

Bulawayo Bowling Club

1899-1974

75
YEARS

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



COMMEMORATIVE BROCHURE



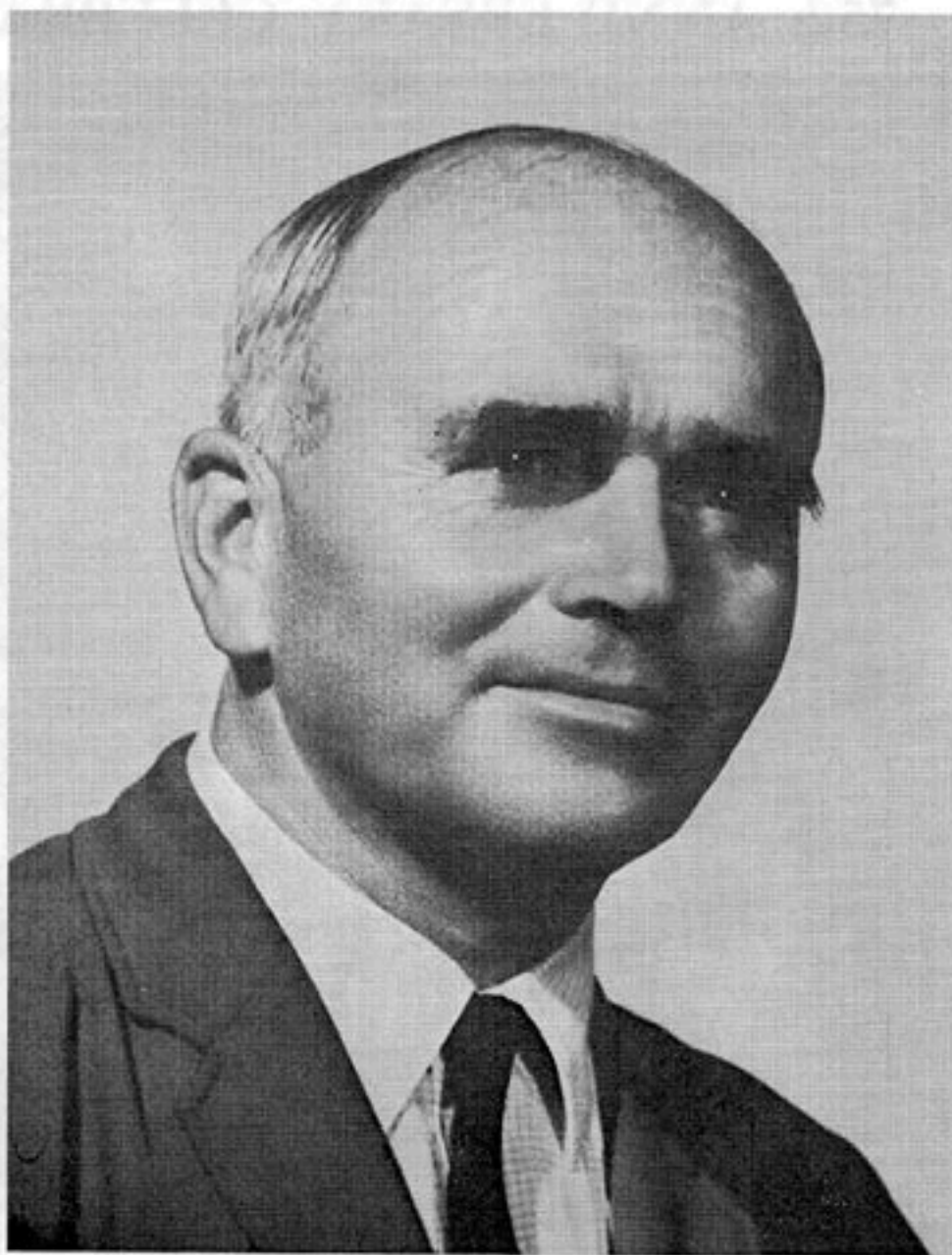
Foreword

by the

Hon. L. B. SMITH

I.D., M.P.

Minister of Internal
Affairs



The game of Bowls is as old as history itself. No matter in what other sport people may be interested there is always unanimous agreement that amongst bowlers there is a companionship not always found elsewhere. It is not surprising therefore that in the hospitable atmosphere of Bulawayo, Bowling should have established itself in 1899.

I am confident that those who attend this Seventy-fifth Anniversary, whether from inside or outside our borders, will find that same feeling of companionship which has always been such a characteristic of the people of Matabeleland and this City of Bulawayo.

L. B. SMITH

75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE



G. Crawford R. W. Bayne J. M. Leibbrandt Ed. H. Tomkins E. S. White V. Blyth

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

It is indeed a great honour and a privilege for me, as President of the Bulawayo Bowling Club now celebrating its 75th Anniversary to pay tribute to our predecessors for the formation of this Club, as well as to all of those persons who have been responsible for the administration and running thereof since its inception. I feel sure that if it was possible for all of these good folks to view what is now the Bulawayo Bowling Club, set in these wonderful environs, that they would be justifiably proud of their combined efforts. I trust that those persons to whom the administration of this Club will be entrusted in the future will follow the tradition of their forefathers.

I hope you will find the Greens to your liking, the "atmosphere" of our Club appealing, and it is my sincere wish that you will take away with you happy and lasting memories of the 75th Anniversary of this Club.

May you return home safely with an earnest desire to visit us again soon.

J. M. LEIBBRANDT,
President, Bulawayo Bowling Club.

BULAWAYO BOWLING CLUB

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President: Mr J. M. Leibbrandt

Immediate Past President: Mr V. Blyth

Senior Vice President: Mr E. N. Sutherland

Junior Vice President: Mr H. F. O. Smith

Acting Honorary Treasurer: Mr V. Blyth

Honorary Secretary: Mr E. H. Tomkins

Assistant Honorary Treasurer/Secretary: Mr G. L. Scott

Committee:

Messrs J. Glen : L. Howden : E. Jackson

W. J. Mackenzie : A. Qually

Ladies' Representative: Mr J. Turner

LADIES COMMITTEE

President: Mrs E. M. Burnett

Vice President: Mrs M. B. E. Smith

Honorary Secretary/Treasurer: Miss D. M. Simpson

Committee:

Mesdames M. Blyth : E. B. Chilton : A. K. Cramer

E. Jackson : E. van Niekerk

TRUSTEES

Mr E. S. White, O.L.M., O.B.E. : Mr D. McL. Vinnicombe

LADIES . . .

International Stylists

★ LAURE and LYNN
from France

★ YVONNE DAVIES OF BULAWAYO BOWLING CLUB
and

★ SHERYL GRAY

welcome you at

CHANTELLE HAIR BOUTIQUE

BULAWAYO'S MOST LUXURIOUS AIR CONDITIONED SALON

★ BEVERLEY

OLD MUTUAL ARCADE

★ MARILYN

★ DAWN and ★ MARIE
South Africa Bulawayo

8th Avenue/Abercorn Street
(opp. Sanders)

from
London and Australia

Tel. 61702

PRESIDENTS AND LIFE MEMBERS

PRESIDENTS

1899 Dr J. N. Wilson	1918 J. Cowden	1937 C. E. Harrison	1956 E. S. White
1900 Dr J. N. Wilson	1919 W. J. Atterbury	1938 W. Frampton	1957 F. H. Higgins
1901 Dr J. N. Wilson	1920 J. H. Ayling	1939 I. M. Rae	1958 F. H. Higgins
1902 Dr J. N. Wilson	1921 J. H. Ayling	1940 I. M. Rae	1959 J. E. Kennedy
1903 W. Wightman	1922 J. Tod Suttie	1941 J. Cowden	1960 J. E. Kennedy
1904 W. Wightman	1923 S. Philip	1942 R. E. Bayliss	1961 C. S. Bradley
1905 W. Wightman	1924 S. Philip	1943 R. E. Bayliss	1962 C. S. Bradley
1906 W. Wightman	1925 F. E. Briers	1944 E. A. Payne	1963 A. B. McMeeking
1907 H. Baird	1926 F. Fisher	1945 E. A. Payne	1964 A. B. McMeeking
1908 H. Baird	1927 T. Davey	1946 P. J. Gallagher	1965 V. Blyth
1909 H. Baird	1928 T. Davey	1947 W. Frampton	1966 V. Blyth
1910 H. Baird	1929 H. Charles	1948 W. Frampton	1967 V. Blyth
1911 J. Wightman	1930 H. Charles	1949 E. A. Payne	1968 V. Blyth
1912 J. Wightman	1931 R. E. Bayliss	1950 I. M. Rae	1969 G. L. Scott
1913 J. Wightman	1932 R. E. Bayliss	1951 I. M. Rae	1970 G. L. Scott
1914 H. Baird	1933 G. Baker	1952 H. G. Pritchard	1971 C. W. Bower
1915 D. McGillivray	1934 S. Bradley	1953 E. S. White	1972 C. W. Bower
1916 D. McGillivray	1935 R. A. Cain	1954 E. S. White	1973 V. Blyth
1917 J. Cowden	1936 C. E. Harrison	1955 E. S. White	1974 J. M. Leibbrandt

LIFE MEMBERS

J. A. Ayling	F. E. Briers	S. Neall	T. Forbes
A. E. Marais	R. A. Cain	P. Gallagher	R. D. Rouse
D. Drummond	E. A. Payne	E. S. White	G. W. Marshall
J. Wightman	G. Vallance	F. H. Higgins	E. D. Royston

LADY PRESIDENTS

1939 Mrs M. Dickson	1951 Mrs A. Marshall	1963 Mrs M. Cook
1940 Mrs M. Bradley	1952 Mrs M. Candler	1964 Mrs M. Candler
1941 Mrs G. Cumming	1953 Mrs M. Candler	1965 Mrs J. Royston
1942 Mrs K. G. Frampton	1954 Mrs B. Howe	1966 Mrs J. Royston
1943 Mrs H. Hounsborne	1955 Mrs B. Howe	1967 Mrs M. Bradley
1944 Mrs M. Bradley	1956 Mrs M. Philp	1968 Mrs M. Bradley
1945 Mrs K. Moore	1957 Mrs M. Philp	1969 Mrs E. Moore
1946 Mrs K. G. Frampton	1958 Mrs M. Cook	1970 Mrs E. Moore
1947 Mrs A. Marshall	1959 Mrs A. Marshall	1971 Mrs U. du Plessis
1948 Mrs A. Marshall	1960 Mrs M. Cook	1972 Mrs U. du Plessis
1949 Mrs A. Marshall	1961 Mrs M. Cook	1973 Mrs J. Royston
1950 Mrs A. Marshall	1962 Mrs M. Cook	1974 Mrs E. Burnett

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs V. D. M. Harrison	Mrs H. Hounsborne
Mrs M. Bradley	Mrs A. Marshall
Miss N. O. Hosking	

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, JUNE 1st

- 9.00 a.m. Fours, Triples and Pairs arranged games competition. Open to all bowlers.
- 2.15 p.m. Practice Games.
- 6.30 p.m. Informal get-together Dance, with Marge Bower and the B.B.C. Band. Dress: Bowling Kit.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd

- 9.15 a.m. Official Opening of the Bulawayo Bowling Club's 75th Anniversary Tournament by the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Hon. Lance B. Smith, I.D., M.P.
- 10.00 a.m. First Round. Men and Women (no tea interval).
- 1.30 p.m. Second Round. Women.
- 1.45 p.m. Second Round. Men.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 3rd

- 9.00 a.m. Third Round. Women.
- 9.15 a.m. Third Round. Men.
- 1.30 p.m. Fourth Round. Women.
- 1.45 p.m. Fourth Round. Men.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4th

- 9.00 a.m. Fifth Round. Women.
- 9.15 a.m. Fifth Round. Men.
- 1.30 p.m. Sixth Round. Women.
- 1.45 p.m. Sixth Round. Men.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.
- 7.00 p.m. Bulawayo Male Voice Choir.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5th

- 9.00 a.m. Seventh Round. Women.
- 9.15 a.m. Seventh Round. Men.
- 2.00 p.m. Tour of the Matopos for the visiting bowlers.
- 2.15 p.m. Bumper Mid-Week Social. Open to all bowlers.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6th

- 9.00 a.m. Eighth Round. Women.
- 9.15 a.m. Eighth Round. Men.
- 1.30 p.m. Ninth Round. Women.
- 1.45 p.m. Ninth Round. Men.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7th

- 9.00 a.m. Tenth Round. Women.
- 9.15 a.m. Tenth Round. Men.
- 1.30 a.m. Eleventh Round. Women.
- 1.45 p.m. Eleventh Round. Men.
- 5.45 p.m. Denis at the organ.
- 7.30 p.m. Marge Bower and the B.B.C. Band, informal Dance with guest artistes and the B.B.C. "Can-Can" Show.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8th

- 9.00 a.m. Plate Event for all teams other than finalists.
- 2.00 p.m. Finals of the B.B.C. 75th Anniversary Invitation Fours. Men and Women.
- 5.45 p.m. (Approx.) Prize-Giving.
- 6.00 p.m. Cocktail Party for all members of Bulawayo Bowling Club, participating players and invited guests.
- Marge Bower and B.B.C. Band will play for dancing.
- Lt.-Col. S. C. Hart, O.B.E., Immediate Past President, International Bowling Board and Hon. Life President, S.A.B.A., will propose the Toast to the Club.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BULAWAYO BOWLING CLUB

North Park (Entrance in 4th Avenue).
Tel. 61157.

TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL

Ed. H. Tomkins. (Residence phone 68984).

CELEBRATION BROCHURE AND PROGRAMME

Obtainable from Tournament Official: 50 cents.

75th ANNIVERSARY TIES

Obtainable from Tournament Official: \$2.50.

PRACTICE GAMES

Tournament Official will arrange these on request.

BANKING

Banking facilities will be available in the Car Park by Barclays Bank International Limited from Tuesday to Friday at 12.15 to 1.00 p.m.

STATE LOTTERY TICKETS

These will be on sale in the Clubhouse daily.

CATERING

Players' teas will be available morning and afternoon in the Clubhouse at 10 cents. Visitors' teas will be available in the shelter also at 10 cents.

Lunches will be on sale daily at 65 cents; dressed rolls with salads at 35 cents.

Players wishing to order lunches must do so from the Catering Official before 9.30 a.m. daily.

Catering is by the Shangri-La Restaurant, Abercorn Street, Bulawayo, and the following menus have been approved by the Tournament Committee:

Sunday: Beef Casserole and Assorted Vegetables.

Monday: Sausage and Mash and Assorted Vegetables.

Tuesday: Spaghetti Bolognese or Chicken Curry and Rice.

Wednesday: Steak and Kidney Pie and Assorted Vegetables.

Thursday: Boiled Ham and Mustard Sauce or Beef Casserole and Assorted Vegetables.

Friday: Fish and Chips.

Saturday: Chicken Curry and Rice or Sausage and Mash and Assorted Vegetables.

All the above include buttered roll and tea or coffee.

PARTICIPATING TEAMS AND DRAW

MEN

Section A

1 B.B.C. "A"

G. G. Graham
E. N. Sutherland
W. Lavington
D. Perkins

2 JOHANNESBURG

T. A. Harvey
E. Miller
G. H. Atkinson
A. I. Blumberg

3 SALISBURY

I. MacMillan
W. L. Holland
G. D. Beare
F. T. Paul

4 HILLSIDE B.C.

T. Markram
D. Burger
B. Stinton
J. Bolton

5 BLOEMFONTEIN

M. H. Dowie
J. R. Moffett
I. Diener
W. Van Der Merwe

6 B.B.C. "D"

R. Chilton
C. B. Lyle
P. Prince
W. F. Davies

7 BULAWAYO

C. S. Bradley
D. Hadden
V. Atkinson
J. Wright
J. Center

8 B.B.C. "F"

R. W. Bayne
J. Hodgkinson
C. Dunn
L. Graham

9 ROODEPOORT

R. Ratcliffe
A. Wilson
H. Davies
J. Campbell

10 B.B.C. PRESIDENTS

C. W. Bower
E. D. Royston
E. S. White
G. L. Scott

11 RAYLTON B.C.

G. Stratfold
V. Jewell
G. Sutherland
L. Rice

12 GREENCOATS

P. Siebert
R. Mitchell
R. Clegg
A. N. Other

Section B

1 CITY B.C.

A. E. Johnston
K. W. Rush
N. D. Boyes
R. Blackett

2 MASERU

J. Hatton
B. Heyns
A. Rosset
L. Joubert

3 QUEENS B.C.

D. Dare
D. Dring
L. Rees
A. Coupe
J. Flynn

4 FRANCISTOWN

R. Croll
H. Rose
L. J. Mynhardt
M. van Nierop

5 B.B.C. "C"

J. Hooten
G. Rademeyer
J. Glen
D. Vinnicombe
R. Haigh

6 GERMISTON

L. Kessel
H. Bell
B. Woolf
J. Sergay

7 B.B.C. "E"

A. Qually
W. J. Mackenzie
L. Howden
S. Wigginton
L. Michaels

8 B.B.C. "B"

H. Philp
D. Kukard
J. Russell
H. F. O. Smith
B. Liddle

9 GWELO

J. Burns
G. Boyle
J. Margach
F. Jarville
J. Moyles

10 OLD MILTONIANS

S. Rastall
S. Van Blerk
N. Bichard
D. Malamis
J. Johnston

11 MUNICIPALS B.C.

E. Merry
J. Hogg
J. Kynoch
F. Goodwill

12 FLORIDA

J. Furman
L. Cross
T. Knight
M. Fourie

WOMEN

Section C

1 CITY B.C.

P. Wallace
M. McEvoy
D. Nodes
J. Lee

2 VANDERBIJL PARK

L. De Klerk
M. Dunlop
P. Taylor
M. Venter

3 BLOEMFONTEIN "B"

R. Miller
E. Vermaak
S. Welthagen
M. Dreyer

4 B.B.C. "A"

E. Jackson
G. Sutherland
Y. Davies
D. Simpson
A. Light

5 WELKOM

M. van Schoor
N. Dacombe
V. Barbour
J. Lipschitz

6 FLORIDA

E. Campbell
T. Jose
E. Collin
R. Smilkstein

7 RAYLTON B.C.

L. Hay
M. Bruce
A. Morrison
D. Jewell
S. Watkins

8 B.B.C. "D"

M. Logie
B. Bradley
E. van Niekerk
I. Walters
H. Carbutt

9 JOHANNESBURG "A"

Y. Emanuel
M. Blackstone
S. Sundelowitz
S. Aron

10 SALISBURY

A. Gilchrist
K. Dennis
T. England
C. MacMillan

11 HILLSIDE B.C.

L. Holmewood
B. Bayne
I. Armitage
E. Laughlin

12 B.B.C. "E"

P. Qually
E. Howden
P. Taylor
E. Painting
N. Hosking

Section D

1 B.B.C. "B"

C. Graham
L. Gruber
D. Bower
B. Chilton
E. Jackson

2 BULAWAYO

E. Russell
W. Gibson
P. Kukard
I. Camp

3 B.B.C. "C"

E. Burnett
M. Mackenzie
E. Pass
M. Scott
V. Haigh

4 JOHANNESBURG "B"

C. Bidwell
M. Sadman
P. Ralph
M. Cridlan

5 B.A.C.

A. Bushby
I. Smith
M. Baxter
C. Ades

6 B.B.C. "F"

S. Topliffe
J. Timms
M. Candler
N. Liebenberg
G. Vinnicombe

7 RANDFONTEIN

O. Macleod
E. Hull
M. Murning
J. Fourie

8 MUNICIPALS B.C.

J. Miller
L. Hogg
B. Semple
E. Atkinson

9 BLOEMFONTEIN "A"

M. Armstrong
G. Dowie
H. Horn
C. Griesel

10 QUEENS B.C.

F. Haddon
M. Hartshorne
A. Cutmore
J. Rayne
J. Rees

11 BENONI

J. Fergusson
P. McVicar
V. Rhind
J. Scrimgeour

12 B.B.C. PRESIDENTS

M. Philp
J. Du Plessis
E. Moore
J. Royston



The First Green. On the far right J. Laughton, Town Engineer, prepares to deliver his bowl, next to him is W. Robertson, Town Clerk, and J. A. Powell, Postmaster, the lady in white is Mrs. Kerr, on her right her husband J. Kerr, Mayor. In the middle of the group preparing to bowl is Dr. J. N. Wilson, Founder of the Club.

To relate the seventy-five years history of the Bulawayo Bowling Club in a publication such as this, is an impossibility; what has been done, is an attempt to highlight the important events, emphasis has been placed on the formative years and the problems that faced the founders; again, it has not been possible to mention in detail the notable personalities who have been connected and contributed so much to the club since its inception.

BULAWAYO was occupied by the 1893 Pioneer Column on November 4th, 1893, it was declared a town by Dr Jameson on June 1st, 1894 and achieved Municipal status on October 27th, 1897.

The European population of Rhodesia at this time was estimated at 5 000, the total for Bulawayo being just under 2 000; Dr Andrew Fleming describes the town in the following words: "Now I must give you my impressions of Bulawayo. I think they are best described by the three D's—Dear, Dirty and Damnable! A straggling place covering a large piece of ground, with iron houses, brick buildings, tents, kaffir huts and shanties all mixed up and stuck down in a sort of Chinese puzzle just where the owner pleases. Of course, they have planned the streets, etc., and when rows of houses are built it won't be too bad, but at present, with one house in one street and a hut or a store or some-

thing in the next one, it gives a peculiar look. The dust is awful, red and sticky, and permeates everything."

So it was, in a town of only a few years existence that Dr J. N. Wilson, convened the meeting on June 3rd, 1899, to discuss the formation of a bowling club.

The *Bulawayo Chronicle* report of the meeting reads: "A meeting of gentlemen interested in the fine old sport of bowling, met at the Grand Hotel on Saturday night, to consider the formation of a club. Dr J. N. Wilson was in the chair, and there were also present: Messrs. J. Laughton, J. J. Kiddy, C. S. Gill, W. Robertson, H. Cragg, C. H. Zeederberg, F. Scott, A. Wiles and others. In the discussion as to the best means of procedure, Mr Zeederberg proposed that the Town Council be approached for the purpose of obtaining a grant of ground in the North Park. Mr Gill

spoke for a considerable time as to the advisability of approaching the Queens Club. He concluded by moving an amendment to the effect that the Queens Club be approached. Mr Laughton pointed out that an offer had been received from the B.A.C. Club, who had, under certain conditions, offered to lay down a green. This had fallen through, and he was of the opinion that if the Bowling Club was worth forming, it was worth doing on its own account. The Chairman said this was practically a preliminary meeting, and he suggested the appointment of a committee to get the terms of the B.A.C. and Queen's clubs and approach the Town Council and then report to a later meeting what they had done. This, he said, would put them in a better position to know what they could do. Mr F. Scott, approved of this, but suggested that in the meantime the Municipal Council be left out, and only the two sporting clubs should, in the first instance, be approached. It would be an advantage in regard to the question of refreshments, which were very necessary. He proposed this as an amendment, because he thought that the two clubs should be supported. The Chairman put Mr Scott's amendment, and it was lost. Mr Zeederberg's proposition was then carried. Mr Laughton said that a pavilion would cost £200, the construction of the ground £100 and service about £80 per annum. A committee consisting of Dr Wilson, Messrs. Laughton, Kiddy, Robertson and Scott, with Mr Gill, the Secretary as an *ex officio* member, was appointed and instructed to report to a meeting to be held at a date to be advertised later."

At a meeting of the Town Council of Bulawayo held at Williams Building, Bulawayo, on June 5th, 1899, the application for the grant of ground was discussed, the following is the relevant minute:

"Bowling Green — Application for Ground.

Letter was submitted from Mr Chas. S. Gill, Honorary Secretary of the newly formed Bowling Club, applying for use of a piece of ground, about 60 yards square in the North Park on the Banks of the Maatjesumhlopi (*sic*), for the purpose of forming a Bowling Green, and for the erection of a Pavilion. After consideration, it was resolved to grant the application — the ground to be held during the pleasure of the Council and subject to regulations which may be imposed by the Council."

It should be noted here that Mr C. S. Zeederberg was a member of the Town Council, and the Town Engineer, who was present at the Council meeting, was Mr J. Laughton.

The follow up meeting took place at the Grand Hotel on June 10th, 1899; Mr Laughton proposed and Councillor Zeederberg seconded that Dr Wilson should take the chair.

The first item of business was the matter of members and it was agreed that the Secretary circularise all interested gentlemen, and those joining by June 30th, would be considered as Foundation Members.

Election of Officers was next on the agenda; Honorary President; The Right Hon. Cecil J. Rhodes, proposed by Mr Laughton, seconded by Mr P. Jagger. Honorary Vice Presidents: Captain Hon. Arthur Lawley, Colonel Nicholson, D.S.O., Isidore H. Hirschler, Esq., Geoffrey Glyn, Esq., Dr Sauer, E. St. M. Hutchinson, Esq., C. T. Holland, Esq. Proposed by Mr. Laughton and seconded by Mr Kiddy.

Dr Wilson was elected as the first President of the club and Councillor Zeederberg, vice President. It was resolved that the Managing Committee be left in the hands of the following gentlemen; Messrs. Laughton, N. Robertson, J. Patterson, J. Kiddy and F. Scott. Mr C. Gill was appointed Honorary Secretary. Messrs. Davies and Rayner were appointed auditors.

The final paragraph in the minutes of this meeting requests the Secretary to communicate with the secretaries of Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Kimberley Clubs as to the standard of Bowls in use at these centres.

The first official committee meeting was held after the conclusion of the election of officials, meeting later that evening, and it was proposed and agreed that the tender submitted by Mr Logie for the formation of one green at £20 for 350 cubic yards be accepted.

The management committee met again the following week, on June 14th; subscriptions were fixed at £2.2.0, members joining prior to June 30th to be exempted from entrance fees.

The next meeting of the committee was held on October 16th, 1900; Dr Wilson was in the chair and others present were Messrs. MacGlashan, Boggie, Whitton, Laughton and Edmonds. It was proposed and agreed that Mr C. R. Edmonds be appointed honorary secretary and treasurer. Dr Wilson proposed and Mr Boggie seconded that the gentlemen present be added to the committee of management, viz. Messrs. MacGlashan, Boggie, Whitton, Bell and Edmonds.

It was also agreed that the subscription would be two guineas per annum without entrance fee.

At the first annual general meeting held on Wednesday, February 13th, 1901, the President,

Dr Wilson read the following report "In June 1899 as a consequence of a meeting held in the Grand Hotel on the 3rd of that month the Municipality were approached for a grant of sufficient land in the North Park to form two Greens. This was acceded to by that body and the formation of the first Green was commenced on June 14th, 1899. The laying out of the Green was completed and the grass planted. Shortly after this work was finished the War broke out and the result was the majority of the Committee left for the Front. While the remainder were away from town either through illness or other causes. In consequence of this all the work done previously went to wrack and ruin.

"No further action was taken until October 16th, 1900, when it was decided to restart work and this meant starting from the beginning again as the place was practically a wilderness. From that date on until now, constant work has been kept up. In the first place it was necessary to clear away all the weeds, to fence the ground, to enlarge the drain to prevent flooding the green and to plant grass again. This took a considerable time, but unfortunately the labour was to a large extent in vain as the young grass making its appearance was immediately eaten up by three swarms of locusts at different times. This in conjunction with the drought and white ants killed a large quantity of the grass and consequently instead of having a green fit to play upon at the present we now have to wait until all the bare patches have been filled up.

"It is hoped that the green will be ready for play by May; of course the restarting of the green and constant replanting have occasioned considerable expense and you will see by the audited accounts to December 31st, 1900, how the Club stood financially at that date.

"On October 16th, 1900, when operations were resumed the liability of the Club was £10.15.9; since then a further sum of £30.5.0 has been advanced by the Secretary for wages, Native labour, etc. so at the end of the year we were in debt to the extent of £41.0.9.

"As the ground was unplayable last year it is a matter for consideration whether the subscriptions for 1900 should be cancelled and those for the current year collected."

In May 1901, the management committee agreed to invite Mr Ayling, the Park Curator, to become an Honorary Member.

It was on February 25th, 1902, that the first Tournament Handicap was played; the handicappers being Dr Wilson, W. Wightman and C. Edmonds. Dr Wilson and C. Edmonds

being the only scratch players. The result of the Tournament being winner W. Wightman, with C. Edmonds runner-up; score 21-15.

A quote from the *Bulawayo Chronicle* of June, 1902, enjoins the Club to follow the newly formed Rondebosch Bowling Club and build a bowling pavilion, the report carries on to say "now that bowling has fairly well established itself in Bulawayo, the opportunity should not be lost to push on with the clubhouse scheme. The membership roll is very encouraging, and doubtless in any competition this club would be able to place a good team in the field."

During this month a letter was received from the Kimberley Club requesting a visit of a team from the Bulawayo Bowling Club to compete for the Inter-Club Bowling Championship and Trophy to be held at Kimberley at Easter.

In January 1903, it was agreed to arrange a Tournament for the Challenge Cup to be presented by Earl Grey.

At a meeting held on October 3rd, 1903, it was agreed that "Until the Imperial Laws of the Game are published the Kimberley Laws of the Game be accepted by this Club."

From the minutes it appears that a Bowls House had been constructed and the Secretary was asked to insure the Bowls House for £10 and the Bowls £90.

At the February meeting of 1904, the Secretary was instructed to write to the executors of the late Cecil J. Rhodes and thank them for the handsome trophy which they had donated to the Club.

Evidently more problems were arising over the maintenance of the greens and on March 13th, 1906, the President proposed "That the Council take charge of the Green and keep it in good condition. Owing to the Club's financial position it is imperative that something be done to place the finances in a proper condition."

At the following meeting held on May 12th 1906, it was reported that the Council had agreed to take over the maintenance of the Green for a sum of £20 per annum.

The first annual dinner of the Club was held at the Imperial Hotel on Wednesday, June 20th, 1906. To quote the *Chronicle*, the report of the function reads as follows: "The members of the Bulawayo Bowling Green Club held their first annual supper at the Imperial Hotel, on Wednesday night. The ancient game of bowls claimed its enthusiasts in Bulawayo many years ago, but it is only during the past two or three seasons that it has found a prominent place in local sport. After enjoying a cold collation served

in the Imperial Hotel's best style, the President proposed the toast of the Bowling Club. He said that he was glad, that there was growing interest being taken in bowls locally. He remembered when the game was introduced into Bulawayo seven years ago, and when Dr Wilson was elected the first President. Mr Zeederberg, who was a town councillor at the time, was also a member of the club."

It was at this supper that the Mayor of Bulawayo (Major Walter Baxendale) promised to provide a medal to be competed for by the members of the Club. This was the forerunner of the Mayor's Medals which proved to be one of the most popular competitions organised by the Club.

An insurance policy for £75, respectively on Building and Club property was taken out on January 29th, 1909, with the Royal Exchange Assurance Company.

At the meeting held in June, 1916, the approval was given for the purchase of the following medals:

Earl Grey Cup, Gold Medal	42/6
Rhodes Cup, Gold Medal 35/-
Mayor's Medals, Runners up	10/- each (2)

The list of members for the season 1913-1914 stood at 83; at the meeting held on Saturday, January 23rd, 1915, among the members accepted for membership was the late Tom Forbes, whose name is remembered by bowlers for the Forbes Trophy that he presented.

The provision of lockers in the Clubhouse was approved on March 12th, 1915, members to pay a fee for each locker of 5/- per annum.

In a letter to the Town Clerk of Bulawayo, dated April 13th 1915, a cheque is forwarded amounting to £2.1.0, being the proceeds from teas supplied by the Red Cross; proceeds to go to the two Rhodesian Regiments serving at the Front.

The following letter is quoted which I feel demonstrates the close ties that existed in those days:

Chronicle Office,
Sunday.

Dear John,

I must apologise for our omission to publish the Bowling Club "draw". As you know it was in type on Thursday, but was crowded out of Friday's paper.

It was revised on Friday and I promised you it would go in for certain on Saturday. I was off duty on Friday evening and Mr Voss, who was arranging the paper, did not appreciate the urgency of the paragraph and I had omitted to

mention it to him specifically, so it was included among the slaughtered innocents.

Sorry if I've put you to any inconvenience.

Yours sincerely,

A. Davies.

At a meeting held in June, 1915, the first mention is made of the issuing of Debentures at 20/- each up to £50 to meet the cost of putting the Green in order. The Town Council to be asked to provide the remainder of the £50 required.

On July 10th, 1915, the prizes for the 1912, 1914 and 1915 games were presented; also an innovation was a match which the *Chronicle* reported: "... and in the Mayor and Past Mayors match, Mr Basch, Captain Bucknall and Mr Fraser who finished in the order named, exhibited a high order of skill."

On January 28th, 1918, a letter from the South African Bowling Association requests the payment of £2.2.0 plus 6d. exchange, as annual subscription. The Bulawayo Bowling Club secretary replied, "I am instructed to inform you that no member of this Committee has any knowledge of our being affiliated with the Association. As however, we would like to, I am instructed to forward a cheque for £1.1.0 which we understand is the annual subscription."

At the annual general meeting of December, 1918, the problem of keeping the greens in good condition was raised and it was suggested that a sum of £100 be incurred to sink a well and the erection of a windmill. It was suggested that the members pay two years subscriptions to meet this extraordinary expenditure.

Mr Swenson, Plumber, submitted a tender for the erection of a windmill, it reads "Erection of windmill and supply one 4" pump cylinder, one footvalve, 40' piping and 70' of pump rod for the sum of £20. I can also supply one 4,500 gallon tank on 2' stand for £50."

In May of 1919 the first Bowling Club Fete was held, this is important for the fact, that in the press report of the function mention is made of ladies taking part in the sport, the *Chronicle* reported "... a pairs competition was played for ladies and gentlemen, this was keenly contested. Some of the ladies played as if they were 'old hands' at the game, and their keenness indicated that we may look forward to the ladies taking to the wearin' o' the green as a regular pastime. Competitions proved most popular with the competitors on the green with bowlers and others, who thought it was simple — until they tried."

It was at the annual general meeting held on October 23rd, 1920, that membership was opened

to the fairer sex, at a fee of One Guinea per season.

Later on in the year, on November 13th, 1920, Mr MacGillivray raised the question of the erection of a new Clubhouse. A sub-committee was formed to go into this matter.

The annual general meeting of October 8th, 1921, is important to the history of bowls in Rhodesia, for it was at this meeting that having received instructions from the South African Bowling Association it was decided to form a Bowling Association for Rhodesia . . . the meeting approved the formation of the Rhodesia Bowling Association, consisting of five members, three besides the President and Secretary. The election that followed resulted in the following: President Mr Tod Suttie, Secretary Mr R. A. Cain, Committee Messrs. Cowden, Ayling and Philip.

On November 1st, 1921, it was agreed that the Ladies form their own section and elect their own officials and committee.

April 1st, 1922, was the date of the special meeting called to discuss the new clubhouse; the President explained to members that the Club had purchased the old Raylton Beer Hall for the sum of £150, which would be erected and converted into the new clubhouse. The new clubhouse was eventually insured for £500 and bowls for £250.

A meeting was convened for October 23rd, 1922, the business being the forthcoming visit of a British team of bowlers. Prices of admission were fixed at gentlemen 2/6, ladies 1/. Season tickets £1.

The subsequent statement of accounts with regard to the visit of the British team of Bowlers revealed that it was profitable visit as far as the Club was concerned, but the President reported that he had spent some £4 — £5 at the Terminus and Grand on the afternoon of the teams departure, it was resolved the President be refunded the amount.

After months of negotiation with the Town Council it was agreed that after the 1923 season's end, the Club would be responsible for the upkeep of the Greens. Mr R. A. Cain was appointed as groundsman, salary £5 per month.

At this time the question of holding a Fete to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Club was under discussion.

In January, 1924, it is reported that an invitation was extended to the Rhodesian Bowling Association to hold the First Tournament on the Bulawayo Club Green. Also that the Club enter three Rinks to take part in the Tournament.

The Fete held to celebrate the 25th anniversary was not the success anticipated due to lack of helpers, money was lost on the refreshments, and the profit was minimal.

July 1924, the question of providing electric light for the clubhouse was discussed, the price tendered being £7. Games were subsequently played evenings under illuminated greens, fees for play being 1/- per player.

At the annual general meeting held on October 5th, 1925, it was proposed that the Ladies' Committee should have a Male Representative; Mr R. A. Cain was elected to this post; the present incumbent to the post being Mr J. Turner who has performed the duty for the past twenty-two years.

The Season for 1926/1927 opened on November 6th and closed on July 16th, thirty-six weeks in all. At the annual general meeting held on August 29th, it was reported that membership stood at 86 gentlemen and 17 lady members; Mr S. Bradley was congratulated upon the manner in which he had swept the board in the competitions, he being the winner of the Grey Cup, the Rhodes Cup and with Mr Pickles the Mayor's Medals.

In October 1928, a letter was read from the Town Clerk stating that the Municipality intended removing the windmill and laying down a town water supply to the greens. Mr Cain proposed and Mr Cooper seconded, that providing the Council undertook to give us a plentiful supply of water for the future, free of charge, this Club agrees to accept the conditions of the letter.

In June 1929, a deputation from the Club met with the Public Works Committee of the Town Council, the object to present to the Town Council concrete proposals with regard to the Club Greens. The delegation proposed that "The Council dig up the present South Green to a depth of 18", fill it in again, and reset it with either Bradley or McGinnis grass at an estimated cost of £150, in consideration of the above the Club hand over to the Council, the Greens, all fixed property comprising the Clubhouse, pergola, etc., and all plant and equipment; the Council to maintain the upkeep of the Greens, Clubhouse, etc. and provide all maintenance and capital expenditure; the control of the Greens to be vested in the Council's representatives, and a Greens Committee appointed by the Club; the Club to pay the Council 75% of all members subscriptions, the annual subscriptions being Gent's £2.2.0, Ladies £1.1.0. Present revenue from same being £150 per annum."

The Council eventually agreed to lay down a new Green at a cost of £275, the Club to maintain the Greens themselves and have no further call on the Council. This offer was accepted by the Club.

In October 1939, the R.B.A. secretary intimated the formation of a District Association comprising Bulawayo Raylton, Bulawayo, Wankie and Livingstone, the object to get the smaller clubs participation in Inter-Club Competitions.

On Tuesday, March 8th, 1949, His Excellency the Governor had paid a visit to the Greens and he had a game of Pairs, his partner was the President, Mr Payne and the opposing players Messrs. Gallagher and Reid.

At the meeting held on April 11th, 1949, Mr E. S. White referred to the ill-feeling which existed between members of the committee and in view of the fact that there were always unfortunate arguments at committee meetings he proposed that the present committee should resign and call a general meeting of members of the Club to elect a new committee. This was seconded by Mr Linden.

The Special General Meeting was held on April 23rd, 1949, Mr Gallagher was elected President, for vice-Presidents, Messrs. Rae and Pritchard were elected; the remaining members of the out-going committee were re-elected en bloc.

The Jubilee Celebrations for June 3rd, 1949; were not an ambitious affair, due to the fact that a celebration was held at the Opening of the Season, but the Committee agreed to hold a Flying Rink Competition. All Bulawayo Clubs to be invited to participate.

At the annual general meeting held in September 1950, it was proposed that one Sunday be set aside to be called "Challenge Day", when members would be allowed to arrange their own rinks or pairs, a charge of 1/- per member to be levied. Voting was 23 for, 23 against. Mr Rae the chairman cast his deciding vote and the proposal was lost.

At this same meeting, the subject of extensions to the clubhouse was raised, and the President had invited Mr Dold the architect to attend to answer any questions members wished to ask. Mr Dold said the most favourable tender was £2,600. The meeting agreed in principle of going ahead with the scheme.

At the meeting of November 1951, the meeting discussed the proposal that membership be limited; it was agreed that the limit should be 260. 185 men and 75 women; this was approved with 44 for and 13 against.

January 1952; Mr Brewer said that it had been brought to his notice that in the making up of

teams, the names of players were not being drawn from a bag. Mr Shearer in reply said that the reason for this was that there was no bag!

February 1957, was the date of the installation of the Public Address System, installed by Mr S. Keen at a cost of £61.12.6.

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations were celebrated on June 15th, in the morning a social of Mixed Pairs and three Seven-End Competitions, the Club supplying free teas and the prizes. In the afternoon it was Social Bowls and a Sundowner, invitations being sent to the Mayor, Cllr J. Phillips, Alderman J. H. Butcher, Sir Henry Low and the Presidents of the Rhodesian Bowling Association, Bulawayo & District Bowling Association and all the local clubs. The fete organised in conjunction with the above had a committee of which Mr H. Philp acted as treasurer and Miss N. Hosking being the secretary.

On November 28th, 1952, a Special Meeting was convened to consider the application for a Liquor Licence for the club; the voting resulted in 42 being for, with 25 against, there being three spoilt papers. It was in July, 1953, that the licence was obtained. I understand that the Committee celebrated the obtaining of the licence until the early hours; certain wives wondering about the whereabouts of their husbands!

In December, 1966, Mr Royston suggested a Saturday morning League be established, this was the beginning of the popular Saturday morning Pairs which the bowling fraternity of Bulawayo support to this day.

In May 1966, applications were invited for the position of greenkeeper . . . 36 applications were received.

It was in March, 1969, that serious consideration was given to the rebuilding of the Clubhouse, numerous meetings were held for the purpose; it was eventually decided to rebuild on the present site, although at the Special General Meeting convened to discuss the matter, many members wished the site to be opposite to its present one, i.e. at the present car park.

To obtain the necessary finance for the project a loan was obtained from the Central Africa Building Society, the amount being £9,000 plus £1,000 to cover any exigencies that may arise; it was also necessary to change the wording of the Club lease with the Municipality in order to obtain the loan.

Debenture stock was issued to members to help meet our commitments, this was issued in stock of £5 units, carrying interest at six per cent, this issue was over-subscribed.

On November 15th, 1959, the new clubhouse was officially opened by the Mayor of Bulawayo, Clr Max Logan.

During the rebuilding of the clubhouse, a temporary bar was built in the shelter and during the cold evenings many members sat around electric fires in an attempt to keep the social atmosphere of the club active; on a humorous note, the contractors doing the demolitions, threw the club safe out into the rubble behind the clubhouse, and when the Treasurer at that time, Mr F. Wilson, came to collect the Club's monies for banking he found the safe missing, and it was some time before this was found.

• • •

Reading through the minutes of the Club one is impressed with the generosity and willingness of the members; as early as 1900 Mr Zeederberg was using his transport to cart top dressing; later Mr Payne, was continuing, with the supply of photographs and also donated the ink-stand; Mr Briers not only donated the Briers Cup, but also the competition desk which stands in the corner of the clubhouse; and since the inception of the Bar the members have manned this in a voluntary capacity, it has been this voluntary service which still today contributes so much to the success of the Club.

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

As at May, 1974

MEN

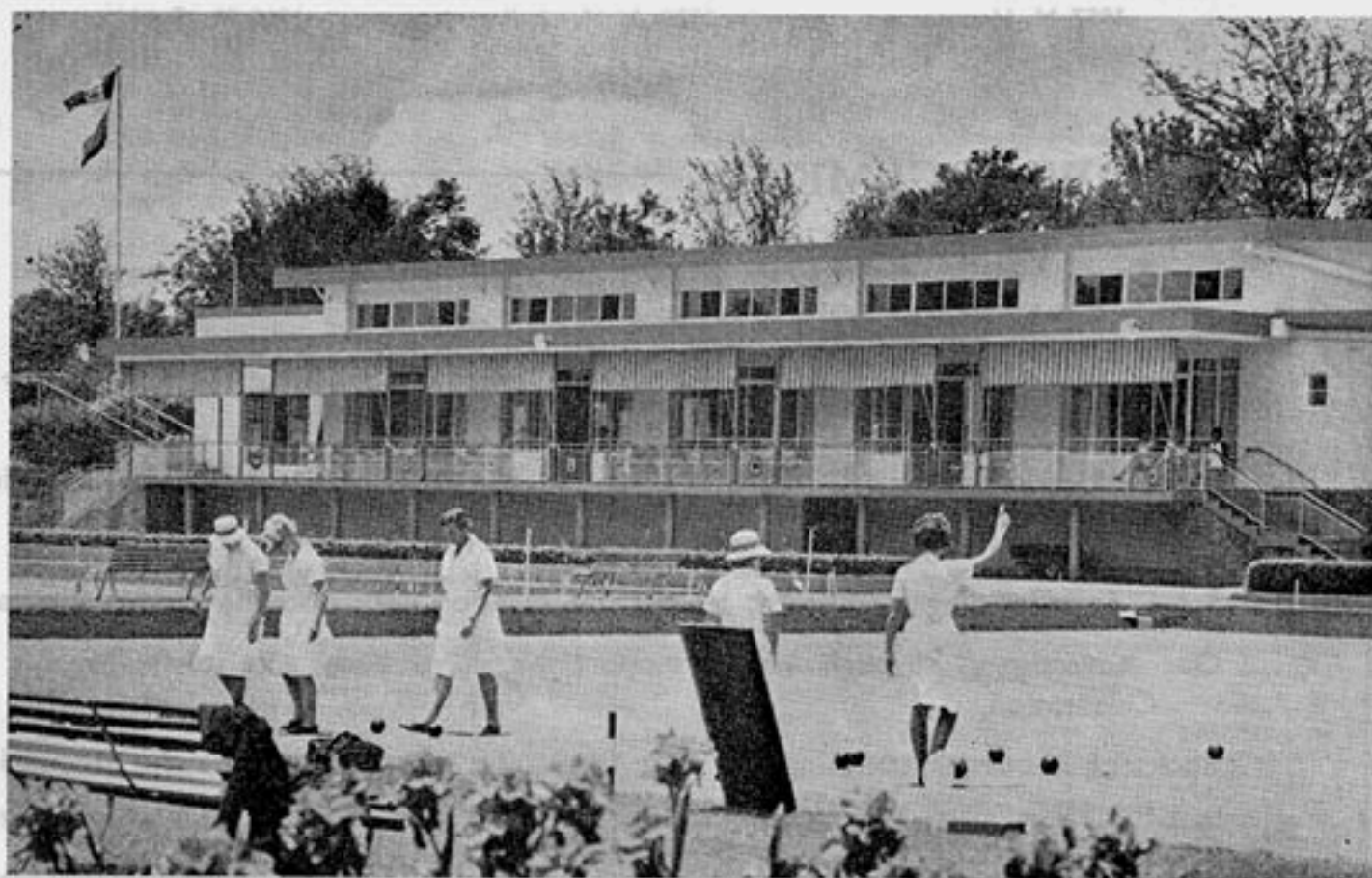
Full	149
Life	2
Country	6
Social	17
Total	174

WOMEN

Full	97
Life	3
Country	6
Social	20
Total	126

Overall Total — 300

**B·B·C
TODAY**



WOMEN'S HONOURS

CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1921	M. Cowden	1936	M. Dickson	1950	B. Beard	1961	M. Philp
1922	J. Cottrell	1937	—, Cowell	1951	C. Baker	1962	L. Gruber
1923/24	—, Hodkinson	1938	E. Rae	1952	H. Hounsome	1963	C. Graham
1925/6/7	J. Houston	1939	V. Harrison	1953	K. Blashker	1964/65	L. Gruber
1928	J. Cottrell	1940	E. Rae	1954	P. Crocker	1966	A. Light
1929	—, Spearpoint	1941/2	L. Howard	1955	K. Blashker	1967	K. Gordon
1930	J. Cottrell	1943	M. Bradley	1956	B. Beard	1968	C. Graham
1931	—, Beaufort	1944	H. Hounsome	1957	M. Cook	1969	E. Moore
1932	H. Hounsome	1945	M. McNair	1958	P. Crocker	1970/71	P. Qually
1933	V. Harrison	1946	H. Hounsome	1959	R. Pickup	1972	C. Graham
1934	J. Houston	1947	G. Cumming	1960	B. Beard	1973	M. Davies
1935	R. Crook	1948/49	E. Calvert				

BULAWAYO WOMEN'S DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1945 M. McNair	1949 K. Blashker	1957 M. Philp
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VETERANS SINGLES

1956 A. Marshall	1959 H. Hounsome	1962 A. Marshall	1971 M. Cook
1957 A. Marshall	1960 M. Cook	1965 R. W. Pickup	

CHAMPION OF CLUB CHAMPIONS

1955 K. Blashker	1962 L. Gruber	1964 L. Gruber	1973 M. E. Davies
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RHODESIA WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION

SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1928 J. Houston	1930 J. Houston	1955 M. Philp	1959 M. Philp
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VETERANS SINGLES

1957 M. Hounsome	1959 A. Marshall	1968 M. Cook
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Tournament Committee sincerely thank the following who have contributed to the Club's 75th Anniversary Celebrations:

Messrs. Berkshire International (Rhod.) (Pvt.) Limited for donating the Trophy for the Women's Section.

The Dickinson-Robinson Group of Companies for donating the Trophy for the Men's Section.

Peking Chinese Restaurant for sponsoring the Scorecards.

B.A.T. for providing scoreboard, second amplification unit; also the Playing Programme.

Our advertisers, through whose support we have been able to stage this 75th Anniversary Celebration.

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HONOURS

CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1901 W. Wightman	1922 J. H. Ayling	1940 S. Bradley	1958 A. Pascoe
1902 C. R. Edmonds	1923 F. C. Dugmore	1941 J. J. Perks	1959 W. Howe
1903 W. Hadingham	1924 S. Bradley	1942 G. Vallance	1960 V. Blyth
1904/5 R. B. Wood	1925 J. Moss	1943 S. Bradley	1961 A. D. Bradley
1906 T. Gibson	1926 D. Drummond	1944 F. Nichol	1962 W. Howe
1907/8 J. Main	1927 S. Bradley	1945 S. Bradley	1963 E. Zacks
1909 J. Wightman	1928 D. Drummond	1946 G. Vallance	1964 W. Howe
1910 S. B. Burns	1929/30 G. Baker	1947 A. Schneeberger	1965/6/7 A. D. Bradley
1911/14 J. Main	1931 M. McGarry	1948 V. Phillips	1968 E. D. Royston
1915 E. W. Bluhn	1932/33 S. Bradley	1949 G. Baker	1969 C. S. Bradley
1916 J. L. McQuilton	1934 G. Vallance	1950/1/2 A. Pascoe	1970 A. D. Bradley
1917/18 J. Cowden	1935 S. Bradley	1953 A. D. Bradley	1971 C. S. Bradley
1919 J. F. Williams	1936 C. E. Harrison	1954/55 W. Howe	1972 C. W. Bower
1920 P. R. Smith	1937 S. Bradley	1956 L. W. Royston	1973 W. Howe
1921 R. A. Cain	1938/39 J. J. Perks	1957 C. S. Bradley	

CLUB MEMBERS WHO REPRESENTED RHODESIA AT THE EMPIRE GAMES

1934 C. E. Harrison	1954 A. Pascoe	1958 A. Pascoe	1962 V. Blyth
J. Houston	A. D. Bradley	C. S. Bradley	C. S. Bradley
G. Baker		H. Philp	A. D. Bradley

WORLD BOWLS 1966, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

E. D. Royston; E. S. White (Player/Manager)

BULAWAYO & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1935 G. Baker	1940 S. Bradley	1960 A. D. Bradley	1967 A. D. Bradley
1936 S. Bradley	1948 V. Phillips	1962 W. Howe	1968 A. D. Bradley
1937 S. Bradley	1950 A. Pascoe	1963 A. D. Bradley	1970 A. D. Bradley
1939 I. M. Rae	1952 A. D. Bradley	1964 A. D. Bradley	1972 W. Howe

CHAMPION OF CLUB CHAMPIONS

1955 W. Howe	1958 A. Pascoe	1964 W. Howe	1970 A. D. Bradley
1957 C. S. Bradley	1959 W. Howe	1967 A. D. Bradley	

VETERANS SINGLES

1953 G. M. Stokes	1964 E. S. Hopkins	1967 E. D. Royston	1970 C. W. Bower
1954 J. Teunon	1965 A. H. Moncrieff	1968 F. Halcomb	1971 W. Lavington
1961 J. Teunon	1966 E. D. Royston	1969 A. F. Gordon	1973 W. J. Mackenzie
1962 E. S. Hopkins			

RHODESIA BOWLING ASSOCIATION

SINGLES CHAMPIONS

1924 R. A. Cain	1931 G. Baker	1943 R. O. Rouse	1957 H. Philp
1927 J. Gibb	1935 A. E. Glegg	1951 A. Pascoe	1960 S. P. Adams
1928 D. Drummond	1936 G. Vallance	1953 A. D. Bradley	1962 A. D. Bradley
1930 S. Bradley	1937 G. Vallance	1955 A. D. Bradley	

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

1973 A. D. Bradley

VETERANS SINGLES

1951 J. Teunon	1955 J. Teunon	1959 G. Stokes
1961 G. Stokes	1968 A. H. Moncrieff	