1921

Windsor Bowls Club

100 years of Lawn Bowls

2021

Windsor

Windsor Bowls Club Inc.

69 Blackmore St

Windsor 4030 QLD

Phone: 07 38571616

www.windsorbowlsclub.com

Find us on Facebook

The original Club Logo

WINDSOR

WOMBATS

Our Current “Wombat” Logo

Acknowledgement of Country

Windsor Bowls Club is situated on Turrbal and Yuggera country.

Originally a swamp it would have provided a much needed source of food for the Turrbal and Yuggera people who are traditional custodians of the land.

We acknowledge the unique spiritual relationship that the Turrbal and Yuggera people have with this land and recognise their ongoing connection to the area as the traditional custodians and pay our respects to Turrbal and Yuggera elders past, present and future.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgement of Country		**Page I**
Table of Contents		**Page ll**
Acknowledgements		**Page l1l**
Foreword		**Page lV**
Chapter 1	**In the Beginning: 1921-1946**	**Page 1**
Chapter 2	**The Golden Years: 1947-1971**	**Page 7**
Chapter 3	**A Time of Change: 1972-1996**	**Page 19**
Chapter 4	**Reaching the Century: 1997-2021**	**Page 31**
Chapter 5	**Anecdotal stories over 40 Years**	**Page 61**
Windsor Bowls Club at 2021		**Page 67**

Funding

This booklet is proudly funded by Councillor Andrew Wines, Brisbane City Council.

Editorial Contribution

The first 75 years of this booklet has been reproduced generally as it was published at the time of each 25 year edition.

Windsor Bowls Club gratefully acknowledges the input of the following people in the compilation of this booklet.

50 years - The late Jack Hamilton

75 years - The late Raymond Down

Centenary Edition - Bill Baker, Greg McNamara, Wendy Horgan, Malcolm Greig, Alan Brown

Editor - Trevor Winters

FOREWORD

On 22 April 1921 some good citizens of the Windsor district decided to call a meeting of the residents of Windsor to form a bowling club. A century later the Club, its building and greens, stand tall and proud as a centre of activity for the Windsor community.

I have the privilege to lead the Club into its centenary year, a time where we are a small but strong bowls club, have an elegant premises which is envied by many and where the residents of Windsor and the bowls members are embracing this excellent community facility.

In this centenary year it is appropriate to look to the past to give context to the present and as a guide to the future. Only when we know where we have come from can we fully comprehend where we are today. And only by understanding the past can we be reasonably confident that we choose the right path to the future.

This publication is a history of the Windsor Bowls Club as an organisation but it is also a history of the people who have contributed to the Club, people who were professional and dedicated in their efforts to serve the Club.

This is not an end to our history but a start to the next chapter.

We should be proud of our achievements both on and off the greens.

This publication is dedicated to our past and present bowlers.

Mal Greig

Chairman, Windsor Bowls Club Inc.

Chapter 1

1921-1946

In the Beginning

YEAR 1921

The idea of a Bowling Club was at the instance of Alec Inglis, Hugh Laverty and Bob Lane and a meeting of the citizens of the Windsor district was called to form a Bowling Club.

Twenty-four people attended the public meeting on 22 April 1921 at the old Windsor Council Chambers and unanimously decided to form a Club.

On 6 May 1921 the present site was chosen and the Club was constituted under the title 'The Windsor Bowling Club' at a meeting held on 19 May 1921. A lease for a portion of Windsor Park was negotiated with the Windsor Town Council and an agreement was drawn up showing a rental of $2 per annum for twenty-one years and for every $100 spent on improvements a further year would be granted. Tenders were called for the construction of the Bob Lane Green on 11 October 1921.

The Foundation Officers were:-

Patron	Chas Taylor M.L.A.	
President	R. B. Lane	
Vice Presidents	A. W. Bale	Jas. McDonald
	Jas. Johnston	A. Inglis
Secretary	H. Laverty	
Treasurer	A.E. Neville	
Councillors	W.A. Jolly	C. Lever
	D. McNeill	J.H. Charity
	T. Prentice	D. McLennan

EARLY INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS

It is interesting to note that of these foundation members, R. B. Lane was then Mayor of Windsor Town Council, W.A. Jolly was a past Mayor of Windsor Town Council and first Mayor of Brisbane City Council and the William Jolly Bridge perhaps better known as the Grey Street Bridge was named after him. Streets in the area were named for R. B. Lane, Jas. McDonald, A. Inglis, C. Lever, D. McLennan and a park for T. Prentice.

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS TO MEMBERS

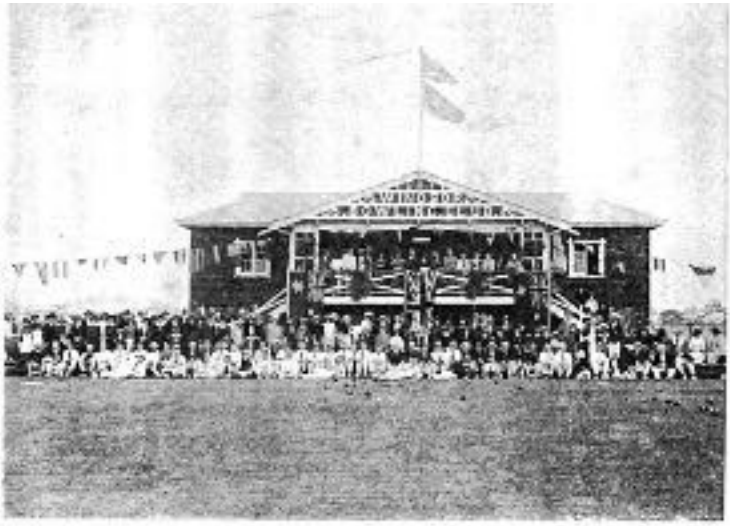
An extract from the Brisbane Daily Mail Dated 14 December, 1921 reads as follows:-

"At a general meeting of the members of the Windsor Bowling Club, held last Thursday night, the president reported that splendid progress was being made with the making of the green, and the contractors hoped to plant the grass in the course of a few days. It should not be long now before the green was ready for play. The president also reported that the contract had been accepted for the erection of the building and the contractor was making a start in the next few days, and the pavilion would be ready for the official opening at the beginning of March. The secretary reported that up to date 80 members have enrolled, and with the exception of a few, all subscriptions are paid to date. The bank balance showed a healthy state of affairs, with sufficient money to pay for the formation of the green, fencing and all other things necessary to complete it. A substantial amount is in hand for the pavilion, and the club is assured of the balance being arranged when it is necessary to do so. Already Windsor teams have visited Balmoral and Auchenflower, and arrangements have been made for an early visit to Clayfield. From all appearances this is going to be a very attractive club. The green is situated in an ideal position, and is extremely handy, being within easy walking distance of the Albion railway station, and Clayfield and Kedron Park trams".

R.B. Lane – Foundation President

YEAR 1921-2

The original Clubhouse and what is now known as The Bob Lane Green was constructed at a cost of $2,632.



FIRST CLUBHOUSE ON OPENING DAY

YEAR 1922

The green was opened for play on 27 May 1922 with a membership of 77.

Initially the Club expended $2632 on green construction, erection of a pavilion, furniture and plant. The Club commenced with a bank overdraft of $444 and Debenture Holders totalled $1996.

YEAR 1927

Verandahs were added to the clubhouse.

YEAR 1929

Windsor Bowls Club members establish the Bribie Island Bowls Club and is still going strong in 2021.

YEAR 1934

Verandahs were enclosed with weatherboards.

YEAR 1936

Windsor wins Metropolitan Pairs and runners-up in State Pairs.

YEAR 1937

George Swenson became greenkeeper on 14 January 1937 he assisted in the construction of the Paul Maggs Green in 1938-9 and remained greenkeeper for 34 consecutive years during which time he kept the greens in first class running order.

Windsor wins the Metropolitan Veterans Fours.

YEAR 1938

Construction is commenced on the second green. Windsor wins the State Fours and are runners-up in State Pairs.

YEAR 1939

What is now known as The Paul Maggs Green was opened for play on 9 December 1939.

YEAR 1940

Windsor win the Metropolitan Veterans Fours.

YEAR 1941

Chas Taylor MLA is made the First Life Member of Windsor Bowling Club.

On the greens we were successful with State Singles, and in the Metropolitan Events we won the Singles, Pairs and Fours and C.J Clarke won all 3 of those titles that year.

YEAR 1942

Windsor win the Metropolitan Fours.

YEAR 1943

Windsor win the Metropolitan Singles.

YEAR 1944

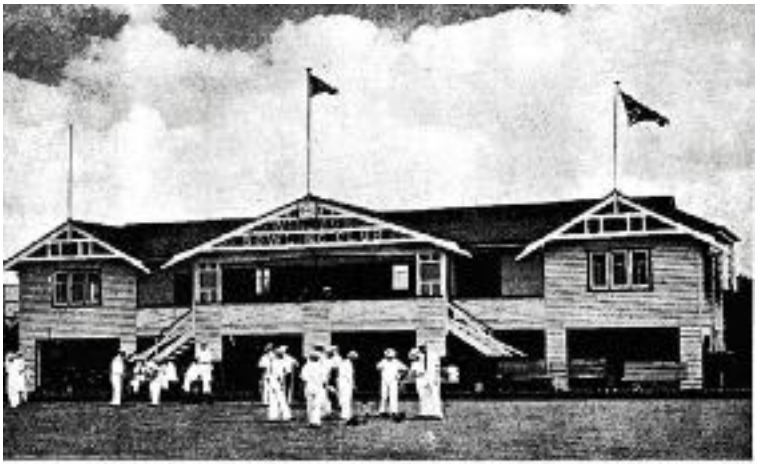
Windsor win their first ever Pennant Flag – Division 3.

YEAR 1945

Windsor win the Metropolitan Veterans Fours and are runners-up in Metropolitan Pairs.

YEAR 1946

Silver Jubilee Year



CLUBHOUSE IN SILVER JUBILEE YEAR, 1946

Windsor are 1946 Metropolitan Fours winners.

Tom Strachan – Silver Jubilee President

Chapter 2

1947-1971
The Golden Years

The first twenty-five years laid a solid foundation for the next twenty-five years which must be the “Golden Years” of Windsor Bowling Club. During this period 1947-1971 Windsor won eight Pennants, three in one year, had representation both in administration and on the playing field in State and Australian sides.

A comparison sheet of receipts and expenditure is contained in this report showing increase in expenditure from year to year and the necessity to raise subscriptions and green fees to help offset this increase. The membership rose and fell over the years, an average membership would be about 166. This shows that whilst membership must go down over the years due to demise, transfer both in vocation and housing, new members were found to replace those departed; numbers show 126 in 1946 and 175 in 1971. Green Fees during the period rose from 10 cents to forty cents, subscriptions from $6.30 to $17.00

A summary of these Golden Years shows the calibre of the then members.

YEAR 1947

Windsor won its first 1st Division Pennant – the flag was unfurled on 2 August 1947. Windsor also won the Metropolitan Fours and Singles and were runners-up in the Pairs.

Joe Gibson was elected President of the Australian Bowling Council.

YEAR 1948

Two Interstate tests were played on the greens Queensland versus New South Wales as well as Victoria. Final Country Pairs, Final Metropolitan Veterans Fours and Windsor members were also played. Won the Final of Metropolitan Pairs.

Green Fees were raised to 15 cents.

YEAR 1949

Winners Metropolitan Pairs. Three Pennant Sides were runners up from five nominated teams.

YEAR 1950

Queensland versus Victoria Test and Queensland Versus United Kingdom played on the green. Third Division won Pennant, 3 players selected in State Side. Chris Clarke elected State Selector and Joe Green elected Chairman Greens Committee and Delegate to Australian Bowling Council.

Paul Maggs became Greens Adviser to Queensland Bowling Association (QBA) and Tom Strachan Vice President QBA.

YEAR 1951

Won State Jubilee Fours, 3 members selected in State Side.
Windsor and Goomeri became Country Cousins Clubs.

YEAR 1952

Concrete ditches installed on No 1 green at a cost of $866.80
Paul Maggs resigned as Greens Director after 19 years' service.

Won Metropolitan Fours and Pairs, 4 members selected to State Side. T.H. Cock and T. Strachan managed Queensland Teams Interstate.

A ballot to open greens for play on Sunday proved negative. Subs were raised by $2.10. First year a bar attendant was employed at a cost of $79.75

YEAR 1953

A Greens Directorate was established being T.H. Cock, E. Roush and V. S. Wyllie to replace Paul Maggs.

The final of 1st Division Pennant and 2 tests were played on our greens.

Winners of the Metropolitan Fours and Veterans Fours, Runners-up Metropolitan Pairs and two members selected for State Side.

T. Strachan elected President QBA

YEAR 1954

An overdraft with Commonwealth Bank for $4000 and debentures of $4535 allowed the club building to be raised to allow construction of a new bar, selector's office and amenities under the existing building. A new soil shed was also erected.

Runners-up in Division 1 Pennant as well as Metropolitan Veterans Fours and State Fours.

Joe Gibson received Jubilee Honours Certificate for 25 years' service to bowls.

T. Strachan received invitation to State Royal reception for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth at Parliament House

YEAR 1955

On 25 June the greens were named after Bob Lane, the first President, and Paul Maggs in recognition of their contribution to

the Club and the game. Both were made Life Members prior to the naming of the greens.

Windsor won 1st Division Pennant, Metropolitan Singles and Fours and had 4 players selected in State Side.

Joe Gibson was made Life Member of QBA giving Windsor 2 Life Members, the other being Paul Maggs, both for meritorious service.

Bar attendant was paid $113.50.

The Ladies Club was officially opened on the 28 June 1955. This opening day was attended by bowlers from 45 metropolitan clubs. Foundation members totalled 59.

The Ladies first Madam President was Mrs N. W. H. Ward.

YEAR 1956

The then Patron Paul Maggs passed away, a great of Windsor Bowling Club with 26 and a half years' service to the club.

Windsor won 5th Division Pennant and was runners-up in 3rd Division. Won Metropolitan Singles, Pairs and Fours and State Fours also runners-up State Pairs.

Ron Marshall won Telegraph Blue.

YEAR 1957

The first President and Life Member Bob Lane passed away.

Windsor won 1st, 2nd and 4th Division Pennants, Metropolitan Veterans Fours, Metropolitan Fours and Metropolitan Pairs.

The Memorial Gates in Blackmore Street were constructed by Jack Winterflood and were unveiled and opened as the

F. G. Pumfrey [1] Memorial Gates at a ceremony conducted by Q.B.A. Jack Reid and Mrs F. G. Pumfrey [1]. The three Pennant flags were unfurled at the same time, this was a first in the annals of bowls in Queensland. Badges were struck for this occasion.

By now the Ladies Club membership is 75. Mrs. S. Bathersby was selected as a skip in the test in N.S.W and won every match she played in.

On the 22 June the ladies held an evening social, when they entertained the Windsor Bowling Club Members to commemorate the honour of the Windsor Bowls Club in winning three (3) pennant flags. At this function the W.B.C. Presidential Chair was presented.

YEAR 1958

First time greens were closed for long periods due to excessive rains; 30 inches (76cm) falling in first half of the year, 9 inches (23cm) in June, highest rainfall in 65 years; the year's fall was 47.5 inches (121cm).

Secretary brought to notice of members, I quote:

> "Windsor Bowling Club has resisted the tendency to use bowling hours to extract money from its members by devious means to keep the club functioning but preferred the more satisfying and wholesome method of direct and spontaneous giving be it in cash, kind or labour."

Thus informing members no raffles had been conducted and none would be.

[1] Originally published with an incorrect spelling of the name Pumfrey

Division 2 was promoted to 1st Division. Windsor won State Singles, Fours and runners-up Pairs. Nomination Fee was raised to $10.50 and T. Strachan was made a Life Member.

Ron Marshall was selected as the Australian Team Captain for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games to be held in Cardiff, Wales in 1958. He competed in the Men's Pairs and finished 4th.

Ladies Club membership has risen to 81. Mrs. S. Bathersby continues her good bowls again being chosen as skip in the match Queensland v NSW early in 1958.

YEAR 1959

No winning results in Pennants, State or Metropolitan events. Three members selected to State Side.

YEAR 1960

The cold room was installed at a cost of $2000.

Windsor won 1st Division Pennant, Metropolitan Fours, State Pairs and 4 players were selected for the State Side.

The lease expired on the Paul Maggs Green and a new lease was arranged for 21 years at the same cost.

YEAR 1961

Windsor won State Singles and Pairs, Metropolitan Veterans Fours and Runner up Metropolitan Fours. Ron Marshall skipped Australian Fours winning team and was runner up in Australian Pairs.

Green Fees were raised to 30 cents. The yearly profit was $2240, the highest since the inception of the club.

YEAR 1962

Windsor won the Metropolitan Veterans Fours. T. H. Cock was made a State Selector.

The yearly profit was $134.25, lowest since the inception of the club, reason being painting of clubhouse and repairing ditches.

YEAR 1963

Last Foundation Member passed away, namely J.J. Greer, President 1949. Windsor won Metropolitan Veterans Fours Subscriptions raised to $16.80

YEAR 1964

T. H. Cock passed away. He had been Greens Director for 12 years, a State Selector, a player and a skip in the State Side many times and a very good Club Member. H. Wegener was elected in his stead.

At this stage in the history of Windsor Bowling Club, nine Pennant Flags had been won namely 4 Firsts, 1 second, 2 thirds, 1 fourth, 1 fifth.

YEAR 1965

Joe Gibson passed away after 37 years 10 months service to the Council. The first memorial to Harris Cock was held in October 1965.

The Metropolitan Singles Final is televised by the ABC from Windsor Bowls Club in a first for Lawn Bowls in Queensland. Windsor State Pairs runners-up (composite side).

YEAR 1966

Financial year changes from 31 December to 28 February. Raffles begin in June 1966.

Windsor won Metropolitan Veterans Fours.

The Melbourne Cup was watched at the club for the first time on a TV generously loaned by T.H. Cock & Son.

YEAR 1967

Greens and Clubhouse flooded on 11 June 1967 causing $2000 damage, several members from both Men's and Ladies Clubs volunteered for cleaning up of damage. The inside of the clubhouse was flooded to a height of 1200mm.

A yearly loss of $1714.10 was shown.

YEAR 1968

After the 1967 flooding the Council and members must have worked very industriously both on the green and in administration as the financial position was raised from a loss of $1714 to a profit of $2230.

YEAR 1969

This year saw a start on the improvement of the facilities of the club with the extension of the bar and surrounds under the supervision of Jack Holt, Eric Roush and Jack Hamilton in conference with Honorary Club architect Nev Miller.

The sum of $2000 was repaid to Debenture Holders thus saving interest.

Congratulations were passed on to Joe McAvoy on his being honoured by the Queen with a Companion of the British Empire (CBE)

The new bar extension was named the Harris Cock memorial lounge.

A championship board was erected this year. Past members were invited to the unveiling.

Members fully appreciated the comfort of canopies which were purchased by the Ladies Club and erected on the greens this year.

Harris Cock Memorial Lounge

By now the Ladies Club membership stands at 69. A monthly game of mixed pairs was added to their calendar and proved to be very popular.

YEAR 1970

Improvements to the bar and surrounds were carried out.

A Queensland versus Victoria game was played on the greens.

Windsor wins Metropolitan Veterans Fours, Australian Championship Singles equal third by Windsor's Herb Wegener. Runners-up State Ladies Pairs (composite side). Mrs. M. Anger was the winner of the Queensland Ladies Bowls Association

(Q.L.B.A) Champion of Champions' singles which enabled her to represent Queensland in the Tasmanian Carnival.

The biggest Ladies Club event for the year was The Warana Two Day Bowls Event. 15 rinks were filled. The Warana Spring Festival Board donated the overall winners and runners-up trophies. The Warana Two Day Bowls Event continues each year until 1999. A shield inscribed "Windsor Ladies Bowling Club Warana Event", with the shield to remain the property of W.L.B.C. In each of these years the event was declared open by that year's Miss Warana. The mystery prizes that year were Golden Jubilee Tankards.

YEAR 1971

Fiftieth year celebrations were held on 22 April presided over by President Jack Hamilton. The celebrations were attended by members of the Royal Queensland Bowls Association (RQBA) and officially opened by their President, Jack Rowe.

A special committee consisting of Jack Hamilton, Eric Roush and Tom Dawson was formed to research the history of the Club's fifty years of operation and a printed booklet was issued for sale to members. A booklet of both the twenty-five years and fifty years is still retained in the records of the club.

Later in the year the Commonwealth Services Bowls Carnival was held on our greens.

Windsor won the Metropolitan Veteran Fours.

So now another twenty-five years has passed and as can be seen they were really Golden Years. Few Bowls Clubs in Queensland (maybe Australia) can surpass the feats, both on and off the green, as attained by Windsor Bowling Club. They were great men and great members doing a great job both on the green and in the administration of the game in the Club, in

the State and in Australia and Windsor Bowls Club is very proud of this effort.

Jack Hamilton – Golden Jubilee President

Chapter 3

1972-1996

A Time of Change

YEAR 1972

All great times come to an end as was found at the beginning of the third twenty-five years. 1972 brought rains and flood to the greens and clubhouse which caused considerable damage.

Windsor win the Metropolitan Fours and Veterans Fours.

Windsor Ladies Bowling Club has now two accredited Umpires.

The Ladies Club's 18th birthday was celebrated with a cake. This year a gold brooch was given for the President's Singles which title has now been changed to Club Championship Singles. The consistency competition is now called Jean Mawhinney Consistency. This year the Warana Shield was STOLEN and believed to have been found in the Annerley Area. A new shield was made to replace the stolen one.

YEAR 1973

Bowling wise Windsor was not at the high standard of previous years winning their sections in Divisions one and four and the Metropolitan Super Veterans Fours and runners-up in Veteran Fours in 1973.

This year the Ladies Warana Festival was covered by Channel 9 TV. The Telegraph newspaper published photographs of the opening day of the festival.

The club changed the Ladies' playing day from Tuesday to Wednesday.

YEAR 1974

Again in 1974, down came the rain even worse than in 1972. The height of the flood water is still shown as 7 feet 4 inches (2.23m) on a small brass plaque in the bar.

Much damage was done to the greens and much hard work had to be done by the greenkeeper and members to restore the greens back to good running order – particularly the Paul Maggs Green. In these days the greens were couch grass and fortunately we had a nursery from which hundreds of plugs were taken to repair both greens. Thanks to the assistance given by neighbouring clubs during this bad time we were able to repair the greens and surrounds much quicker. Our appreciation was passed on to those clubs.

At this time it was noted that the average age of members was increasing so a reminder was passed on to the younger members of the club to be ready to carry on the running of the club in the future.

As time takes its toll, so our greenkeeper George Swenson, retired after many years of faithful service and was made an Honorary Member of the Windsor Bowling Club. George is still with us at this time and has visited the club on numerous occasions and has been made very welcome.

In 1974, Pennants were cancelled owing to the floods and later in the year the Harvey Shield was inaugurated and Windsor was runner-up in the first year.

YEAR 1975

This year's project by the Ladies Club saw the installation of an aluminium awning across the front of the Cub and a new Honour Board.

Ladies membership is now 85 (including 2 life members).

Ross and Ricki Bartley donated a rose bowl to the club which is the Kath Bartley Memorial Trophy. This trophy is to be played for by Windsor Ladies in February each year and names to be engraved on shields. The Australian Womens Bowling Cub (A.W.B.C) Carnival was held in Brisbane this year and Windsor greens were used for pairs and singles.

An amount of $7000 for renovations had to be raised owing to demands from the Licensing Commission and Fire Brigade for which there was no alternative. This necessitated the instigation of economies and a great deal of the work was done gratis by the members. Herbert Wegener was elected as Greens Director and kept up the high standard of our greens.

YEAR 1976

Tom Strachan passed away after many years of service as Secretary and Treasurer for many years holding both positions at the one time. At the time of his demise he had been Patron for 10 Years.

Tom Mawhinney, another Life Member also passed away.

YEAR 1977

Once again the average age of members is mentioned in 1977 and the decrease in membership.

Another esteemed member Frank McInally was elected to the position of Greens Director and on 24 October 1977, Dick Chambers became greenkeeper.

YEAR 1978

The Bob Lane Green which was opened for play on 27 May 1922 with a membership of 77 had provided 56 years of play at an initial cost of $2632 but was now in need of replacement either with blue couch grass or tift-dwarf grass both at a cost of $5000. New ditch boards would be required at a cost of $10000.

Frank McInally made mention that much foresight must have been used to establish a green to give such good service under the many adverse conditions.

YEAR 1980

Two tift-dwarf greens were laid, the cost of which was partially assisted by gifts of cash by members, Debentures and green fees paid in advance by eight club members. New ditch boards were installed and the Clubhouse was painted. A new drilling machine was purchased. To finance these works outside the gifts, a Bank loan was raised from the Commonwealth Bank.

This year was the 25th anniversary of the Windsor Ladies Bowling Club. An anniversary cake was made. Mr. Golding proposed a toast to the Ladies' Club and all present sang for they are Jolly Good Fellows. The two silver tea sets bought for the occasion can be seen on the bench in the upstairs dining room. The Ladies are runners-up in Division 4 pennants.

YEAR 1981

In 1981 our then greenkeeper, Dick Chambers, retired and was replaced by contractors.

This was being done by a number of clubs in the metropolitan area and in the end proved to be a failure, mainly because a greenkeeper to have a good green, must have the feeling that it is his green and must be perfect. With contractors you don't get this feeling as different staff are servicing the green each week so the feeling of pride in the green is missing. While the contractors re-laid the Bob Lane Green at no extra cost, the whole set up was a failure and a new greenkeeper had to be found. In the planting of the re-laid Bob Lane Green it is worthy to note that the grass for the entire green was supplied by Ossie Diggles from his own yard. This is only one of the many jobs that Ossie has done for the club. He is possibly the longest serving member of free jobs in the club.

Frank McInally, a long-time member of Windsor, both on the green and in the administration of the club, besides being Greens Director, was also a delegate for R.Q.B.A. for Central District Bowls Association. He was awarded Life Membership of that District Bowls Association for services rendered – this is dedication of the highest degree for the good of the game throughout the State.

Once again mention is made of declining membership through demise, resignation and fewer nominations, one of these being

Arch Thornton, a Life Member and stalwart of the club for many years.

This was probably the first year that Windsor had a husband and wife Presidency – congratulations Jack and Gem Oliphant.

YEAR 1982

1982 was Diamond Jubilee Year and was celebrated with a two-day carnival of Men's Triples and Mixed Fours.

A test was staged between Queensland and New South Wales and a District Game was played between R.Q.B.A. and Sunshine Coast District Bowls Association on our greens.

YEAR 1983

Planning for extensions to the clubhouse was underway and approval from the Town Council Planning Section was being awaited. After twelve months of negotiations the club was eager to begin the long-planned alterations. A new brick fence was erected at the rear of the Paul Maggs Green and during the year a great deal of work and time had been spent in the surrounds by Les Herbert and was continuing.

YEAR 1984

A brick facade, bar extension and external toilet to the ground level were constructed at a cost of $30,000.

A car park was still to be constructed at the rear of the clubhouse and then had to be sealed. This was made a special project for the near future.

YEAR 1985

A Severe storm on 18 January, 1985 broke all the windows at the rear of the clubhouse and caused extensive damage by rain and hail.

With the completion of the new extension it was then necessary to refurbish the surrounds of the bar. The area surrounding the bar was carpeted and tables and chairs purchased for the extra comfort of members. The Clubhouse and greenkeepers shed were painted and this really brightened up the whole setup.

A special vote of thanks was passed to Stewie Thorpe for his architectural planning before and during the building of the extensions.

YEAR 1986

With the sacking of the contract greenkeepers, a new Greenkeeper had to be found and Bob Neilson was appointed. He had been greenkeeper for Toowong Bowls Club for a number of years and started with us in July, 1986. His first efforts were to put the playing surface into much better condition. He warned the Council that this would take time, probably till the following February when the Pennants would start. He did this and we had good greens for the Pennant Season.

During the year, Providore, Dick Smith, passed away and his service to the members was sadly missed. His many years of service to the Club are noted and this example of service should remind members it is service by everyone that makes a club a place to be proud of as a member. Dick's place was taken over by his assistant Vic Meares, who carried on in the same vein and gave the same great service as Dick.

Sadly, Vic has since passed away and we now await the services of someone to take his place.

The services of Secretary, Junior Vice President and R.Q.B.A. Delegate became vacant as Bruce McKean who held these positions had to resign due to duress.

YEAR 1987

A Special Day was held for Eric Maggs, and members of the Paul, Alf and Percy Maggs family, in 1987 to commemorate and congratulate him on attaining the grand age of ninety years. It was well attended and Eric was presented with his Super-Super Veterans Badge by the President of the Brisbane District Bowls Association. A special cake was made by our member Howard Jennings, for the occasion.

The following year a similar day was held for Jim Crawford, a Life Member of the Club, as he also reached the grand age of ninety and was also presented with the Super-Super Veterans Badge.

During the year an Inter District game was conducted on our greens and the veterans' fours games and semi-finals and final. All the finals of the Super Veterans Fours were also played at Windsor. We were complimented by all on the condition of our greens. A mixed pairs competition was successfully conducted and was won by Vi Woods and Roger Brooke, runners-up being Patty Day and Jack Holt.

YEAR 1988

With the increase in the number of clubs in the metropolitan area, four District Associations were formed on 27 January 1988 with Windsor being placed in Brisbane District.

A difference of opinion was opened up when this happened; some saying it lowered the standard of play in the clubs because of the easing in the competition owing to the smaller number of players to compete against.

YEAR 1990

By the end of the 1990 financial year all loans, both Bank and Debenture Stock had been redeemed and interest-bearing Deposits were bringing in interest, a nice change from paying interest.

Jack Morrison completed his second term of office as President of the Club.

Alan Pennington, one of the old stalwarts of Windsor, became ill and was unfortunately placed in a home. He is still sadly missed and his expertise in the many facets of both the game and administration will be hard to replace.

With the start of the nineties our stalwarts, all members of many years standing started to dwindle; some through old age and inability to play like Bill Dahl, Ralph Leasegang, Herb Wegener; and through demise, some of these being Tom Slatter, Don Singleton, Bobby Bell, Jack Donovan, Merv Hamilton and esteemed Life Members, Jim Crawford and Jack Winterflood, leaving only one Life Member, Jack Holt.

Most of these members held office in various positions and were dedicated to their club. Vic Moody is now a Social Member but is unable to play, and those oldies still playing miss him and his ability and comradeship.

YEAR 1991

Cliff Jacobsen won the Brisbane District Champion of Champions Singles, and Windsor were runners-up in the Metropolitan Super Veterans Fours.

Lawn Bowls was one of the sports included in the third Australian Masters Games held in Brisbane in October 1991. A team of four of our ladies represented our club, and although not winning a medal, competed proudly against very

experienced players – some of whom represented their country Papua-New Guinea in “world bowls competitions”; all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

1991 saw the commencement of a mixed three-way competition between Merthyr, Booroodabin and Windsor Bowls Clubs. Played on the third Sunday of the month at each club’s green in succession, with a Presentation Day at the end of the year. Each Club had three playing days at their green each year and a Presentation Day alternately. This proved an excellent competition creating great interest and established much good will and companionship among the clubs. The first year it was won by Merthyr, Windsor winning the next two years and Merthyr taking the next year.

YEAR 1993

A Gaming Lounge is created at the eastern end of the lounge bar and Poker Machines are installed

In the early stages, Windsor staged a wait and see policy and eventually installed six machines. Fortunately, we were able to carry out the installation of the machines without having to borrow any outside money. Whilst most were of the opinion that they would bring in the dollars, this was not the case. They have paid their way up to date, returning any money outlaid at the beginning and remain a small income return, but they are not the be all and end all they were supposed to be.

During the whole of this report decreasing membership has been mentioned; this is still continuing and membership at the present time stands at 65 playing members. The club still continues to operate financially and we still hope to increase membership.

Gaming Lounge 1993

The Poker Machines brought in a lot of Social Members but these numbers dropped as the novelty of the machines dropped away.

To bring in Poker Machines the Club had to become incorporated and from there we became an integrated club bringing the Ladies Club to an equal position and representation on the Administration Board.

YEAR 1994

In 1994 the Paul Maggs Green was re-laid. This was done mainly by volunteer labour and new ditch boards were installed. Great credit must be given to Rod Goodchild, Geoff Goodchild, Cyril Kerr, Ossie Diggles, Cyril Bromfield, Terry Moroney, Graham Stratford and Warwick Berry. These members have done a sterling job these last years and most still are carrying on the good work.

With diminishing membership, Windsor has been hard put to maintain the standard of play that was so high in years gone by but still has maintained a standard high enough to hold their own in second division.

YEAR 1996

The third twenty-five years may not have been as noteworthy as the first and second where the club was established and stabilised in the first twenty-five and the glory deeds on the green and State and Club Administration in the second twenty-five.

Much change had come into the bowls world during the third twenty-five. First the change in the running surface from couch grass to tift-dwarf and the many new types of bowls, the younger generation coming into the game, increase in the number of clubs and the increase in the number of greens in each club.

The Club has been well administered over the twenty-five years and is in a good financial position to move into the fourth twenty-five years. Probably most of the present members will not be present when this happens but at least we, as of now, will leave the club in a good enough position for future administrators to carry on and reach the objective of 100 year of Windsor Bowls Club.

The Ladies Club celebrated 40 years of age in 1995 so it will be a dual celebration in 1996 when Windsor Bowls Club celebrates its 75th anniversary. A week of bowls is being arranged with Men's Days, Ladies Days and Mixed Days. We look forward to entertaining and inviting members of the many metropolitan clubs to these days and to meet many friends made from these clubs over the years. Old members who have retired from the club and those, who for many reasons have joined other clubs will be most welcome during this week of bowls. It will be a time of rejoicing and renewing old friendships and camaraderie that comes with the game of bowls.

Jim Golding – 75th Anniversary Chairman

Chapter 4

1997-2021
Reaching the Century

YEAR 1997

The Windsor Bowls Club stands tall and proud as it enters the twenty-five years leading up to its Centenary. The challenges presented to the Club over this next period would certainly test the Club's character and resilience but it stood strong and is ready to face the next Century's challenges.

The Ladies Section is a vibrant partner in the total range of Club activities. They regularly continue to fill the two greens on their open days; Windsor Ladies have a high reputation among their

sister Clubs, not only those in close vicinity to Windsor, but with so many Clubs further afield.

The Men's Section under the enthusiastic and capable leadership of their President Jim Dorman and his Committee engendered a spirit of life and purpose to their activities. They introduced innovative and profitable ideas to encourage and promote the participation of their members, not only on the greens but also in the area of social activities.

YEAR 1998

It was a year of achievement for the club as a whole as we finally saw our way clear to begin plans for the updating of the bar without putting ourselves into debt.

In February 1998 - The sum of $100,000 was placed on term deposit into an account to be known as the Windsor Bowls Club Inc. – Building Improvement Fund. Rubicon Constructions and Hutchinson Builders were invited to submit proposals for the planned renovation of the bar area. By November 1998 the Building Fund had grown to $180,000.

Colin Albert was runner-up in the Brisbane District Champion of Champion (CoC) singles.

Long serving member and former Greens Director, Ossie Diggles is made a Life Member.

YEAR 1999

The outgoing Chairman of the Management Committee, Jim Golding was made a Life Member of the club at the AGM on 27 February 1999. Noel Ferguson is elected Chairman.

The Building Improvement Fund has grown to $230,000 thanks to a year of extensive fund raising activities by all members of the club. Rubicon Constructions were the successful bidder for the refurbishment works. An extensive renovation of the lower

level added a refurbished and extended lounge bar. A new cold room and storage areas were constructed under a separate addition to the rear of the clubhouse along with a service yard at a cost of $230,000.

Our new Bar and Gaming Lounge

Trevor Winters and Christine Kennedy provided their time and expertise during the refurbishment process which included the construction of a temporary bar and gaming area in the upstairs hall using club volunteers. The current club office became Rubicon's site office during the refurbishment period.

Our refurbished club was kindly opened by the Hon. Arch Bevis MP who gave his time to cut the ribbon and officially open the club on Saturday 20 November 1999.

1999 saw Brisbane host The Australian Women's Lawn Bowls Championships. Windsor was represented by 5 teams in the fours and 4 teams in pairs. A great achievement for our small club.

YEAR 2000

A Goods and Services Tax (GST) is introduced and new Cash Registers are purchased to help with the changes to our accounting system.

Division 3 Win the Pennant Finals at Samford Bowls Club breaking the 40 year drought since the last pennant flag was won by Windsor in 1960. This signalled the start of another “Golden Era” for the bowls club going on to win a total of 15 pennant flags over the next two decades.

BRISBANE DISTRICT BOWLS ASSOCIATION DIVISION 3 WINNERS

YEAR 2001

The world survived the Y2K bug and the Windsor Bowls Club rolled into the new Millennium without any technology failures.

Six Poker Machines were replaced at a cost of $35,000 as they continue to bring in a valuable revenue stream for the Club.

Foundation member Miss Margaret Dale dies aged 104.

YEAR 2002

The exterior of the Club is painted.

Division 3 and Division 9 win Pennant Flags this year.

YEAR 2003

Dave Perez “Green Ant” moves from Townsville and joins the club as Greenkeeper.

The Club was having great bowls success at the District level with Windsor Pennant players in Divisions 2 and 9 being successful in winning both flags in 2002. So the Men’s Section decided to nominate a side in the successful summertime competition ‘Taylor Bowls Super Challenge’ for the 2003 season. We started off in Bronze Division and won games but never the made the play-offs.

2003 saw big changes in the administration of Bowls with the unification of R.Q.B.A. and Q.L.B.A. and the formation of District Bowls under Bowls Queensland, our club forming part of Brisbane District.

YEAR 2004

Long Serving Member and Past President Jack Oliphant is made a Life Member. Dave Perez resigns as Greenkeeper to take up a position in Byron Bay.

Dan Bull is appointed Greenkeeper and remains in that position until the current date. Dan is instrumental over the following 16 years in bringing the Greens up to the high standard they are.

The Ladies Section Warana Carnival comes to an end after 33 years of successful events.

Brisbane’s hot summer days made the decision easy to install lighting for both greens to allow twilight or night bowls to be played. The $17,000 cost for the lighting was approved at an open meeting on 26 June 2004. A “Coming of the Lights” carnival was held in September and when the Greens and Clubhouse were lit up, it certainly looked a treat.

YEAR 2005

Christine Kennedy resigned from her position as Operations Manager after 14 years service.

Past President and Life Member Jack Oliphant passes away.

Bill Baker, Steve King, Keiran Trenerry and Alan Brown were involved in winning the 5 Club Championships. Alan won the A singles, the pairs with Keiran, the triples with Bill and Keiran and the fours with Bill, Steve, Keiran and Steve won the B Singles.

Alan went on to win the CoC District and Zone singles. Alan and Keiran won the CoC District Pairs and were runners-up in Zone and in the CoC District Fours they were runners-up.

The Ladies Section celebrates the celebration of their 50th anniversary on the 4th July.

YEAR 2006

Bill Baker is elected Chairman at the AGM on 18 March 2006.

Keith Mills is appointed Operations Manager.

The old cash registers are replaced with a Touch Screen Point of Sale System. This new system enables the club to better manage its stock control.

YEAR 2007

Division 6 wins 2007 Pennant Flag.

Sarah Cooper becomes Operations Manager replacing Keith Mills.

YEAR 2008

The kitchen is refurbished with the installation of a second hand commercial range from the “Chinese Club of Brisbane”. A new deep fryer, commercial dishwasher, range hood and vinyl flooring complete the refurbishment.

Trevor O’Neill is elected Chairman at the AGM on Saturday 15 March 2008 and holds that position for the next 5 years.

Margaret Wright is appointed Operations Manager replacing Sarah Cooper.

Lawn Bowls is becoming a favourite social activity for the younger generation - bare-foot bowls was a growing part of our business.

Division 5 win a Pennant Flag.

Division 5 Pennant Flag 2008

YEAR 2009

The global financial crisis impacted all areas of the business and a significant decline in patronage led to a trading loss of $100,062 for the year ended December 2009.

It was clear that the world was changing and that unless action was taken the future of Windsor Bowls Club looked bleak. The first step was to try to reverse the financial downturn being experienced by the club.

During the year the position of Operations Manager was made redundant and replaced by a volunteer, Alan Brown, as part-time Club Manager. Alan continued in this roll until 2017 when a paid part-time Manager was recruited. Alan's efforts certainly helped towards the Club's financial recovery. At the same time Alan also served as Treasurer for 5 years then Secretary for another 7 years. All other positions were reviewed and changes in opening hours were implemented.

After lots of functions during the 2008 year it was found that the temporary 'Gazebos' couldn't withstand the elements. This hampered Windsor being able to run successful events.

A meeting with Cr McLachlan by Alan Brown and Colin Albert asked could the Club get council funds for a permanent

structure on site for future functions. Cr McLachlan visited Windsor to inspect and gave the go ahead to apply for The Lord Mayor's Initiative Fund (Hamilton Ward) for this structure.

Windsor Bowls Club was awarded a grant and the gazebos were installed in September 2009 allowing a comfortable shaded area for Social Bowlers as well as our members.

YEAR 2010

In 2010 Mal Greig joined the Management team bringing a strong management background with him. Over the coming decade he and a supportive Management Committee introduced stronger financial management (including budgeting) and forward planning to the Club's administration. Mal led many of the State and Brisbane City Council successful grant applications which helped with the significant upgrading of the Club's facilities. A concerted effort to improve business practices began in earnest in 2010 with particular emphasis put on reviewing contracts, prices of food and beverages and club membership and green fees. A significant improvement in the club's financial position was recorded as a result of tighter financial constraints and a huge effort over the Christmas trading period. The future was starting to look better.

Late in 2010 however Brisbane City Council commissioned a Building Condition Assessment report as input to the lease renewal negotiations due in 2011. The report highlighted major maintenance issues that needed to be addressed by the club and rated the overall condition as poor.

Despite the pressures of improving the financial situation at the club and the impending requirement to do significant maintenance work on the clubhouse, our bowlers stepped up and achieved a long sought after goal. Our Men's Division 2 side won the Pennant Flag and set themselves up to be promoted to Division 1 in 2011.

2010 Division 2 Pennant Winners

This was such a proud moment for the club and reinforced by our lower Division successes over the previous 10 years, now firmly established Windsor Bowls Club as a force to be reckoned with.

Keith Donaldson was selected in the State Men's Senior side.

YEAR 2011

Heavy rains on 11 January 2011 resulted in the devastating flooding of the clubhouse and both greens.

Through great volunteer work and with strong support from Brisbane City Council the club was cleaned up, sanitised, new carpet laid and all electrical wiring and fittings tested. At that time the Club was given a gift of an awning to cover the seating area in front of the clubhouse. This job was completed just before we were to re-open the club for trading.

This was a crucial time in the club's history as we had to make some major decisions about where the club was heading.

Our overall situation for the club was:

- Slowly recovering financially but with major Clubhouse maintenance work required;
- The ditches and surrounds were in very poor condition (presenting risks to our bowlers);
- The Bob Lane Green was at competition standard, however the Paul Maggs Green needed improvement;
- Our bowlers were performing well at the competitive level.

Critical forward planning was required and it was over the next 10 years that substantial work was completed towards the upgrade of both greens to competition level along with major improvements to the surrounds of both greens and major

maintenance work to the clubhouse. All of this work was financed through a combination of club funds (generated through running a profitable bar and catering business), great support from State Government and Brisbane City Council grant programs and generous sponsors' support.

A small but significant start was made to the improvement program with a new shed being installed replacing two old derelict sheds. This shed is initially used for storage of Bowls and BBQ equipment.

Continued tight fiscal management resulted in a full year surplus of $48,421.

Club member Trevor 'Tiger' O'Neill was approached to see if his company 'We Do Concrete' would like to sponsor a Men's event at Windsor. The event was called We Do Concrete Men's Pairs and held on the second Friday of September which was the day before Brisbane District Bowls Association (BDBA) Men's Pennant finals. With a full field for the day it was a great carnival event for Windsor.

At the conclusion of the day, some lady members asked why it couldn't be an Open Pairs event. The organisers went back to the sponsor and suggested why not make it an Open Triples event and put this prestige carnival on the Brisbane EKKA Wednesday Holiday. The rest is history and it remains one of our premier bowls carnivals as we enter our 2nd Century.

The Ladies entered a side in the 'Taylor Bowls Super Challenge' for the first time.

Lisa Vidler wins BDBA Ladies Novice singles.

YEAR 2012

Division 5 Wins a Pennant Flag.

Trevor Winters – is appointed a Life Member in recognition of his 13 years' service as Club Secretary.

Lottie Redfern and Dot Kennedy are appointed Life Members in recognition of their contribution to the Ladies Section.

Windsor wins a Flag for Mixed Night Pennants.

2012 was a year that saw many improvements in and around the Club. New pre-fabricated concrete drop-in ditches are installed around both greens.

Both greens are laser levelled and totally renovated allowing the Paul Maggs Green to be brought up to competition standard. A soil testing regime is introduced to assist with the proper planning of greens renovation.

A concrete slab is installed under the first two gazebos and new turf laid under the third gazebo. The concrete was donated by

Neilsens Concrete with laying of the slabs completed by Trevor (Tiger) O'Neill and a band of volunteers from the club.

The Hon Grace Grace MP, Teresa Gambaro MP and Cr David McLachlan were appointed patrons.

YEAR 2013

Significant losses are incurred due to inadvertent unpaid tax bills of $52,000 from 2011-12. By the end of 2013 all of this outstanding money plus interest is paid back. All potential fines were avoided and new processes were put in place to prevent a recurrence.

Despite the troubling losses improvements to the club and surrounds have been dramatic making Windsor the envy of many other clubs. New Shade structures were installed around the perimeters of both greens along with new boundary pegs, rink markers, corner flags and scoreboards which were financed by individual sponsors.

Greg McNamara is elected Chairman at the AGM on Saturday 9 March 2013.

A full redevelopment of the Club's website was undertaken to ensure the Club remained relevant in the world's rapidly changing technology based environment. Not only did the website provide an opportunity to advertise the Club's facilities and Bowls Carnivals, it allowed us to start publishing electronically all of our Club Championship results and Honour Boards.

In 2013 the Federation Pairs were transferred from Newmarket Bowls Club to Windsor, this event is an all Ladies affair and attracts a very strong field of current State and District's representatives as well as high profile inter-club lady bowlers.

Windsor Wins Division 2 Ladies Pennant Flag.

Ladies Division 2 Pennant team

Windsor wins another Flag for Mixed Night Pennants against the Windsor White side.

Nikki Hunt wins BDBA Ladies Novice Singles.

YEAR 2014

Windsor win a number of District Championships:

- Alan Brown composite side – Men's Pairs
- Kelly Gauntlett and Alan Brown – Mixed Pairs
- CoC Fours – Mal Greig, David Hirst, Colin Albert, Alan Brown win District and Zone Play-off.

Windsor lose the final of Mixed Night Pennants.

Windsor becomes involved in hosting the Veterans Fraternity Bowls days which are held weekly at various clubs in Brisbane City North and Caboolture region. Veteran's days are hugely successful and well patronised with visiting teams to Windsor filling both greens on two occasions each year.

The club is starting to trade well and with the stronger financial management processes in place the club's financial position improves greatly making a cash profit of $29,000.

The profit is even more impressive given the amount of club money being expended on upgrades to the clubhouse and greens and surrounds. A replacement program for all of the concrete paths surrounding the greens is well under way with paths around the Bob Lane Green being completed. Again the concrete is donated by Neilsens Concrete and the work done by Tiger O'Neill and volunteers.

Trevor Winters is elected Chairman at the AGM on Saturday 15 March 2014 and remains there until 2020. Trevor is a Club stalwart having been Secretary for 13 years prior to his Chairman role. He also provides valuable handyman work around the Club in regards to ongoing maintenance issues.

Windsor welcomes the Totally Independent Veterans (T.I.V.) social group who have now integrated into Windsor and play on Thursday mornings.

YEAR 2015

The timber framed windows to the upstairs hall are replaced with aluminium sliding windows and security grills.

New cupboards and plantation shutters are installed upstairs completing a renovation project that allows the upstairs hall to be hired to third parties.

As part of continuing improvements to the Club an upgrade of the security system is undertaken with additional CCTV cameras installed. The work is funded under Suburban Crime Prevention program run by the Brisbane City Council.

Windsor wins the inaugural Flag for Senior Over 60's Pennants.

Windsor has more success on the greens. Robyn Williams, Pat Wales, Jo Flynn and Kelly Gauntlett win the 2015 District and Zone CoC Fours. Amy Evans wins BDBA Ladies Novice Singles.

During the years Windsor had entered the Taylors Bowls Super Challenge (2003 to 2014) we only had moderate success. In 2012 the men made the play-off at Mermaid Beach just missing out on a finals berth by 1 rink win. The ladies made it to the semi-final in 2013. In 2014 our other men's side in Bronze division made it to the play-off too. We decided to withdraw from the Super Challenge competition and look at other competitions. From 2015, the club joined the Premier 7's competition and had open sides in numerous divisions.

Bill Baker, Past President and Chairman is appointed a Life Member.

YEAR 2016

After the installation of new guttering the exterior of the club is repainted at a cost of $46,000 supported with grants and donations of nearly $30,000 from the state Government, Brisbane City Council, Neilsens Concrete and Ray White Lutwyche.

2016 sees the introduction of a smart new playing uniform shirt which incorporated our new “Windsor Wombat” logo. The shirt was sponsored by Neilsens Concrete, Ray White Lutwyche and AVEO Clayfield.

Windsor Men win the Plate in District O60’s Men’s Pennant.

Windsor’s new competition shirt

With financial costs continuing to rise other sources of income external to the Club were sought. This year we started the Bunnings sausage sizzle. With Wendy Horgan being the driving force behind the organisation of the sausage sizzles, we continued this on a regular basis until 2020 when the Covid19 virus meant its suspension. This activity was a great money earner for the club. All volunteers (and there were many) enjoyed the experience and we thank them very much for their contribution.

This was also the last year for AGM's for the Ladies Section as it was voted that both the men's and ladies sections would be integrated into the one bowls committee ending 61 years of an interesting history of Ladies Bowls at Windsor.

Windsor Ladies Bowling Club and its successor Windsor Ladies Bowls Section played an important part in the growth of the club with the Lady President adopting special projects each year. Over the years the club has benefited greatly from the funds generated from Ladies Financial Days and other events.

The Premier 7s competition ended in disappointment after winning 7 out of 8 games our top side were bumped out of the finals play-offs by a side that won 4 out of 6 games and that side went on to win the entire competition.

With greens that are now considered some of the best around, the Windsor 100 Classic ($5,000 prize money) is introduced as the major Bowls Carnival for the club and would run for at least 5 years as lead up to the Centenary celebrations. This carnival is a registered event with Bowls Australia and points earned in this carnival contribute towards a player's National Ranking. The Carnival has had great success and by 2021, the prize money has risen to $10,000.

Windsor had great success at the District level:

- Sue O'Toole wins Ladies District Singles

- Sue O'Toole and Alan Brown win the District Mixed Pairs
- Alan Brown and Mal Greig win the District Men's O60's Pairs
- Alan Brown composite side win District Men's Pairs

Alan Brown is awarded the trophy for District Men's Player of the Year.

The Club also had success at the State level as well:

- Sue O'Toole and Alan Brown equal third State Mixed Pairs Championship
- Paul Burns and Alan Brown equal third State O60's Men's Pairs
- Sue O'Toole was selected in the State Ladies Senior side

Division 4 Wins a Pennant Flag. This means that in 2017 Windsor will field teams in both Division 1 and 3. A great achievement for a Club with small membership.

Division 4 Pennant team 2016

YEAR 2017

Membership numbers continue to dog the sport of bowls generally and also at the Windsor Bowls Club. In an attempt to increase our membership during the period 2015 – 2017 several come and try days were held. These days were successful in introducing new people to the joys of lawn bowls and were well attended, with the attendees enjoying lots of laughs and frivolity learning the intricacies of lawn bowls.

Keith Mills was appointed part-time Manager. This is a first step in re-introducing paid management of the Club. Keith remains in this position as we enter the next 100 years and puts in hours of work well above what he is paid to do.

Division 3 Wins a Pennant Flag and are off to Coolum to play in the SEQ Pennant Play-offs. They do well but unfortunately don't win.

SEQ Pennant Play-offs at Coolum

Windsor's District Success continues with:

- Sue O'Toole wins Ladies Singles
- Sue O'Toole and Denice McLean composite side win District Ladies Triples
- Lee Evans, Amy Evans and Pauline Okon runners-up District Ladies Triples
- Lee Evans, Pat Wales, Robyn Williams and Kelly Gauntlett win CoC Fours District and Zone
- Kelly Gauntlett and Raymond Bax win District and Zone Mixed Pairs

Sue O'Toole is announced the winner of the Brisbane District Ladies Player of the Year. Sue was also selected in the Qld Ladies Senior Side and Noelene Dutton selected in the Qld Ladies Open side.

Alan Brown, Past President, Treasurer and current Secretary is appointed a Life Member.

Premier 7s success at last with our top side reaching the semi-final and just got pipped 1-2.

Pep talk prior to the finals

The club records a cash profit of $15,866, the 5th year in a row that the club records a profit. Over the period 2011 – 2017 the club completed over $360,000 worth of major improvements with still more work to be done. This has been achieved through strong planning and receiving a number of grants, generous sponsorship as well as some private anonymous donations. The amount of 'in-kind' work should not be under-estimated and the work and materials provided by Club stalwarts David Hirst and Trevor (Tiger) O'Neill has been much appreciated in that period.

YEAR 2018

The Constitution is re-written bringing the Men's and Ladies Bowling Sections together under a single Bowls Director. The Club is now very different from a traditional Bowls Club in that we are now very much a business that supports the game of bowls.

However the need to run a profitable business comes with higher levels of planning and administration. Brisbane City Council also requires a higher level of reporting from lessees. The Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023 is developed for the club along with annual action plans to help realise the Strategic Plan objectives. Having these plans in place help the club in planning for the future and also gain more assistance from all levels of Government grant programs.

Solar Power and an energy efficient hot water system are installed in order to reduce the Clubs electricity costs.

Sue O'Toole is the winner of the District Ladies Singles (4 years in a row). Sue is selected in the State Ladies Seniors side.

Windsor Men win the Plate in District O60's Men's Pennant.

Mixed Medley is added to our major Bowls Carnival calendar. The Club now hosts 4 major carnivals each year:

- Windsor 100 Classic
- Ladies Federation Pairs
- Mixed Medley
- Ekka Wednesday Triples (We Do Concrete)

This firmly establishes Windsor on the bowls event Calendar for Brisbane and Qld.

But Division 3 Wins a Pennant Flag again and are runners-up in the SEQ Pennant playoff, keeping the Windsor flag flying.

Windsor Hosts the “Jackaroos” training sessions pre the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Jackaroos and some of the Junior Development squad

In another attempt to attract more members the Club embarked on running several sessions of Jack Attack during the year. These sessions proved to be very popular. Run in the evenings they were an opportunity for those who worked to try their hand at competitive bowls, with teams of three playing 2 bowls triples.

Our Premier 7s Division 3 team won their section and proceeded to the finals. One rink lost by one shot on the last end, oh so close. But $2,000 of prize money was a great outcome. Well done to the team.

Premier 7s Division 3

YEAR 2019

The Club is successful in obtaining a number of grants with the ongoing development of the club and surrounds:

- Switchboard and sub-mains upgrade $27k
- New Greens Mower and Drilling Machine $20k

A second new shed is installed allowing the separation of Bowls related storage and BBQ and Food preparation equipment. This new shed is fully funded by our major sponsor Neilsens Concrete and is stocked with new coloured bowls for use by our barefoot bowlers.

Completion of the concrete pathways around the Paul Maggs Green and at the rear of the greenkeepers shed completes our surrounds renovation project.

A joint project with Brisbane City Council starts to develop a Heritage Management Conservation Plan for the club. The objective of this plan is to assist with smoother application processes for any future developments at the club. Along with the Heritage Management Plan the creation of a Strategic Development Plan for the club begins. This will hopefully move

the development of the club forward into the future whilst maintaining our heritage values.

Windsor Men win the Plate in District O60's Men's Pennant and the Windsor Ladies win the Plate in Ladies Autumn Pennant.

CoC Ladies Fours (Debbie Litzow, Tahlia Lait, Lee Evans and Kelly Gauntlett) win the District final and were runners-up in the Zone play-off.

YEAR 2020

Malcolm Greig is elected Chairman at the AGM on Saturday 1st March 2020.

The impact of the global Covid19 pandemic is felt throughout the club and the wider community as we are forced to close our business for 4 months. Despite this setback, grants from all levels of government and the strong support of members help keep the club alive and well heading into our centenary year.

New sub-mains and a new switchboard are installed to allow for future growth. A re-modelled gaming machine area and new outdoor furniture completes the major works carried out in 2020

The club purchases a Defibrillator and new first aid kit funded by the Lord Mayor's Community Fund.

Adam Liddell won the District CoC Singles and competed strongly in the Zone final.

Keith Donaldson and Alan Brown win the District O'60's Pairs.

Windsor team won the District Senior Fours competition. The team comprised Keith Mills, Greg Davenport, Cathie Judd and Julie Donaldson.

The Men did it. Another major achievement as underdogs they won the Division 2 Flag and are back in Division 1 in 2021.

Windsor Men win the Plate in District O60's Men's Pennant and the Windsor Ladies win the Plate in Ladies Autumn Pennant.

With the pandemic causing the cancellation of the finals of the Premier 7s we reflected back on a successful venture. But as we approach 2021, the club has decided to enter a new Summertime Competition 'GR8'. Here's hoping we can enjoy success.

The 25 Years leading up to our Centenary has thrown everything at the Club to test our fortitude with the 2009 financial crisis, the 2011 floods, technology challenges (Y2K) and the 2020 pandemic to name some, but we are still standing tall.

Combined Bowling Membership numbers peaked at 269 in 1958 and showed a steady decline until 1990. Over the last thirty years the average number of members for each of the ten year periods commencing 1991 remained steady at 88. Membership numbers remain a continuing challenge and innovation will be needed in the sport in the coming years to increase the popularity of the sport.

As we approach our 100th birthday the Club is strong and has a promising future. We have greens that are rated as some of the best around. The historic Clubhouse and the surrounds look a picture and are the envy of many.

Throughout this history of the Club there are many references to individual efforts. However there are many unsung heroes that help a Club to run successfully. We cannot name them all except to say a big thank you to all of the volunteers who help out on a day to day basis with the running of bowls or the operations of the Club. Without you we would not survive.

We are a small Club but our bowls success over the last quarter century has been spectacular. A total of Fifteen Pennant Flags have been won by the club in the last 25 years. This tally far exceeds the number of flags won in each of the preceding 25 year periods.

Our financial situation is very sound and with strong management and planning the development of the Club will continue.

There will be challenges ahead but for 100 years the Club has faced many and overcome them. We will continue to do so and we wish success in the future to the great Windsor Bowls Club.

The Clubhouse in 2020

What a picture at night time in 2020

Mal Greig – Centenary Chairman

Chapter 5

Anecdotal Stories Over 40 Years

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF 30 YEARS
Jim Golding

Some recollections of the Club have been passed on by our present Chairman of the Management Committee Jim Golding who joined Windsor Bowls Club in 1962

I joined Windsor Bowls Club in late 1962. At that time, the Club was still a force to be reckoned with in the Metropolitan area, but a number of prominent bowlers were really past their prime. However for a few years, Windsor was strong enough to field two first division teams.

In those days the Club was regarded as one of the most conservative in Brisbane – no raffles, bar closed at afternoon tea time and anything but moderate drinking frowned upon.
The bar was a pokey little area, yet two bar tenders were employed each Saturday – goodness knows why!

However, both greens were always full each Saturday and, on rare occasions, a five a side game was played to accommodate the players. The greens were couch grass, so it was normal to have eight rinks on each green. Pairs were always Wednesdays and Thursdays, the Thursday game being the opportunity to host Social Clubs – e.g. Tatts used to play at the Club on numerous occasions on a Wednesday.
Ladies' Day was on a Tuesday and because the greens were heavily watered each Monday, they were faced with heavy greens each playing day. Patronage of the Wednesday game

declined in the late sixties, so that day was abandoned and given to the ladies.

When I first joined the club and very soon afterwards, the Council, I was puzzled for quite some time about someone known as George – George says this, George says that,
George wouldn't allow that and so on. There was no doubt that George was a very influential and powerful person in the Club – he was George Swenson, the Greenkeeper. George deserved all the kudos that was bestowed upon him because there is no doubt that he kept the greens in first class order.

PRESIDENT'S AT HOME

For many years after I joined the Club, the President's At Home was THE social event of the year – and very formal it was.
The President contributed to the cost of the evening and it was free to the members and their wives. We used to completely fill the hall upstairs and I particularly remember John Howard's At Home when we were extremely hard pressed to accommodate the number who attended. Over the years the significance of the occasion and the numbers attending have declined. Many clubs no longer hold such a function.

DANCES

Another feature of the Club's Social Calendar was the regular dances compared by Eric Roush. He was a first class compere who always had a fund of stories to add to the entertainment of the evening. Regular bingo games were conducted too but these were never well patronised – Tom Redfern and Ossie Diggles always acted as callers for the games.

Medley Days were also a feature of the early seventies and the proved very popular. We always managed to fill the two greens – played all day – singles, triples, pairs and fours – and enjoyed a basket lunch together. We were a lot younger then!

We have had a number of outstanding presidents in the past thirty odd years. Fred Morris was President when I joined the Club – He collapsed and died on the green shortly after finishing his term as President. Sam Hoffman always gave us a 'thought for the day' at afternoon tea. In those days the President always wore a blazer and tie when he presided. It would be unfair if I mentioned some Presidents and not others, because they all contributed in their own particular way to the welfare and advancement of the Club.

DISTINGUISHED HISTORY

Windsor has a very distinguished history as a Bowls Club. Many, many well respected members of the Bowls Community were members of Windsor – many, over the years, took a leading role in Bowls Administration. Windsor has a very proud record in bowling history in Queensland and, although we are now a small Club, I hope we are all proud to be members of the Club, conscious of its record over 75 years, determined to uphold its traditions and reputation and to be loyal to the Club and interested in its progress in the future.

Long live Windsor Bowls Club

CENTENARY MEMOIRS
Alan Brown

I joined Windsor Bowls Club in 2000, just after the Brisbane District Men's Pennant final for Division 3. I was a member of Ferny Grove Club and played against Windsor at Samford. My skip was so confident that we were going to win the flag, but little did he know that Windsor were hunting a flag after a dry period of 40 years. Windsor gave us a lesson that day, and the following day my wife and I had sold our home and planned to move to Albion.

President Gilly Grummitt welcomed me into the Club and rest is history. I'm so happy to be a member of this historic Club.

After finding my feet in the place, in 2002 I was Vice President to Ken O'Connell and then President for the next 3 years (2003 to 2005). I made many friendships with the members (including social members) and put my hand up to be on various committees during my time.

In early 2009, the club was in trouble with cash flow and the Club Manager at the time was struggling to show a profit on any month. It became evident that the only way out of this situation was to make the Club Manager position redundant. I put my hand up to say that I'll do the Manager Role on a voluntary basis, this lasted quite a number of years until the committee sourced funds to have a part-time manager. My time in the role taught me a lot about the business especially how to recruit people in this volatile industry when people would leave constantly. But in the end, we did it and are still in business to celebrate 100 years.

On the bowls side of the Club, I have celebrated success on numerous occasions and moulded many teams that have won Club championships and been to State Final in Singles and Fours. I have won Brisbane District championships in Over 60's

Men's Pairs (twice), Men's Open Pairs (twice) and Mixed Pairs (twice) as well as District Men's Player of The Year. I was also equal third in the 2016 Qld State Championships in both Mixed Pairs and Men's Over 60's Pairs.

The sport of bowls can now be named a game that young guns play alongside the older generation. Colin Albert has been a champion in singles 11 times, and a feat that may never be repeated. However, Daniel Keogh has taken out the title on 4 occasions in a row, so is he the next super star? Mal Greig and myself have won the fours championship 8 times in a row. Former member Sue O'Toole won the Brisbane District ladies singles 4 times in a row, a great feat in this era. Kelly Gauntlett, Robyn Williams, Pat Wales, Lee Evans and Jo Flynn went to State CoC fours finals on 2 occasions, another great feat by our ladies. Talking about the Ladies, they finally won a Pennant Flag in 2013 after being runners-up twice in 1958 and 1980.

After winning the 2010 Division 2 Pennant we were promoted to Division 1 and decided we needed to recruit to try and be competitive and retain our place in that division. The revolving door seemed to never stop as many a player came to Windsor to try and help us win that elusive Division 1 flag. After 9 years we had no flag and were demoted to Division 2 for 2020, however we won that flag and are now back in Division 1 for our Centenary Year.

I was made a Life Member of the club 2017 and so proud to join other surviving Life Members Lottie Redfern, Dorothy Kennedy, Bill Baker and Trevor Winters. Along the way we have had seen many bar staff come through our doors and go as well. Their personalities had made Windsor a special place to come to and visiting bowlers also stated how great it is to be served by special people.

The local community have been a great source of revenue who visit for Friday night meals, mega meat tray raffles, barefoot

bowls and just a quiet drink on any day. After the 2011 floods their support was great as we tried hard to get back on our feet and up and running. We have regulars turning up each week, and it is becoming a great safe hub for lots of families.

Functions are the main source of revenue and Christmas Parties bring in lots of young faces who thrive on our casual atmosphere. But the volunteers of the club who put in huge hours to make every function a success has seen good trading to help fill the club's coffers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic we didn't know what to expect when everything was shutdown. But during this period lots of projects were completed, making the clubhouse a very welcoming place to be. We always receive great reports on the standard of our greens, this has been going on for years by the various greenkeepers that were employed by the club. May this high standard continue for the next centenary of Windsor Bowls Club.

My final plea is to see Windsor Bowls Club thrive in the many years to come. It is a unique place that attracts lots of people. The members are very outgoing and welcome all into the fold. I would hate to see the club become a huge mega place that'll have lots of people inside and no atmosphere. On the greens every player before, present and future has excelled, and in District/State events we really 'punch way above our weight' and take the game up to every opponent.

From 1921 at the inaugural meeting to form a Bowls Club until now, thank you to everyone who has done their bit for the history and success of our Club.

Walla Walla Windsor. Happy 100th Birthday.

Windsor Bowls Club at 2021

View across both greens from Blackmore St

Our Gazebo's and Storage sheds

New Outdoor furniture in front of the Clubhouse

Our Lounge bar with ice cold beer fonts

Barefoot bowls “Active Wear”

Volunteer workers installing new ditch matting

Amy is part of the Club Managers team, providing us with 1st class bar service

Dan provides us with 1st class greens