship of R500 from Innova, for a four day tournament for Ladies fours.

The Chairman of the Azalea tournament committee, stated that with the support of the new sponsors J & B Rare Whiskey was an outstanding success. The favourable comments received from players, and sponsors alike, was most encouraging.

5 October 1976, The Treasurer reported that a claim against the insurance had been lodged for the amount of R560, and that the assessor was investigating the claim, which was expected would be met.

He also detailed several anti-burglary precautions being undertaken to insure the security of the bar. The approximate cost R180 was authorised.

The implement shed was, held over for discussion by the incoming committee.

8 November 1976, The anti-burglar proofing was fully discussed, and resolved that a sub-committee consisting of Messrs Brittain, Fraser, Ormiston and Hawksworth, investigate this matter thoroughly and report back. In the meantime and as a matter of urgency, heavy steel bars are to be fitted over the windows of the bar as well as barbed wire in the ceiling. Only one tender had been received but more were expected shortly.

13 December 1976, The treasurer reported that two quotes had been received for the reconstruction of the implement shed. One for R2800, and one for R1500 as per drawing. It was agreed to accept the quote for R1500 subject to it being put in writing. In view of the possibility of extra charges, it was further agreed that the total cost should not exceed R2000, which was approved by the committee.

The 75th Anniversary Tournament would be discussed in January 1977.

10 January 1977, discussions took place every, meeting from this date, until it was finally decided on, at the meeting held on 17 October 1977.

It was agreed that an, Open all day tournament will be held on December the 16th instead of the usual turkey competition. This tournament is to be for nominated mixed or Ladies fours. The first 36 entries would be accepted. Four games the number of ends, are not, mentioned. Points first then, shot difference.