



HISTORY OF ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB 1947 - 2017

Sections	1947 - 1972
	1972 - 1988
	1988 - 1997
	1997 – 2007
	2007 - 2017

THE FIRST 25 YEARS

1947 - 1971

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

PAST PRESIDENTS

1947	.....	.....	E. E. FAUX
1948	.....	.....	E. E. FAUX
1949	.....	.....	E. E. FAUX
1950	.....	.....	A. ALLISON
1951	.....	.....	J. A. HOLT
1952	.....	.....	J. A. HOLT
1953	.....	.....	E. D. MELLOR
1954	.....	.....	E. W. ROSS
1955	.....	.....	D. J. BINGHAM
1956	.....	.....	J. R. NOSWORTHY
1957	.....	.....	V.C. BYRNE
1958	.....	.....	L. J. OLSEN
1959	.....	.....	F. A. WARHAM
1960	.....	.....	M. G. MACDOUGALL
1961	.....	.....	J. J. SPENCE
1962	.....	.....	H. B. HODGE
1963	.....	.....	J. C. F. THOMPSON
1964	.....	.....	L. W. D. ROCHAIX
1965	.....	.....	J. B. E. CAMPBELL
1966	.....	.....	A. E. ROGERS
1967	.....	.....	L. W. H. BUTTS
1968	.....	.....	J. B. BEDGOOD
1969	.....	.....	C. S. WOODS
1970	.....	.....	D. R. PAYNTER
1971	.....	.....	R. F. TERRY

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

Office-Bearers

For the Twelve (12) Months ended March 31,1973

Patron:

Sir JAMES HOLT

President

Mr. J. P. COULTAN

Immediate Past President

Mr. R. F. TERRY

Senior Vice-President

Mr. W. CARTER

Junior Vice-President

Mr. P. GOOLEY

Councillors:

Messrs L M. BEALE, M. E ROWE, C. S. WOODS, R. TRAIN,
J. E. ROWELL, S. G. FINTER

Hon. Secretary

Mr. I. F. MOFFETT
(Resigned 15/3/73)

Mr. C. H. McK DONNELLY
from March 15,1973

Assistant Hon. Secretary

Mr. I. E GRIFFITHS

Hon. Treasurer

Mr. L. G. HOOD

Assistant Hon. Treasurer

Mr. P. D. O'DONNELL

Hon. Green Director

Mr. J. B. BEDGOOD

Hon. Assistant Green Director

Mr. H. K. JEFFERIES

Hon. Solicitor

Mr. J. R. NOSWORTHY

Publicity Officer

Mr. H. K. JEFFERIES

Hon. Auditor

Mr. R. H. GOUGH

Trustees

Sir JAMES HOLT, Mr. Justice C.G. WANSTALL and Mr. E. W. ROSS

Hon Provedor

Mr. V. PEARSON

Councillor to the Royal Queensland Bowls Association

Mr. W. ROCHAIX

Selectors

Messrs G. L PODMORE, G. RAPSON, O. H. BROOKS

Life Members

Sir JAMES HOLT, Mr. D. J. BINGHAM, Mr. E. W. ROSS,
Mr. F. A WARHAM



ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

At an enthusiastic meeting held in the then Progress Association Hall in St. Lucia Road on 31st of October, 1947, the St. Lucia Bowling Club was formally brought into existence. As a result, a facility was created which has provided great pleasure, companionship and sport to hundreds of men and women in the succeeding twenty-five years. It is hoped that it will continue to provide these things for many years to come. Before dealing with the Club's history to date, perhaps it would be as well to speak briefly of the early days of St Lucia and how the district was so named.

The records of the John Oxley Memorial Library indicate that St Lucia derived its name from its association with the sugar industry. It appears that the area was named by a Mr W. A Wilson, who, with a number of others, formed a syndicate to grow sugar cane on the land where the University now stands and roundabout Mr. Wilson was a grocer who had a store in George Street where Trittons is now situated. He came from the West Indies and named the area after the sugar growing Island of St. Lucia in that group. The sugar plantation cultivated by the syndicate was known as the Santa Lucia Estate and in the early days, newspaper references to the site invariably gave the full name of Santa Lucia. The cane was processed at a primitive sugar mill known as Darf's mill, the last remains of which were swept away in the 1893 flood. It is also recorded that in addition to sugar cane there was a healthy cotton growing industry on the rich St Lucia flats which, prior to the arrival of the white man, were covered with dense scrub containing fine timber including tall pines. Altera somewhat sleepy early period the tempo of growth has increased markedly until in more recent years it could now be considered to have turned into the answer to a developer's prayer.

As already mentioned our Club was founded late in 1947. The spade work towards foundation was carried out by a small provisional committee which held several meetings, the first of which was on 20th May, 1947. Conspicuous in these and later days were the late Bob Lynch, the late Eric Faux and the late Dick Brazier. It was at a public meeting held on 31st October 1947, that the Club was formally founded. This meeting was followed on 14th November by the first General Meeting, attended by thirty-five members with six apologies, at which the first office-bearers were elected.

These were:-

Patron:	R. Lynch
President:	E.E. Faux
Senior Vice-President:	A. Allison
Junior Vice-Presidents:	R.T. Thompson and C.G. Wanstall
Hon. Treasurer:	D.J. Bingham
Hon. Secretary:	R.F. Palethorpe
Hon. Asst. Secretary:	K.H. Henzell
Councillors:	F.B. Bolton, F. Brittan, Dr V.C. Byrne, E.W. Ross, D.F. Williams and R.M. Wilson.

Also at this meeting J.G. Karrasch was elected Hon. Auditor and J.R. Nosworthy, Hon Solicitor.

It was reported to the meeting that the Brisbane City Council had granted the Club a site at the corner of Mill Road and St Lucia Road. However later, the authorities amended their plans and

advised that it would be necessary to consider an alternative site and offered the land on which the Club is now established. After investigations and inspections of other properties it was decided that the Club could not do better than accept the Council's offer. This change caused considerable delay in the completion of plans for the first green.

The first annual report covered the period ended 31st December, 1948. In this period a contract for the first green was let for £1595 and this was completed in time to allow the grass to be planted early in November. An ex-Army Hut was purchased for £70, the fence framework was erected a Greenkeeper appointed and after acquiring certain other necessities of life including a pair of second hand "Dubs" the Club was poised to really get under way. During the year a number of working bees were held at which much was accomplished at a considerable saving to the Club. The Committee directing this work consisted of J.A Holt, R.M. Wilson and E.D. Mellor. The army hut (now the soil shed) was converted into the first Club House and served this purpose extremely well. It was the scene of many happy and often convivial gatherings which sometimes went on a little longer than perhaps they should have.

In the first year the financial restrictions on borrowing imposed during the war years, were still in force and it was necessary to obtain the approval of the Federal Treasurer to the issue of debentures. An amount of £1,770 was raised in this period, the rate of interest being a handsome 3½ percent. At the end of the first year the Club had 78 members

In the following year there was a significant Special General Meeting, the Minutes of which disclose that the motion by Mr. D.J. Bingham, seconded by Mr. K H. Henzell that "This Club apply to the State Licensing Commission for the necessary permit to store liquor on the Club's premises situated at Carr and Keith Streets, St. Lucia was carried unanimously, the voting being forty-six (46) in favour with no votes cast in the negative.

The Club colours formally adopted and approved were dark blue and grey and arrangements were made for blazers to be made available to members for £3/5/- each including pocket.

The Green was opened for play on 9th April, 1949, but the official opening of the Club by the Lord Mayor, Alderman J.B. Chandler and the official opening of the Green by the President of the Queensland Bowling Association, Mr. O.C. Roden, were not performed until 5th November, 1949, when a gala programme marked the occasion and included —

- Play on the Green.
- Tea and speeches in the special marquee.
- Artists to entertain visitors and non-playing members.
- A fireworks display at 7 p.m.
- A barbeque about 9.30 p.m.
- A social and dance.

It was found necessary to operate an auxiliary bar and a good time was had by all. It was an occasion which must have been very gratifying to the late Eric Faux who was President of the Club for the first three years.

Eric put a tremendous amount of time into the administrative side of bowls in Queensland and became State president of the Queensland Bowling Association.

The Club had now been well and truly launched and at the end of 1949 boasted 93 members, held assets totalling £3,196/4/2 and held accumulated profits to the princely sum of £486/19/-. It was in this year that our imposing flagpole was donated to the Club by foundation member Ted Rosa.

During 1950 the growth of the Club continued in spite of certain restrictions, an example of which is disclosed in the Council's Minutes of 7th February, 1950 when "It was agreed that no refreshments whatsoever be served from the bar during Sunday play. Should soft drink refreshment be required this must be served from the kitchen end of the Club House. It was also agreed that only non-alcoholic refreshments be served on Sunday." The Minutes contain several other resolutions in similar vein which suggests that Goodies were having some difficulty in making the Baddies observe their righteous edicts in the matter of strong drink

In February, 1950, members decided by 24 votes to 19 that permission be given to form a Ladies Bowling Club and thereby the way was paved for the formation and development of the highly popular and successful Ladies' Club that we have today. It will be noted, however, that the decision was by no means unanimous.

The minutes also disclose that a major decision was made in April, 1950 when "It was agreed that some sweet biscuits be procured for refreshment on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons."

President Allan Allison held his "At Home" in the little Club House. In spite of teeming rain the building was "jammed" full and a very jovial time was had by all with Provodore Bill Shard providing a robust accompaniment to the Anvil Chorus by a skilful wielding of the hammer on the keg.

With the continued steady growth of the Club in 1951 when Jim Holt became president, it was decided to put down a second Green. This was commenced in June and was to be a fairly long-term project, construction being carried out by day labour. The work was directed by a Committee consisting of Jim Holt, Eric Mellor and Eric Faux. Actually the Green was not completed until 1953, the final cost being £2,040/12/7. In this year, the Club formed an association with the Toogoolawah and South Toowoomba Clubs and regular exchanges of visits took place over a number of years. Some very enjoyable times were had and friendships formed. The South Toowoomba visits were weekend affairs and were quite hectic, the second day's play being a case of the survival of the fittest. By this time the Club had pennant teams in 5th and 6th Divisions. These performed with moderate success, the 5th Division team being promoted to 4th in the following year.

There are some things at the Club that we are inclined to take for granted. For instance, although we use the Club's bell every playing day, probably few members know its history.

It was a ship's bell and saw service on a "Fairmile" during World War II. The bell was presented to the Club by Geoff Quonoey in June, 1951. Geoff was a member of the Club at the time and was Brisbane Manager of "Ansett Airways" who had acquired the "Fairmile". Geoff is now living in retirement at Wagga Wagga in New South Wales but unfortunately does not enjoy the best of health.

The year 1952 was the second of Jim Holt's presidency and at the end of the term the membership had risen to 138 including 2 social and 9 associate members. The value of our assets had risen to £5,043/9/10 whilst accumulated profits totalled £2,054/16/4. Many enjoyable games and functions were held. One incident is recalled which came to be referred to as the Extraordinary Meeting of the Finance Committee. This was held on a very pleasant evening when one of the three members indicated that he proposed to rise early in the morning and go mushrooming. The business was discussed on one of the seats in the open air after which the members were about to leave but just as an afterthought they decided to open up and have one for the road. To cut a long story short, when they departed, the dawn had almost broken and a sprinkling of mushrooms was readily available around the Club lawns.

At this time the northwest corner of the grounds behind the Club House had only the framework of a fence without any wire but the double gate for some reason was generally locked. At a fairly late hour one Saturday evening one of the wives arrived at the Club House to meet her husband and announced that she had encountered a departing member who perhaps had had a little too much and had been struggling frantically for some time to open the back gate. He appeared quite exasperated and his language was most colourful and became even more so when the lady pointed out that there was really no need to open the gate as there wasn't any fence.

A well-known identity in these early days was Wally Dopson, who, for many years past, had conducted a black-smith's business in the heart of Taringa. Wally is now a frisky eighty-five years but is unable to play bowls. In his playing days, in rink games, if he was not playing as well as he thought he should, Wally would change the two bowls he was using for the two remaining in his bag and this invariably brought about the desired improvement in play.

The year 1953 was Eric Mellor's in the Chair. Eric had previously deputised for a lengthy period in 1951 when President Jim Holt was overseas on an extended business trip. By this time our only Green had been severely tested and was showing many signs of wear and tear. Relief from the new No. 2 Green was an urgent necessity, but it was not until 28th November that the new Green was

officially opened. It had, however, been open for play for some little time prior to this date. Seasonal conditions were harsh and with the implementation of water restrictions it was necessary for the Greens to be hand watered. Much of this watering was carried out by members at night.

The new Green was officially opened by the late Mr. Wal. Raymont, Senior Vice-President of the Queensland Bowling Association. A Special marquee was erected on the elevated area in the northern section of the ground. The weather was perfect, a number of visiting players attended, and a most enjoyable time was had by all with the celebrations extending well into the evening. Although this Green played well at the start, unfortunately it deteriorated quite a bit and was a problem for a number of years, being commonly referred to as the "cow paddock". It had been planted with the common green couch and this never really took, on what developed into quite a tight growing surface.

With the increased attendance of players consequent on the use of the new Green, it was obvious that improved Club House facilities would have to be provided. The old building had done a wonderful "stop-gap" job but, on playing days, was now literally bursting at the seams. At afternoon-tea an overflow of members had to be accommodated outside, a situation which was cheerfully accepted but which called for corrective action as soon as possible. Finances had been depleted following construction of the new Green and several proposals were considered by members, the main issues being whether to extend the existing temporary Club-House (a relatively inexpensive job) or whether to embark on the new permanent building which would be much more difficult to finance. The former proposal would have been money down the drain so to speak and fortunately a special meeting of members held on 4th September, 1953, authorised Council to proceed with construction of the first stage of the new Club-House and to borrow by the issue of debentures to a limit of £3,000. The interest rate remained at the handsome 3½ per cent.

The steady growth of the Club continued in 1954 which saw Ted Ross in the Chair. At the end of the year there were 190 members including 10 associate members. Club assets had risen to a value of £9,773 and accumulated profits to £4,025. There were still only three pennant teams, one in fourth division and two in sixth. Naturally the main event during Ted's presidency was the opening of the new building held in conjunction with the "At Home" which had been deferred until 19th February 1955. It was another occasion of pleasure and conviviality when the new Bar was well and truly christened. A surprising number of wrong-bias bowls were put down and tradition was duly observed. The occasion was enlivened by the attendance of representatives of a Scottish Pipe Band, who, as the day wore on, insisted on doing most of their playing in the Bar. As their intake of refreshments increased, so too did the skirl of the pipes and in the confined space, the sound of the music!! was something not to be forgotten. No wonder "Jim's Inn", the auxiliary hostelry outside on the lawns, did such a roaring trade. At the end of the day, even the tolerance of Provodore Bill Shard had become somewhat frayed. The official opening was performed by Q.B.A. President Wal Raymont, with a gold key presented to him as a memento of the occasion. The building at this stage consisted only of the main room and bar. It was without linings and ceilings but was like a palace compared with the old ex-army hut. It would be remiss at this stage not to refer to the hospitality proffered by Ted Ross on various occasions when the Brisbane Club bowlers visited St Lucia. After the doings at the Club were over, the visitors together with a number of the Home players, adjourned to Ted's residence where they were royally wine and dined. It was in 1954 that the existing brick main entrance gates were donated to the Club by Patron Bob Lynch.

Doug Bingham assumed the Chair in 1955 and under him the Council continued in its policy of sound growth, both physically and financially. At the end of the year membership hit the 200 mark for the first time. A further £1,400 was spent on the new Club-House and furnishings, the cost of the Club-House to this date being £4,637. During these years Club socials were held quite regularly and frequently. Although they consisted mainly of dances, various other forms of entertainment were provided. On one occasion a "Younger Set" dance was attended by 255 whilst over 200 square dancers performed on the lawns on another occasion.

The late Fred Brown, that grand old member, great bowler and champion leg-puller was Chairman of the Social Committee whose meetings were socials in themselves. Fred always ensured that no member of the Committee was thirsty when the meetings started and that members were even less so when they left to go home. Also during the early years various Sunday visits were made to Country Clubs including Toogoolawah, South Toowoomba, Dayboro, Lowood, Harrisville, Beenleigh, Toowoomba City, Bramble Bay, Broadbeach, Currumbin and others.

Doug was succeeded into the Chair in 1956 by John Nosworthy, the Club's Hon. Solicitor. Although not now an active bowler, John holds a unique record in the Club in that he is the only member who has held office throughout the full twenty-five years. He was elected Hon. Solicitor at the first general meeting in 1947 and still holds that position. Through the years, John has willingly given much of his time and professional "know-how" in attending to the Club's legal matters and amendments to Rules, etc. In his year, the Club's finances were put in the hands of the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy, Mr. Tom Stapleton. Fortunately however, Tom was not acting in his official capacity but as the Club's Hon. Treasurer.

The records through all of these years indicate the continuous battle to provide funds, either from debentures, profits or overdraft to meet the ever present need to expand and improve our amenities. In 1956 a further £2,750 was spent mainly on the construction of dressing rooms and toilet facilities for the members and ladies, below the Club-House and the lining and painting of the main hall. Council recorded its thanks to the small band of members who gave a good deal of their personal time to do this painting. All this expansion work placed many demands on the time of our Hon. Architect the late Ron Wilson, a foundation member. Ron was ever willing and untiring in his efforts to ensure that we were satisfactorily accommodated. On 16th December, Bill Shard, our Provedore, who had been associated with the Club almost from inception, died following a heart attack on his way home from the Club after Saturday play. Bill was a very popular member, general counsellor and jovial host and did much towards the comfort and enjoyment of members.

In 1957 Dr. Vince Byrne took over the Chair, Doc was a likeable gentleman with a great fund of stories especially about North Queensland where he had spent most of his time. The major work undertaken during the year was the ceiling, painting and lighting of the bar as a memorial to our late Provedore Bill Shard. A sum of £250 had been donated by members towards this cause, the cost of the work being in the vicinity of £590. Certain other improvements including the Club-House retaining wall were also effected.

For several years our Club, in conjunction with the Indooroopilly Club had conducted an annual charity day which produced worth-while benefits to several worthy charities Net proceeds of £300 were raised in 1957 which appears to have been round about the general average of earlier efforts. The main beneficiaries in these appeals were the Spastic Children League, Legacy, Bush Children and Montrose Home. Apart from the money-making aspect these occasions provided enjoyable Home and Home games with our neighbouring Club.

Les Olsen followed Vince Byrne in 1958. In addition to the presidency Les had taken over the onerous office of Green Director at a time when the Greens, especially No. 2, were anything but good. Through these years it was at least an annual sight to see Eric Mellor and his theodolite checking levels on which to base corrective action generally assisted by the ever-willing George Cooper. A number of dry seasons were experienced and a good deal of hand watering was carried out by members at night. Never-the-less, the Club continued to grow and at the end of the year, membership stood at 215, assets were recorded at a value of £14,772 and accumulated profits had risen to £7,056. By this time the Ladies Club had become well established and had donated £2,683 in cash or kind to the Club. We now had pennant teams in Second, Fourth and Sixth Divisions, the Second Division team winning five of its seven matches.

At the meeting when Frank Warham assumed the Chair in 1959, he had to listen to a barrage of criticisms of the No. 2 Green from members. During the year every effort was made to improve the position. Keith Jones, the Coorparoo Greenkeeper, was retained as adviser. No. 2 Green was closed in the spring for some months and was heavily replanted and top-dressed. About this time the Greenkeeping staff was completely changed and Cec. Butler was appointed Greenkeeper. From this point the position improved very rapidly and Cec's "know-how" and green fingers produced a beautiful well-grassed playing surface for which the Green has been noted ever since. The Australian championships were held in Brisbane this year and a number of games were played on our No. 1 Green. On the Sunday, members made their cars freely available and a most pleasant picnic outing was held at Caloundra where approximately 40 visitors from all States were our guests. A relaxed social game with the Caloundra Club was enjoyed by all.

We now had seven Veteran members- Bob Lynch, Tom Foster, George Morris, Charlie Ozanne, Rev. Tom Taylor, Wally Dopson and Frank Brittan. Charlie Ozanne was a colourful character who

was not noted for his bowling skill. When he proceeded to send one down, nobody, least of all Charlie, knew where the bowl was likely to finish. He was well into his seventies at this stage and what he lacked in skill he certainly made up for in keenness. He lived at Bardon and used three different modes of transport to get to his game. He travelled by tram to the railway, by train to Toowong and by bus or car to the Club. Charlie enjoyed his drop of refreshment and on Saturday evenings there was always the question of who would get "old Charlie" home. As far as is known there was always some Good Samaritan who deposited Charlie safely at his front gate. He was a good mate of Wally Dopson and it was a treat to listen to the two of them talking and arguing vehemently about the horse and buggy days with which they both had been actively associated, Wally's smithy had now been handsomely taken over by Ampol and he generally arrived at bowls resplendent behind a big fat cigar.

The 1980's commenced with Morrie Macdougall in the Chair and the Club continued to consolidate and grow. The two Greens were now very satisfactory and our ground staff were able to give more attention to the surrounds. Under Cec Butler's care these became very attractive, the gardens being much admired with their colourful displays of flowers. The Charity Day partnership with Indooroopilly had fallen through so we decided to go it alone. The small organising committee headed by Harry Hodge did a good job and we were able to raise £272 for Legacy and St. Clare's Home. A number of social games and evenings were held. Through the years, on these occasions, the ladies did a wonderful job in catering for visitors and members and by brightening the Club with their presence. Members were delighted to join the many friends of Jim Holt in congratulations on the occasion of his knighthood conferred by Her Majesty in the Birthday Honours list.

In 1960, the Club lost a very good member in the passing of Fred Taylor, Fred had sponsored the Club selected "Fred Taylor Fours" competition since 1953. In 1961 the competition was replaced by the "E.W. Ross Fours" sponsored by Ted Ross.

Jim Spence became President in 1961 and he and his Council carried on the good work. It was a year in which finances were conserved in order to provide for a major Bar extension and new Cold room in 1962. The early planning for this work was carried out in Jim's year. Our hostelry was proving very popular and the original area was now inadequate. Why shouldn't it be, for not only were members able to be adequately refreshed but in the process could see and hear all manner of wonderful things. There was the member who was always only too willing to demonstrate how to swallow lighted cigarettes and perform various other incredible acts. There were also great words of wisdom uttered ranging from the philosophies of Omar Khayyam, to the superb poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley rendered by that well-known member who wouldst pour forth profuse strains of unpremeditated art. If one wanted variety there was always the member who, at the drop of a hat, would burst into song (always the same one) which related to a certain "Swazi Warrior". Any deficiencies in the matter of tune and tone were more than made up for by surpluses in the matter of volume. Those who enjoyed a spicy story were very well catered for with the meaty yarns which flowed so easily from the tongue of Captain Arthur (three knots) Turner perhaps known as "Old Salty".

In 1962, when Harry Hodge was in the Chair, it was back to the drawing boards again for Hon. Architect Ron Wilson. A substantial extension to the Bar was carried out and a large Cold Boom installed. Members could now relax in real comfort, a far cry from the conditions in the old Club House. These improvements and other capital items cost £6,556, towards which members contributed £3,170 by way of debentures, the interest rate for which had not varied from the 3½ per cent of the earlier issues.

Conditions outside were also very satisfactory and the Annual Report for the year states that "A further improvement in both Greens this year gives St Lucia Club two of the best Greens in the metropolitan area The surrounds continue to improve and the floral displays have been much admired by members and visitors alike".

As in previous years, the late Alf Bartlett assisted the Club with showings of his excellent films In 1962 three such programmes were provided and were much appreciated by bumper houses, It is mentioned that all of the early "At Homes" have been recorded on colour film, either by Alf or Jack Garland.

Further improvements were carried out in 1963, which was Jack Thompson's year. Over £1,500 was so expended, principally on furnishings and ground improvements. At the end of the year, assets had grown to a value of £21,676 and accumulated funds, including reserves exceeded £13,000. Thanks largely to the efforts of Morrie Macdougall the St Lucia Masters' Fours competition was introduced very successfully and has been played annually since.

It was around about this time that Charlie Ozanne celebrated his eightieth birthday. Charlie had a great day at the Club and after play he was presented with a box of cigars and a bottle of "Bundaberg". It was great to observe Charlie's enjoyment of the occasion, with his chest and tummy proudly expanded, leaning slightly backward for balance and face aglow with a happy beam from ear to ear. As he departed for his transport home he appeared to feel a very happy if somewhat unsteady young man. All in all, a most likeable natural gentleman. Unfortunately Charlie's health deteriorated shortly after this and he died in 1964.

A lot of things happened in 1964-65 which saw Bill Rochaix in the Chair. The term was extended by three months to the end of March, 1965, as it was found more convenient for working arrangements to conclude at this date. For the first time we had a top division pennant team as well as teams in third, fifth and sixth divisions.

All performed very creditably. Our top skips at this time were Charlie Patterson, the late Gordon Thompson, Dave Picking and the late Bill Grimes. Actually we were somewhat unlucky in the previous year in not winning the second division pennant. After a very comfortable win in the semi final we went down in the final in a good match against a very strong Sandgate team.

In this year the Club House extensions were completed at a cost of £6,427. These included new quarters for the Ladies' Club, a new Selectors' Room, an extended Dining Room, Cloak Room and a large and modern kitchen. Honorary Architect Ron Wilson was honoured with Life Membership for his efforts on behalf of the Club over the years. £2,610 was subscribed in debentures whilst finances were also assisted by a record profit on operations of £3,089. At the end of the term, Club assets stood at a value of £27,753 and accumulated profits, £14,966. The Children's Christmas Tree Party and barbecue was introduced for the first time and has proved a very popular function ever since.

During the year, members were saddened by the deaths of three Club veterans in Bob Lynch, Padre Tom Taylor and Charlie Ozanne. Bob Lynch had been Patron since inception of the Club in 1947 and had played a big part in its early formation.

Jeff Campbell succeeded Bill Rochaix into the Chair in 1965-66. It is apparent from a review of the Minutes and Committee reports to Council during these years, that the Club had grown into quite a business and placed many demands on the time of Office Bearers and Councillors. Annual operating costs had risen to \$18,812 and these showed clear signs of the inflationary spiral which has unfortunately remained with us to the present day. Costs rose by well over \$2,000 compared with the previous year most of which was caused by increased wages.

However, we had much to be thankful for especially in our amenities and our Greens. Every Annual Report paid strong tribute to our Green-keeper, Cec. Butler, for his efforts with the Greens, Gardens and Surrounds. The 1965-66 annual report records that the Club's two Greens have had more players than ever before and it was claimed that the St Lucia Greens were the equal of any in the State. During the year, so many social clubs visited St Lucia, due to the amenities and the Greens that unfortunately a limit had to be placed on visitors' days. In addition to the main Saturday play, games were played on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday and these were so popular that on most occasions, people who had not planned their game in advance had to be turned away, due to the heavy list of players. Members were delighted to learn that Alan Munro had been knighted in the June, 1965, Birthday Honours and now became Sir Alan.

The Ladies' Club continued to play an important role in our development. In addition to contributing \$1,210 in cash they managed to convert part of the Club House into a Ladies' Club Room deluxe, giving complete satisfaction to visitors and members alike. At the end of the year our finances appeared to have grown considerably but alas this was merely because they were recorded in decimal currency for the first time.

Bert Rogers became President for the 1966/67 year. Bert had been our Q.B.A Delegate for a number of years and it is interesting to note that in this year the State governing body became the Royal Queensland Bowling Association. Our Club was well represented on the Association for, in addition to Bert, we had Eric Faux who had been appointed Senior Vice-President of the Australian Bowls Council, Gordon Thompson a Vice-President of the R.Q.B.A and Len Butts who was Hon. Official Solicitor.

Also in this year, honour was brought to the Club in open competition play when Len Podmore (Skip) and Tom Pulsford (Lead) played great bowls to win the Metropolitan Pairs Championship. Unfortunately this remains our only success to date in open championships. Mainly as a brainchild of Joe Byrne and capably directed by Harry Hodge, the first Armistice Day Fours was held and proved to be an outstanding success with many visitors helping to provide takings in excess of \$1,500. This competition has proved a very popular and successful day ever since. In true "Services" style the Club ensures that players are well fortified by directing that the rum issue be made to all before play with the compliments of the house.

In 1967-68 the Grim Reaper took a heavy toll of Club Members when no fewer than thirteen passed away. President Len Butts was called on to helpfully condole on a number of sad occasions. On Saturday, 21st October, 1967, tragedy struck dramatically when a bolt of lightning killed a member and flattened 12 others during a storm. Fellow bowlers saw the flash kill Tom Deverell just after he had completed his bowl on No. 5 rink in lightly falling rain. As realisation dawned on the 80 bowlers on the two Greens, members ran to help the 13 men dropped by the lightning. While Dr. Alf Morton gave emergency treatment to Tom, all but three of the downed men staggered to their feet. These three, Clem Bate, Lloyd Stuart and Albert Stevens were taken semi-conscious to the Club House for medical treatment. They recovered but were badly shaken and were to suffer the effects of the blast for some time afterwards. Saturday, 21st October, 1967, was a day that members will never forget. Tom Deverell had been a very popular member of the Club since 1951, and we certainly have since missed his courteous and cheerful personality on the Greens.

Other losses in this year included old stalwarts in Ron Wilson and George Cooper. Like Ron, George had also given many years of valuable service to the Club mainly in the positions of Hon. Secretary and Games Director. We also lost one of our best bowlers when Gordon Thompson failed to survive a severe heart attack suffered on the last day of the 1967 Masters Fours which he had organised in conjunction with Bert Rogers.

Of course, in between these happenings through the year the game went on. We still had four pennant teams but these performed with something less than moderate success. The Armistice Day Fours was again very popular as was the Christmas Tree and barbecue when Santa Claus (George Rapson) arrived in an armoured car to distribute 82 presents.

In 1968-69 the Club became twenty-one years of age with Jack Bedgood occupying the Chair. The twenty-first anniversary was celebrated on Saturday, 2nd November, 1968, when, all Foundation Members and Past Presidents were invited. Unfortunately, by the end of the year, some danger signals relating to the Club's finances started to show. Operating costs, fanned on by the inflationary spiral increased by over \$3,000 to \$23,456 and in spite of a substantial gross profit of \$9,583 from the Bar, the Club made a loss on operations for the first time in its history with a deficit of \$1,187. The Club had liquidity problems also and even the Property Improvement and Debenture Sinking Fund of \$5,200 which had been built up through the years was committed for expenditure on new ditches. A special Finance Sub-Committee was appointed to review the position and a comprehensive report was submitted with recommendations to correct the financial trend. Although the position was difficult, it was purely coincidental, that the convenor of the Sub-Committee, Dudley Paynter, was an experienced Official Liquidator. The Club was far from insolvent and still had a substantial excess of assets over liabilities of \$31,775. Economies were effected and once again the annual subscriptions were raised.

During the year, due to the efforts of Dave Agnew and George Rapson, a new group known as the "Tuesday Nighters" was formed to meet at the Club on Tuesday evenings to enjoy some refreshment and good fellowship. This group is still functioning very happily and strongly and has given valuable financial assistance to the Club. During the year death claimed our foundation President, Eric Faux, Sir Alan Munro, veterans George Morris and John Chrisky and leading skip Bill

Grimes,

Col Woods succeeded Jack Bedgood into the Chair in 1969/70. In Jack's year the Club had fielded five pennant teams for the first time and this pattern continued in 1969/70 and subsequent years. Unfortunately there was no improvement in our financial position, in fact the deficit on operations increased to \$1,710 for the year. The high cost of wages was the crippling factor as this item had risen from \$9,472 in 1968 to \$14,773 in 1970. Heavy capital expenditure was incurred, the main item being for new asbestos cement ditches, the cost of which absorbed the Property Improvement and Debenture Sinking Fund. As in other years a number of happy and successful socials were held and included a dinner dance, Alf Bartlett's films, a prawn and crab night for men only and the annual Christmas tree and barbecue.

It was with regret that the Club received the resignation of Mrs. Milne (Dolly) who for many years had helped to assuage the thirst of members in her capable role of bar attendant. Dolly's association with the Club went back many years to the days when Bill Shard was provider. Fortunately she drops in to help us on odd occasions and we are able to renew acquaintances. Once again the "Tuesday Nighters" came good with a donation of \$184 towards the new carpet for the Bar.

Dudley Paynter took over the Chair in 1970/71, the year in which we finally succeeded in winning a pennant. Strangely enough although our teams had been playing in first and second divisions for some little time we had never succeeded in winning a final. In 1970 however, our fifth division team succeeded in landing the bacon and there was much celebrating back in the Club-House. The taps flowed freely and it was not long before members burst into song with "I'm just wild about Harry" predominating. Harry Hodge having put down a successful drive at a crucial stage of the match. The golden voiced tenor from Hawken Drive could not let the occasion pass without treating us to yet another brilliant rendition of that heart-rending old ballad, "Love Letters in the Sand". But alas, from the sublime to the gorbimey, members had no sooner dried their eyes than they had to cop another dose of the "Swazi Warrior". All in all a very enjoyable occasion.

In 1970 it was again Brisbane's turn to conduct the Australian titles. It was a tribute to the standard of our Greens that St. Lucia was chosen for the final of the Rinks title in which a New South Wales Four skipped by Frank Soars had a comfortable win.

Once again the Christmas Tree and Barbecue proved very popular. A new built-in brick barbecue with gas laid on had been donated to the Club by Jack Bedgood and this has proved a most useful and popular amenity. At the end of the year, it was pleasing to note that the Club was again functioning profitably and showed an operating surplus of \$1004.

Ron Terry had a successful year in the Chair in 1971-72. There was an obvious need to consolidate our financial position and this was well achieved. A profit on operations of \$2197 was recorded and the Club's liquidity was much improved. At the end of the year debenture liability had been reduced from \$12,100 to \$9700 and the bank overdraft came down from \$7634 to \$4851. Club assets were valued in the books at \$56,893 and accumulated funds stood at \$38,487. These were the figures at the end of the last complete year before the Club's silver jubilee in October, 1972. There was, however, a drop in membership which had previously stood at round about the 230 mark but came down to 219 at 31st March, 1972.

Members were saddened to learn of the death of Fred Brown during the year. Fred had been a very active and popular member since the Club's foundation in 1947.

Following on a very successful pennant season in the previous year, our performance in 1972 was very mediocre and the second division which had been unbeaten in its section in 1971 finished at the tail in 1972 and were consequently demoted. Although our performance was disappointing we look forward to a much better result in the jubilee year. A number of players are showing good form and it was pleasing to note that in 1972, Col. Procopis gained selection in the State side and has since retained his position. Tom Pulsford (Skip) and George Walters turned in a good performance to win the Peninsula Open Pairs, while Jack Rowell (Skip) and George Dukes played good bowls to reach the semi-final of the 1972 Metropolitan Pairs.

It was about this time that our Housekeeper, Mrs Thelma Neilson, who had looked after the

needs of the inner man for many years, gave up this work. Thel was quite a character around the place and her pungent comments raised many a laugh.

John Coultan took over the presidency during the silver jubilee year of 1972/73 and had served nearly half of his term on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary. Special arrangements were made to celebrate the occasion which proved very enjoyable. The President's "At Home" was held on the Friday night and special bowls and festivities were planned for the Saturday and Sunday. However, very heavy rain caused the postponement of the Sunday play and barbeque which had to be held the following week. It is fitting, when dealing with this year that reference should be made to our Super Veterans – those members who are eighty and over. As far as is known we have five members in this honoured group, namely Wally Dopson, Ted Ross and Arthur Turner of whom reference has been made earlier in this record and Frank Forde and Bert Keefer. Frank is an ex-Prime Minister and was Minister for the Army in World War II. Bert was a natural to become a super veteran as his mother died only recently at the age of 107. Popular member Jack Hearle was only a few months short of his 80th birthday on our anniversary date but this didn't appear to dampen his spirits during the celebrations. Ted and Jack are foundation members of the Club.

Looking at the first twenty five years in retrospect we can only record what a wonderful experience membership of such a fine Club has been. The Club has gone from strength to strength during the years, a position which has resulted from the efforts of many people at various times. Its formation has been more than justified and it is to be hoped that this state of affairs continues well into the future. At varying stages through this record, reference has been made to the value of the Club's assets. In this regard it is mentioned that our greatest asset does not appear in the balance sheet and this is the Club spirit of its members. We have been singularly fortunate in this respect and it is trusted that this spirit will continue at a high level in the future. It is pleasing to note the calibre of many of our newer members who are giving the Club excellent support.

FRANK WARHAM
St Lucia
March, 1973

1973 - 1988

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

Past Presidents

1972	J. COULTON
1973	W. CARTER
1974	P. J. GOOLEY
1975	W. T. ROWLEY
1976	C. R. RICHARDS
1977	D. PICKING
1977	G. L. PODMORE
1978	G. RAPSON
1979	D. WINTON
1980	J. HUNTER
1981	H. W. PEARSON
1982	E. S. STEWART
1983	J. TRIMMER
1984	A. C. ROGERS
1985	J. J. SPENCE
1986	C. PROCOPIS
1987	J. ROWELL
1988	N. DYER

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

COUNCIL 1988-89

Patron:

Sir Charles Wanstall

President

N. K. Dyer

Immediate Past President

J. Rowell

Senior Vice-President

R. L. Hancock

Junior Vice-President

T. Raven

Councillors:

Sir Theodore Bray, K. Byrne, G. Kennedy, R. McNamara, F.E. Meyer.

Hon. Secretary

A. C. Rogers

Assistant Hon. Secretary

J. N. Green

Hon. Treasurer

W. George

Assistant Hon. Treasurer

A. D. Morris

Hon. Greens Director

R. Edmonds

Hon Provedor

P. J. Gooley

B.D.B.A. Councillor

J. Rowell

Life Members

F. A Warham, J. Bedgood, P. J. Booley, D. Picking, *J. C. F. Thompson,
*M. G. MacDougall, *C. R. Richards.

* Deceased

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

Having reached the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of the St. Lucia Bowling Club, Council has suggested and rightly so that the history of the Club be brought up to date, but with the passage of years our original author Frank Warham has seen fit to pass over his pen to the current writer.

It is pleasing to report that apart from a little eye trouble Frank and his good wife, Doreen, are in good health and really enjoying a happy twilight. One derives much enjoyment in re-reading the "History of the Club 1947-1973" and the position today has not changed to that of the era already reviewed. We could do well to repeat the concluding paragraph of the original "history".

"Looking at the first twenty-five years in retrospect we can only record what a wonderful experience membership of such a fine Club has been. The Club has gone from strength to strength during the years, a position which has resulted from the efforts of many people at various times. Its formation has been more than justified and it is to be hoped this state of affairs continues well into the future. At varying stages through this record, reference has been made to the value of the Club's assets. In this regard it is mentioned that our greatest asset does not appear in the balance sheet and this is the Club spirit of its members. We have been singularly fortunate in this respect and it is trusted that this spirit will continue at a high level in the future. It is pleasing to note the calibre of many of our newer members who are giving the Club excellent support"

The writer feels that all current members will agree that this spirit still prevails and concern for good fellowship and affection is part and parcel of every day function of our Club. Never has the Council of the Club been placed in a position of having to report a suspension to our Controlling Body. Continuing the history, 1973/74 was a memorable year under the Presidency of Wally Carter. January saw the Great Brisbane flood and our Club and surrounds received serious damage. The greens were covered with four feet of water and for a short period of time the Clubhouse floor was covered by four inches of water. Despite the fact that he could not swim, the original survey of the Club was undertaken by Wal in a boat. One had to tread warily as hazards were encountered and concern was felt for the President. Damage was shown to be considerable. Nevertheless we were able to play host to local families who suffered more serious damage, with temporary accommodation. Once the water receded members really showed their worth. Working bees were the order of the day and in a reasonably short time greens were freed of mud and restored to fair condition. Thanks to earlier Councils the insurance policy on buildings, contents and machinery was extended to cover the flood peril and in about two months the flood was history although the memory still lingers. As would be expected pennant play for the year was cancelled and Club competitions were seriously disrupted. President Wal did participate in the quarter final of the Pairs with his comrade Maurice MacDougall. Wally threatened to dissolve the partnership when Maurie's first bowl passed the kitty that was being returned on account of being out of bounds. Both these gentlemen missed their true vocation, Abbot and Costello would be out of work had they taken to the stage. Club Championships eventually got under way again with Jack Rowell retaining his singles championship and paired with Col Procopis to win the pairs. Wally and Maurie were eliminated in the quarter finals (their first round). A few days later Maurie was admitted to hospital with a serious illness. Wally prevailed upon Council and subsequently Members to make Maurie a Life Member. It is felt illness influenced the haste but the recipient fully deserved the honour. It was sad to record the death of two past presidents practically within days of each other. Birt Rogers was President in 1966 and Dudley Paynter in 1970.

Despite the trauma and disruption of the flood period, the clubhouse bar was extended and the stairs to basement facilities rearranged. Membership stood at 186 ordinary and 25 associate.

Despite a non-recurring variation of income and expenses Wally handed the Presidency to Pat Gooley with a surplus for the year of \$178.00. A really good performance. 1974/75 saw the re-emergence of Bill Rochaix as Secretary of the Club. Bill went into semi-retirement when his 1964 term of Presidency was completed. It also introduced to Council Roy Richards who subsequently was to make a magnificent contribution to administration. The scars of the flood eventually disappeared and club routine was back to normal. This year the Ladies Club appointed Mrs Dawn Migan as President and this lady was instrumental in altering the approach of assistance to the Men's Club. Gone were the days of ladies submitting accounts to the men for help with lunches, afternoon teas etc and goodwill increased immensely. The ladies undertook to redecorate the club after the flood

and the curtains and indoor plants we see today were conceived in this year. The pennant season was the most successful in the history of the Club, all divisions retaining sections. The story of first division is history but well worth repeating. Having finished sectional play undefeated a record player was borrowed and for approximately one month all that could be heard from the bar was various renditions of "When the Saints come marching in". The Saints eventually came in by defeating Tarragindi in the final and the purple pennant was ours.

St. Lucia fielded the following players - Len Butts; Jack Keane; John Bromhall; Dave Picking(skip); Nick Dyer; Jack Rowell; Jeff Campbell; Alan Schulte(skip); Jack Crawford; Henry Greenhalgh; Col Procopis; Len Podmore(s); George Bryson; Albert Delmodes; Alan Tait; Chas Patterson(s). Celebrations duly followed to the wee small hours of the Sunday and continued for a considerable time. Non playing members were very generous hosting luncheons at Tattersalls Club, a dinner at the Brisbane Club for the team and a host of Club functions. Pennant badges were donated by George Walters and still worn with pride to the present day. Club competitions were back to normal - Col Procopis defeated Bert Pearce for the singles and the championship fours were won by George Walters, Tom Pulsford, Jeff Campbell and Alan Schulte. B Grade singles, an important event went to ex President John Coulton with Jack Keane runner-up. Strange that Jack was in the winning pennant team and has subsequently won more important titles. It was in this year that Al Creer was engaged as our barman and it is pleasing to report he is still carrying on this important work. He and his wife Maureen have become part of the team and the latter, as a hairdresser, prepares our ladies coiffure for major functions.

A comparison of figures has proved very interesting. Bar sales in 1975 amounted to \$35,517 and in 1985 to \$35,200.

Possibly the answer is that we were all ten years younger. With a revenue account of \$43,122 Pat was able to hand over to Trevor Rowley a profit of \$82.00.

Possibly more problems were experienced in 1975/76 than one had become used to. Unfortunately a division was created with social clubs, an edict being given that club members would obtain precedence with rinks, and clubs were left more or less up in the air as to how many rinks they could have and naturally they sought accommodation elsewhere. Unfortunately diplomacy did not prevail at the time but fortunately time has healed all wounds. Again two past presidents passed away within a short period of each other. Len Butts of legal fame suffered a severe heart attack and our stalwart Bill Rochaix succumbed to cancer. Further losses were the decease of Ivan Griffiths and John Summers the latter a Gallipoli veteran. All pennant sides maintained their positions and Alan Schulte won the 'A' Singles. The old firm of Higginbotham and Patterson was again successful in the pairs. Past President and another Gallipoli veteran, Jack Thompson was enthusiastically elected a Life Member when Trevor handed over the chair to Roy Richards. 1976 was a period of consolidation with a small increase in participation and trading. Our worthy Treasurer, Arnold Rosenfeld who fortunately for the club still occupies the same position reported that "Revenue from bar and green fees is far short of the amount required to maintain our position. We are dependant on the voluntary efforts of Club members. In this respect I would refer to raffles, donations and in particular the marvellous effort put into the Christmas raffle" Is there any difference today?

Despite such problems improvements occurred, electric fans being installed in the kitchen and a new deep freeze purchased. The latter was financed by the exercise of "Operation Deep Freeze" and again emphasized the generosity of members by donating the necessary to finance the "operation".

This year saw the installation of a "Pin Ball machine" and demand was such that a second machine was hired. However, problems soon became evident. Mechanical breakdown was a nuisance and frustration but human weakness was the real problem. Maurie Macdougall and his cohorts suddenly experienced nature and thirst problems that necessitated leaving the greens for relief within the four walls of the bar housing the machines. Verbal reprimands from other team members helped only to a minor extent to correct this problem. These machines did produce a valuable source of revenue but were somewhat out of place in the Club. Usage declined and eventually they were withdrawn. Again the year finished with a modest profit.

David Picking led the team for 1977/78 and membership totalled 172 ordinary and 34 associate members. Roy Richards accepted the position of Honorary Secretary and so commenced a record

period in that position. Clive White, a current State Singles winner, joined the Club this year and showed his prowess in immediately taking the Club singles championship. The revenue account showed green fees up considerably yet bar sales were down approx \$4000.00. Maintenance charges both greens and general were up influencing the final result of a loss of \$1679.00. It was becoming evident that years of prosperity were starting to wain and it was somewhat extravagant to employ two in the kitchen, two in the bar and the same with the greens To the credit of the President and Council of this period immediate attention to the problem was undertaken and positive action taken. During this year it was sad to record the death of foundation member Walter Dopson, the original St Lucia blacksmith and personality mentioned in the initial history.

Henry Greenhalgh, husband of incoming Lady President Val, was also called to his eternal reward. Apart from being a gentleman and a scholar in the true meaning of the word (University mathematician) Henry was a very good bowler, at the time of his death, being a current member of the winners of the Club fours championship.

Maintenance and service cost increases continued into 1978. The Council at the time, in an attempt to contain same again increased green fees and made economies without sacrificing amenities, comforts etc. which were increasing year by year.

At this stage it might be opportune to again repeat and again acknowledge the loyalty of all members in assisting financially and physically to overcome trends before they became problems During this period Len Podmore lead a very active Council and he proved the man for the job. Being blessed with a very pleasant personality and having the capacity of extracting without pain (he was not a dentist) that little bit extra, capital improvements to the order of a coloured television, Club Officials board, and a new motor mower were purchased without recourse to the trading account. A further improvement was the installation of the barbeque building, this being donated by Jack and Grace Bedgood.

Len was a champion bowler. Over a period of twenty years he won many Club, RQBA and District Championships but he was never to win his Club singles. Such is life! Joining the Council that year was that great personality Sep Stewart fresh into retirement from his sheep and cattle property at Cunnamulla. With enthusiasm Sep undertook the "five letter word" exercise of making the Club a fortune. This magic word was "Bingo" and with a fanfare of trumpets the opening night saw approximately 60 members play the game. Enthusiasm soon waned and it would appear we broke even as profit or loss does not appear in the revenue account Again the Club was saddened to lose two past presidents. Foundation and Life Member Ted Ross passed away, shortly followed by that dear personality Wally Carter. Tragedy again struck when Henry Paul collapsed and died whilst playing a normal Saturday social game. One must accept man's time is limited and we were pleased to welcome a record number of new members, viz.17. Clive White again proved the champion he is by retaining his singles championship and the worthy President led his fours and pairs to victory. Honouring the Queen on conclusion of afternoon teas was, for years and possibly still is the subject of much friendly debate. In these days the anthem was sung and on one occasion the writer was entertaining an English relative at the bar during its rendition. Momentarily the uncle showed distress and said "Is Her Majesty dead?". Food for thought!.

1979/80 introduced a very active Council under the baton of George Rapson. An additional sixteen members were introduced and George has the unique record that not one member died during his term of office. An attempt was made to prolong his Presidency but he elected to retire undefeated.

This year saw the introduction of a St Lucia Past Presidents Day. Fifteen Past Presidents were amongst the 124 participants and the day finished with a cocktail party to which the ladies were invited. Records show that the Match and Games Committee at the time said that this game was "a must" for future years but sad to relate nothing further was done until 1985/ 86 when the game was revived on a slightly different basis. Another initiative was the playing of an invitation mixed pairs, again a success but not repeated. Clive White repeated his previous singles success and the Council passed on to their successors a healthy profit of \$3110.00 One is inclined to overlook the contribution and dedication of the lower echelon of Council but it is always a team that produces a result. A team must also have an enthusiastic captain.

Again this year our ingenuity was tested. A crisis occurred when the two Brisbane breweries went on strike and the Club was threatened with becoming a "cup of tea" venue. A series of meetings were held, the problem being of such a nature that it was suggested that members en masse were threatening to transfer their membership to clubs south of the border. Semi-trailers full of cans ran the blockade and the Club was saved. Ironically one's geography improved immeasurably. Perth was the capital of Swan; Adelaide of Suffolk; Hobart of Cascade; Melbourne of Fosters; Sydney of Tooheys. A member generously offered a dozen cans to be returned post strike. One was tried and the remainder returned as stale on account of age.

Very little has been written of the Armistice Day Fours introduced in the early sixties and continuity of this day under the amended name "Remembrance Day Fours". Service charities are the recipients of the profits of this day but fellowship is the main theme and year by year the last post is sounded and departed comrades remembered in silence. Col Saunders operates the bugle and Bunny Kerruish is our Regimental Sergeant Major. Bunny recites routine orders, such things as time for mess, orderly room, canteen and "short arm inspection". The ladies, year by year, seem aware of the meaning of the terms excepting the last one. The co-incidence is that the same ones ask year after year. Once again the ladies make for the success of the day by manning the other ranks kitchen. As with the Armistice Day fours the St Lucia Master Fours continues to play an important part of the Club's year and indeed part of the RQBA bowls calendar. Despite a reduction in the entries "The Masters" concept continues to be a pre-requisite condition of entry and play is of the highest standard. It has been stated by prominent bowlers, early in the history of this event, success influenced interstate selection. The first event was won by a four skipped by Ron Marshall and other successful skips have been Aub Martin, Shaffy Torbey (twice) Stew Shannon, Errol Stewart, Alan Schulte (twice) and Rob Parella. Keith Poole has been a member of a successful four and has had the misfortune of skipping four runner-up sides. 1980/81 saw Des Winton as President and membership numbers stood at 170 ordinary and 34 associate. Finance was discussed in much detail at the Annual Meeting and it was moved by a past treasurer that the annual subscription be increased to \$50.00. This was passed but later it was found that the motion was out of order as the mover himself was non-financial. Nevertheless it was deemed not necessary to correct same.

As a result of movement interstate the club was to lose two stalwarts in the persons of Len Podmore and Les Hood. As previously written Len was President in 1978. Les was treasurer for two years and an identity. Alcohol had the effect of changing his voice and diction from an Aussie to a pukka English gentleman. It also made him a better bowler and a man of many experiences. His presence is still missed by his many friends.

Tragedy again struck on 29th June when Bert Pearce collapsed and died on the green.

Possibly on account of the increased subscription the bar take was down \$1562 but again our ladies came to our assistance by increasing their donation by \$1000.

Again Clive White won the singles and also with Alan Schulte won the pairs

1981 saw the introduction of the tift dwarf green. Most members were reluctant to lose the beautiful couch green that had been the subject of many compliments over preceding years. Such was progress. In actual fact St. Lucia was only one of two clubs that retained couch for both greens and the decision for change was that problems were envisaged concerning pennant games and competition involving other clubs. Our treasurer at the time reported to the Annual Meeting "However this year I have to report on the acquisition of our major asset our new tift dwarf green. Whilst the actual cost of this was \$7794.00 the financial outlay to the club was reduced to \$2954 in consequence of selling the old grass at \$1835 and substantial donations from club members amounting to \$3005. Our thanks are due not only to those members who so generously contributed financially but also to those who gave time and labour to the creation of what promises to be a really high class green."

Naturally the cost of the new green influenced the financial result for the year. Despite a healthy bar profit of \$14539, increases in expenses placed the year's revenue account in the red to the extent of \$6850. Figures indeed could have been worse. On one occasion, Asst Treasurer Peter O'Donnell took the bank home and hid it in the woodheap for safety. Sad to relate Peter could not remember where he hid it. Being the man he was, he insisted on reimbursing the Club. Some days later the

bank was found and this was a cause for celebrations

Sad also to report the death of eight members including Foundation Member Jack Hearle and Past President Harry Hodge.

Club competitions were completed in near record time. The singles winners were 'A' Col Procopis; Runner up-Jack Rowell; 'B' President John Hunter Runner up - Don Knox ;'C' Les Cockburn; Runner-up - Brian Henzell.

It is interesting to note Col's previous success was 1974 and at the time of writing he and Jack are currently President and Senior Vice President of the Club. Don Knox, a better than average bowler and a good club man was runner-up three years consecutively and is still endeavouring to win the event In the 'C' singles semi final Les Cockburn came from behind to beat Sep Stewart and both duels were celebrated in the bar. It would appear that pots were going out of fashion until the crash came. Much remorse and new good intentions. In pennant play first division won their section but were subsequently defeated in the Finals and 5th Division brought honour to the Club winning the Fifth Division Pennant Max Rowe and Leigh Hawkins were to do the Club proud in being part of the team to reach the semi-final of the Australian Fours competition. After a very even game they were defeated.

1982/83 saw Vie Pearson in the Chair with the immediate exercise of converting our second green to tift dwarf. No doubt the experience of the previous year stood the club in good stead as very few problems were encountered and the net cost of the change over amounted to \$200. Not previously reported was the changeover from two to one greenkeeper and naturally this was reflected in the revenue account and the final result for the year. For some inexplicable reason bar sales were down \$5000. The final result for the year was a profit of \$1600.

The Club was saddened by the death of its Patron and Life Member Sir James Holt. Jim, a Foundation Member was a most popular member who loved his Club. Bowls were not his main strength as confirmed by his name not appearing on competition honour boards. Nevertheless his reminiscences were a joy to hear. A similar champion in the person of Doug Bingham was appointed his successor. It was during this year that the "Trash and Treasure Day" was introduced. Sponsored by the Ladies Club, one is still looking for the treasure but for the Club over \$2000 was raised. Problems were encountered when purchasers tested electrical appliances. Fusing of power points happened regularly until the edict was given "no testing". Vie was instrumental in introducing the Club Bulletin so popular today. Doug Bingham was the first editor followed by the writer and now Sir Theodore Bray. Another first was the weekend visit to Noosa Bowls arranged by our member and now Shire President Bert Wansley. Sad to relate the bus coming home had no toilet and nature had its way. An unscheduled stop was necessary, men to the left and ladies to the right. One lady was heard to remark "George, some of you men should be ashamed of yourselves as you did not reach the seclusion of the trees and exposed yourselves but "I was proud of ours". Club Championships resulted in Jack Rowell defeating State Champion Clive White for the 'A' Singles and Derrick Shew won both the 'B' and 'C' Singles. Alan Shuite and Clive White won the Club Pairs for the third time. A pleasing honour for the Club was the appointment of David Picking as President of the RQBA. Sep Stewart led the Club into the season 1983/1984 but sad to report, on 18th April 1984, Sep was called to his eternal reward after a very short illness. Sep's contribution up to the day of his demise was considerable and he was blessed with such a nature that he endeared himself both to the Council and all members of the Club.

Eight other members died during this year. Judge Viv Milne collapsed and died on the green whilst participating in the B Singles final.

Two Life Members and very close friends of each other, Patron Doug Bingham and Maurie Macdougall were to pass away within a short period of time and with the additional passing of Les Buchanan, Tom Keddie, Harold Neal, Len Tapsall and Jim Tait, it was indeed a sad year.

Nevertheless as in the opening of this section of the history, the greatest asset of the Club is "the Club spirit of its members" and this prevailed without seriously interrupting the social and competitive activities.

Income improved by \$4,000 but expenses increased by a similar amount. Much excitement was aroused by the purchase of a Ride-on mower and it would appear that the main rider even to this day is Syd Finter. Syd's contribution to the running of the Club has been magnificent

New score boards were donated by members and these were used to record the "A" Singles win of Brian Bennetts over Jack Rowell who had defeated Clive White in the semi final.

Alan Schulte and Clive White won the pairs for the fourth time. Clive has an exceptional record known to most. One must acknowledge Alan's is more varied. Prior to taking on bowls approximately 35 years ago, he was a leading athlete being five times broad jump champion, pentathlon and medley relay champion prior to again representing his State, this time in the field of hockey. Prior to joining St Lucia in 1973 he was a member of Auchenflower and Newmarket and won numerous championships and represented his State and in 1970, his country at the Edinburgh Empire Games It is nice to acknowledge Alan as a perfect gentleman and it is our pleasure to have him a member of St Lucia. One of Alan's proudest achievements is that he and Clive White won the State Pairs Championship three times. 1984 was not a good year for the fortunes of the Club or its officials. Led by John Trimmer bad weather affected club income, bar receipts being down \$9,000 and green fees approx \$2,000. A voluntary levy was imposed and this helped figures to the extent of \$980. Nevertheless a loss of \$7,500 resulted. Fortunately our bankers were very kind and the only effect was an increase in overdraft

It was during this year that a microwave oven was donated and pies and sauce were the popular choice for lunches. After a lapse of a year a "trash and treasure day was held very successfully. Apart from a succession of fused lights and appliances when enthusiastic customers tried out their electrical purchases all was well after the "buy as is" instruction was issued.

Col Procopis won his third singles title and the Master Fours was won by possibly the greatest side to enter this prestige event, Stan Coomber, Des Duller, Errol Stewart and Rob Parella. On the death of Doug Bingham our Patron and foundation member, Sir Charles Wanstall was made patron and he donated trophies for a Patrons Triples Competition. Council decided to run this event on the same basis as Presidents Fours and the initial winners were Jack Horsey, Mark Hoare and Jack Keane. These Club selected events are possibly the most popular of the competition year.

Again the ladies were of great assistance increasing their donation to \$6000. Their ever-ready help with providoring requirements continues and the hasD/ co-operation remains evident. Arthur Rogers and his Council were to inherit an overdraft of \$20,706 at the start of the year 1985/86 and to their credit this was reduced to \$7,603 by the end of our financial year. Net bar profit increased to \$1,0706 and green fees were up approx \$1,000. Fortunately the bad weather of the previous year was not again experienced and playing days returned to normal. In Arthur's Annual Report he states "In an effort to reduce unnecessary expenditure the Finance Committee recommended to Council in February this year that voluntary levy contributions be sought from members in lieu of interest free loans or debentures with the aim of substantially reducing interest being paid on the Clubs bank overdraft

This was endorsed by Council and members response by 31st March was such that there is every reason to expect the bank overdraft to be eliminated by the end of the next financial year."

When one considers bank overdraft interest for this year amounted to \$2,596 this was a magnificent exercise and all must congratulate Arthur in steering this exercise to such a satisfactory conclusion. Socially the Club "fired" this year. A Past Presidents day was held for the second time and this was hosted by eleven Past Presidents Many were the reminiscences and they became more exaggerated as the amber liquor took effect An appreciation day was held for our ladies This took the form of a luncheon followed by bowls and afternoon tea Again Reg Simes excelled with the provision of home made date scones

Possibly the most successful social function held for some years was the holding of a Cordon Bleu dinner. The two main courses were donated by a comparatively new member Ron Doolan and apart from bar profit the night was profitable to the extent of \$858.

Father Christmas was again a success Eighty six little children received presents from evergreen

Santa Syd Finter. Unfortunately joy was not continuous Five of our members passed away. Jack Thompson, Life Member and Past President, a veteran of Gallipoli died early in the year shortly followed by Past President Trevor Rowley. Cec Thiess, Bernie Langford and Bob Gregory all died after long illnesses

Norm and Helen Pratt both generous sponsors of Club events had an extensive tour of Europe this year. Norm offers very practical and sensible advice to prospective travellers He always takes seats at the rear of the plane as he states, he has never heard of an aircraft backing into a mountain.

Ken Townsend won his first singles for this Club, having won several titles at his former club Newmarket Jack Keane and Col Procopis were successful in the pairs and Eric Baker, Norm Pratt Brian Bennetts and Alan Schulte in the fours To finish a very successful year of office it was pleasing to see Arthur Rogers win the 'B' Singles.

For meritorious service long term Secretary and Past President Roy Richards was made a Life Member at the Annual Meeting where Col Procopis took over as President This was a very happy meeting. Much had been accomplished and the immediate future of the Club both financially and socially was most encouraging. New President Col did acknowledge he had been given a Council of which he had the utmost confidence. He made special reference to re-elected Secretary Roy Richards who was the solver of all problems. Sad to relate Roy died on 4th July, just thirty-five days after he was elected a Life Member. The number in attendance at his funeral service at Christ Church, St. Lucia, was certainly a tribute to his continuing service of thirteen years to his Club. Typical of the spirit previously mentioned Des Winton, President of 1980 and current Asst Secretary volunteered his services as Secretary and this was readily accepted by Council. Club competitions again received top priority and blessed with good weather were completed on time. Brian Bennetts repeated his success of 1983 defeating Chas Patterson in the final of the 'A' Singles. A very pleasing result was that of Sam Millar, Ken Hooper, Owen Jones and Jack Zafer winning the club fours. How often have we seen stacked sides entered but in this case, two comparatively new bowlers qualified to enter Masters competitions "B" and "C" Singles were won by Tony Goodman and Ray McNamara, both in their first year of competition and no doubt will be around to help the Club for many years to come.

Whilst dealing with the years competitions it is with much pleasure we record our team of super veterans (80 years minimum age) Reg Simes, Ted Bray, Herb Donnelly and Arthur Bligh reached and were narrowly defeated in the State final. It was rumoured that states of celibacy were imposed for some days before the final. One wonders what might have been the result if this decision had not been taken.

Under the baton of Nick Dyer the social committee was most active. Three very successful dinner socials were arranged during the year. A very popular introduction was Nick hosting the long table. At this table were placed the single couples and unattached guests and the order of the night was to move places after each course. This proved popular as was the singing very much influenced by the consumption of red wine. The promotions committee was again very active in promoting first Friday invitation triples. Sponsorship was good and play was of the highest standard. Invariably all rinks were occupied but on occasions St Lucia members were called upon to fill places left vacant by the odd late withdrawal. Again that good club spirit

All members could feel an air of confidence in the Club. A number of new members had been admitted and club attendance and revenue were good. Members were loyal to their promises to eliminate the bank overdraft and it was an historic moment when our treasurers, Arnold Rosenfeld and Don Morris (Cannon and Cripps) reported to Council that our finances were Out of the red. As this draft is a part history of the Club, it is now opportune to place on record recent end of financial year bank balances:

30th March 1985	Overdraft \$20,746.00
30th March 1986	Overdraft \$ 7,603.00
30th March 1987	Credit \$ 5,961.00

Another interesting facet is that expenditure for the same period had been contained from \$50,338 to \$58,027. Nevertheless any air of complacency was discouraged by worthy President Col and end of year figures proved really good reading.

Again a worthy and able President would not accept a second term and the "casting vote" was handed to Jack Rowell with former President Arthur Rogers undertaking secretarial duties During the course of the year Jack's wife, Vi succeeded Elva Grigg as Lady President and for the second time in the history of the Club a husband and wife occupied the positions of Presidents of the two Clubs concurrently. Again, it is well to recall the year of 1971 when Ron and Ruth Terry (now Ruth Baron) were the combination.

For the second year the Westbowl competition was held during the off season and again we were fortunate in retaining the trophy. Good results were achieved in Pennants, first division holding their position comfortably and third division winning their section but to be defeated for the flag by Redland.

At Club level Col Procopis won the 'A Singles for the fourth time and Ken B. Townsend and Ray Edmonds winning the minor singles competitions The ever popular Club selected Presidents fours were won by Lance Robertson, John Green, Lloyd Winton and Brian Bennetts.

The Clubs Master Fours celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a win for Ray Lusk of East Brisbane and his composite team. Again this event was kindly sponsored by Nick Dyer and his family company Sealy of Australia.

Much sadness was experienced by all members at the death after a comparatively short illness of Treasurer Arnold Rosenfeld. Arnold was in his twelfth year as "keeper of the books" and his personality and manner had endeared himself to all. His approach to the bar was "my tongue hangeth out, I suppose it is my shout". A big attendance of members at his funeral was ample evidence of the high regard all had for dear Arnold. His love for the Club was such that he left a liberal bequest to help with our finances and part of same has been used to present to members this history. John Focks and Ken Hooper, both of disc jockey fame were also called to their reward much to the distress of many.

On the brighter side it was good to see Owen Brooks rejoin the club and the following were welcomed as members: Harold Forbes, Wayne George, Peter Purkiss and Lloyd Tilbury.

A special meeting was called in December to elect David Picking and Pat Gooley Life Members and total membership for the year stood at 148.

Our good fortune in holding expenditure during the years 1984/1987 as previously recorded unfortunately did not continue into 1987/88. This latter period showed an increase of \$9000 mainly caused by improvements to green drainage and maintenance generally. Nevertheless a profit of \$307 resulted and a bank credit of \$3884 carried into the current year.

Prior to completing this segment of the history of the Club, comprising the period 1973 to 1987, the writer apologises that on account of limited journalistic ability he has not been able to cover all activities and personalities of the period. Many amusing incidents have been overlooked for instance the time our old friend Cyril Hunter was marking a singles game and a player asked him what was the position. Cyril replied that 'if you take this one out you will be three'. In the same year Len Hancock was made a member of the Liquor Trades Union and remained financial for a number of years. Len at the time was Provider for the Club and an active member of the Liberal Party and Chamber of Commerce.

The above little incidents are only two of hundreds such incidents that have occurred during the period under review.

The writer is reluctant to conclude this marathon as much enjoyment has been derived in searching old records and putting to paper many joys and recording the passing of good friends. Whilst financial matters form a very important function of a Club they are incidental to the true value. The essence of the Club is friendship whether it be found in our very comfortable clubhouse or on our magnificent greens and surrounds

Care must be taken that the values and traditions of the Club are preserved and passed on and that the benefits are just not accepted and taken for granted. The writer would be pleased to accept an offer to complete the fifty years history, ten years hence.

P. J. GOOLEY
ST. LUCIA
JUNE 1987

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB – FIRST COUNCIL



BACK ROW – F.B. Bolton, K.H. Henzell (Asst Hon Sec), D.F. Williams, R. Martin Wilson (Green Dir), F. Brittan
FRONT ROW – D.J. Bingham (Hon Treas), A. Allison (Senior Vice-Pres), Eric E. Faux (President), R. Lynch (Patron)
INSERTS – E.W. Ross, C.G. Wanstall (Vice-Pres), Dr. V.C. Byrne

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB – OFFICE BEARERS 1988-89



BACK ROW – Ray Edmonds, Don Morris, John Green, Kevin Byrne, Ray McNamara, Graham Kennedy
MIDDLE ROW – Wayne George, Pat Gooley, Ted Bray, Alan Schulte, Harry McKenzie, Ed Meyer
FRONT ROW – Jack Rowell, Len Hancock, Nick Dyer, Trevor Raven, Arthur Rogers

1988 - 1997

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

COUNCIL 1997-1998

PATRON

SIR THEODOR BRAY

PRESIDENT

J.F. COCKBURN

IMM. PAST PRESIDENT

V.A. LUCAS

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

J. HUNTER

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT

G. BAUMBER

HON. SECRETARY

R. SHEEHY

ASST. HON. SECRETARY

K. McPHEE

HON. TREASURER

N.K. DYER

ASST. HON. TREASURER

R.J. McNAMARA

COUNCILLORS

M. AMERENA, D. BROWN, C.M. KING,
F. LAUDARI, H. PERKINS

BDBA DELEGATE

J. ROWELL

GREENS DIRECTOR

R. SIMMONDS

PROVEDOR

B.A. WOOLCOCK

SELECTORS

D. BROWN, R. EDMONDS, C. MacLEOD

OTHER OFFICERS

HON. SOLICITOR
G. WALTERS

HON. AUDITOR
C. MacLEOD

CLUB COACH
D. WINTON

LIFE MEMBERS

J. BEDGOOD, N.K. DYER, H.W. PEARSON, D. PICKING, A. SCHULTE, D.
YOUNGBERRY

PRESIDENTS 1989 - 1997

1989 R.L. HANCOCK

1993 A. MORGAN

1990 R.L. HANCOCK

1994 C.M. KING

1991 R.J. McNAMARA

1995 B.A. WOOLCOCK

1992 R.F. DOOLAN

1996 V.A. LUCAS

1997 J.F. COCKBURN

1989-1990

The Club's Golden Jubilee celebration in October 1997 warrants completion of the history of the club's first fifty years. The first forty years is recorded by historians Frank Warham (1947-1972) and Pat Gooley (1973-1987). The latter implored members to preserve the values and traditions of the club and offered to complete the fifty years history. Alas Pat is no longer with us, so it is my task to record faithfully our progress over the fifth decade (1988-1997). There is no doubt that the values and traditions are still in evidence.

We were fortunate that the period under review commenced with the club in a healthy financial position. Responsible management has maintained this stable situation. This factor with a stable membership and many achievements on the green set the stage for another successful era in the club's history. The strong support of the Ladies Club has made a significant contribution to the club's success.

Nick Dyer replaced Jack Rowell as President in 1988-89 with Arthur Rogers as Honorary Secretary. The outstanding achievement was the first division win in the District Pennant. It was only the second such win in the club's history and occurred in the first year of the new Brisbane District Bowls Association presided over by St. Lucia life member David Picking. The cynics might say that the district flag is more easily achievable than the metropolitan, but the win is treasured and photographically recorded on the clubhouse wall. The win ushered in a period in which St. Lucia first division pennant teams earned much respect within the district.

It is worth recording that our first division team was in last place after the fifth round. A great team effort in the second stanza lifted St. Lucia into the final against undefeated Enoggera. We gained the lead early and were never headed with Alan Schulte's four having a big win, John Hunter also winning and Jack Rowell and Harry McKenzie being narrowly beaten. St. Lucia won by 12 shots (94-82). Naturally the club bar remained open longer than usual to allow the victors to celebrate on home ground and to display the pennant won for the club.

Also at district level, 1988-89 was a triumphant year for Jack Rowell with wins in district pairs (with Dick Stephenson), and fours (with Dick, Arthur Duffy and Brian Bennetts). Club Champion, Col Procopis was defeated in the champion of club champions final and lost in the district singles semi-final.

The 26th St. Lucia Masters Fours lived up to its reputation as one of the best conducted tournaments in the Brisbane region. Play throughout was of a very high standard with the final day's play being as good as might be seen anywhere. The winners were regular St. Lucia visitors -Jack Burke, Jim Humphries, Roy Dunn and George Twist.

Westbowl, a local competition between western suburbs clubs, was initiated in 1986 and won by St. Lucia in 1986 and 1987. However the trophy was surrendered to Corinda in 1988 with St. Lucia the runner-up. This competition aims to give average club players experience in competitive rinks and on different greens.

Col Procopis won the club champions badge for the second year in succession. Ray Edmonds, who won the "C" singles in 1987 took out the "B" singles final and a new bowler, Wayne George won the "C" singles in his first year. Col Procopis also won the pairs championship with Kev Byrne. Kev also was a member of the winning triples title with President Nick Dyer and Harry McKenzie. The 1987 champion Alan Schulte skipped the winning team in the fours championship once again with assistance from Norm Pratt, Eric Baker and Harry McKenzie.

The President's fours resulted in a win for Peter Newell, Clarrie Hervey. Ray McNamara and Brian Bennetts, whilst the Patron's triples saw President Nick with Wayne George and Ron Gough again in the winning circle.

District President David Picking presented Paul O'Sullivan with his Patriarch's badge, always a worthy occasion. Regrettably the club recorded the deaths of Alan Tait and George Rapson, the latter a past president and greens director whom oversaw the change from couch to tift dwarf greens in 1981-1982.

Council faced up to increasing costs of maintaining greens approaching 40 years of play. The southern ditch on the red green collapsed necessitating the expenditure of \$3690 in replacement costs. The Ladies Club contributed handsomely to this project and to the cost of replacing canvas shades on the red green. The ditch replacement was the first of a series of such expensive outlays over several years.

Socially the year was a great success. The BDBA President's At Home was held at St. Lucia in November. The inaugural Melbourne Cup dinner and race meeting was a great success and was to become a regular event on the social calendar. The annual Christmas tree featured Santa's descent on to the green by parachute and was well attended by St. Lucia families with an increasing proportion of grandchildren. The club's history of the first forty years was released at a function in April to which foundation members were invited.

It is always interesting to compare prices over time, in this case, prices in 1988-89 with those of today. The annual membership subscription was \$70 (now \$90), green fees \$3.00 (\$5.00), a pot of beer \$1.15 (\$1.70) and a nip of scotch \$1.25 (\$2.20).

1989-1990

Len Hancock was installed as President at the 1989 AGM, beginning a two year term with Arthur Rogers, still a power behind the throne, as Honorary Secretary. Over this two year period, membership remained stable despite the deaths of 14 members and three associates. Of particular note were the deaths of John Nosworthy, a foundation member, past president and former club champion on two occasions and Pat Gooley, a past president, long term provedore, councillor and life member. It was also a period of financial stability under the stewardship of Colin MacLeod and Nick Dyer. Once again the Ladies club contributed generously and substantially to the club finances.

St. Lucia again reached the final of first division pennant only to be defeated on three rinks (83-108) by Enoggera. This reversed the result from the previous year. Toowong and St. Lucia finished equal first in Westbowl with the latter declared winners with a much higher margin of shots. Again lower division St. Lucia players were given the opportunity to gain valuable experience with and against better players.

At district level, St. Lucia again achieved considerable success. John Hunter skipped the winning team in the BDBA fours title. He had John Green, Nick Dyer and Eric Baker with him. In the triples, Alan Schulte with Dick Stephenson and Guilio Campobassi won impressively. David Picking and Nick Dyer lost narrowly to George and Jeff Twist of Bardon in the pairs final.

The 27th Masters Fours was again successful and on this occasion a composite team skipped by Jack Rowel 1 took out the title. Jack had Max Rowe, Eric Maidens and George McCombe with him. Much praise of the St. Lucia greens from visiting players pleased greens director Ray Edmonds.

Tony Goodman, who won the "B" singles title in his first year of bowls, in his fourth year defeated Guilio Campobassi to win the 1989 club championship. Wayne George won the "B" singles in his second year and Colin MacLeod triumphed in the "C" singles.

The 1989 rink champions were Jack Zafer, Fred Higginbotham, Norm Pratt and Ian Blake. Ray McNamara played sub for Ian in the final. The club triples provided another win for Jack Rowell with Arthur Duffy and Wayne George in support. The pairs resulted in a win for Nick Dyer and Col Procopis. The President's fours final was won by Graham Kennedy, Ron Doolan, Ray McNamara and Col Procopis. Norm Pratt skipped the winning team in the Patron's triples with Len Hancock and Ron Doolan.

Spurred on by Eric Brown the club conducted a successful open veteran's day and a club veteran's competition. A yuppies versus veterans match resulted in most of the sponsors product going to the younger brigade.

Much controversy rages over the correct positioning of the Australian and club flags. The advice of an expert vexilologist resulted in a change in the position of the two flags. The advice was that the flag on the gaff has the position of honour which must go to the national flag. The uninformed still

question this advice. Talking of flags and flagpoles, the St. Lucia mast created problems and some excitement when it collapsed while being repainted. It was subsequently renewed with much advice and generous assistance from master mariner Ron Doolan.

On the social scene, the usual Christmas tree was a great success. A "Casino dinner" was well attended and well catered thanks to Ron Doolan. Auctioneer Nick Dyer coerced members and guests into bidding for many items gifted by members. Bidding was accompanied by boos, cheers and much laughter.

Green fees were raised by 50 cents to \$3.50 on 1-11-1989. This helped improve revenue after rain had washed out several playing days earlier in the year. Brisbane West rotary club raised in excess of \$7,000 at their annual charity day at St. Lucia. This annual event has now been held for over 30 years and is well supported by St. Lucia members and the club.

1990-1991

The 1990 AGM elected past President, life member and long serving greens director Jack Bedgood as Patron replacing Sir Charles Wanstall in that office. Len Hancock retained the Presidency with Arthur Rogers again Honorary Secretary. At that meeting the vexed question of the exclusivity of the "Masters" title was again raised with the suggestion that in all club competition rinks, teams be required to contain one non-master player in order to increase the number of masters in the club. Little has changed since this plea was made more than seven years ago.

In the RQBA singles. Col Procopis won his way to the last 16 but was eliminated by a most unusual ruling by the umpire. Col's opponent led after 16 ends when the match was interrupted by darkness. The match could have and should have been continued the next morning. In the State fours Giulio Campobassi's team reached the semi-final.

In the BDBA titles, Alan Schulte skipped the winning triples team for the second year running. On this occasion he teamed with Dick Stephenson and Giulio Campobassi. In the BDBA team to play the Gold Coast, St. Lucia had six players with Alan Schulte as manager.

The 1990 Masters Fours were probably the best ever with strong support, 64 teams, 6 internationals, 26 interstate players and excellent greens. It was, however full of controversy as the team which won the final was disqualified for playing a substitute when the substituted player played elsewhere on the day. Neil Spiller's four comprising Peter Wright, Bob Baird and Alan Schulte were declared the winners.

Toowong won the Westbowl competition. It was decided to reduce the number of rinks from eight to six in 1991 and to play the competition over a shorter period prior to the BDBA pennant season which was to be charged from late summer to spring.

Col Procopis defeated Jack Rowell to win the title of Club Champion once again. In the rinks title, Alan Schulte skipped Tony Goodman, Giulio Campobassi and David Picking to defeat John Hunter, Eric Baker, Nick Dyer and Ray Edmonds in the final. Alan also skipped Tony and Giulio to win the triples. Arthur Duffy and Jack Rowell spoiled the trifecta by taking out the club pairs final. Jack Johnson won the "ET singles and Allan Morgan the "C" title.

The President's fours and Patron's triples are important club events which provide opportunities for average club players to mix it competitively with top graders. Peter Bolton, a keen bowler with limited sight, always managed to amaze colleagues within the club and beyond with his uncanny accuracy as a lead once he had sighted the jack with his eyepiece. He led for Brian Bennetts, Des Winton and Col Woods in winning the 1990 President's fours. Ralph Sheehy led for Ian Watson and Jack Rowell, winners of the Patron's triples that year.

For the second year the yuppies left the veterans in their wake. Ian Blake and Tony Goodman in a Wednesday game overwhelmed their anonymous opponents 39-0. Is this some sort of record in a match of one hour 45 minutes? One wonders what happened!

Arthur Rogers was elected a life member and Clarrie Hervey received his Patriarch's badge.

Clarrie had been a top player and still showed glimpses of a glorious past. He was ever ready to pass on advice to both new and experienced players, encouraging them to try his inside-out drive delivered against the bias. Incorporation was still a contentious issue but those in favour were to reign supreme after some three years of debate. Definite steps were made to incorporate the club and so limit the liability of members.

The Ladies club celebrated its 40th anniversary on 9-10-1990 with a well attended party, mixed bowls and high tea. The ladies were thanked at a special mixed bowls day when the ladies were club guests. The Ladies Club is an integral part of St. Lucia bowls and their most generous help and financial assistance is always appreciated.

Three social events were well attended and greatly enjoyed by members and their guests. Junior Vice Ron Doolan, Allan Morgan and Nick Dyer were largely responsible for their successes.

This unusual complaint reached Council. A lady bowler fell off a chair "owing to one leg being at variance with the other three". Council directed that the House Committee ensure that the legs of chairs be all in step!

Inflation being a part of life, the club subscription was raised \$5 at the 1990 AGM and was again to rise by the same amount a year later.

1991-92

Ray McNamara presided over a triumphant year for St. Lucia with a win in the 1991 BDBA first division pennant, wins by St. Lucia teams in the District rinks and triples and another Westbowl win.

District pennants were played for the first time in the drier part of the year to minimise wash-outs. St. Lucia defeated Enoggera to whom they lost the final in 1990. They won on three rinks 104-85 with rinks skipped by Guilio Campobassi, Harry McKenzie and Jack Rowell winning and Kev Byrne going down narrowly.

In the District rinks, a St. Lucia four skipped by Vie Warner with Roger Simmonds, John Dale and Pat Campbell took out the title. Four St. Lucia pairs made it to the semi-finals, the skips being John Hunter, Des De Nino, Doug Brown and Guilio Campobassi. Doug Brown skipped the winning BDBA triples team with Ray Arrowsmith and Ian Blake.

Keith Poole, always a welcome visitor to St. Lucia Masters Fours, nominated the winning four. It was his second win, this time defeating Guilio Campobassi's four in an entertaining match.

Pat Campbell, one of the club's younger players, revealed all his attributes as a draw bowler in winning the club singles final to become the 1991 Club Champion. Col Procopis, six times Club Champion, playing with Tony Goodman won the club pairs in a cliff-hanger against John Dale and Kev Byrne. Alan Schulte again featured in the winning club fours team skipped by Guilio Campobassi with support from Tony Goodman and David Picking. The triples resulted in a win for Harry McKenzie, Pat Campbell and Steve Woods. John Dale won the 1991 "B" singles and Arthur Marjason the "C" singles.

The 1991 President's fours final was to quote the St. Lucia News editor "quite an occasion; not quite a World Cup football final; not quite a state of origin orgiastic carnival; but really something special befitting the importance of this event on the club calendar". Luncheon for the players and wives hosted by the President, photographs by Reg Symes and finally the final watched by the wives. Ray Edmonds, Arthur Rogers, Allan Morgan and Peter Bolton prevailed over Nick Dyer, John Green, Clarrie Hervey and Alex Nason. The Patron's triples final was won by Jack Zafer, Allan Morgan and Arthur Marjason.

The sponsored Friday triples is a significant event held on the first Friday on each month when both greens are available, normally 10 or 11 months of the year. Friday triples attracts up to 28 teams playing two games with winners decided on wins and margins. The October 1991 triples was named after the late Pat Gooley. These games are an Arthur Roger's initiative and they continue today under the baton of Len Hancock.

Following replacement of one red green ditch, which collapsed in 1989, it became necessary to replace three more ditches at a cost of \$ 13200. Club Patron, Jack Bedgood, made a most generous donation enabling the club to proceed with this essential work.

Alan Schulte was elected a life member in recognition of his magnificent contribution to the game of bowls and to the club as a player and mentor rather than as an administrator. He is largely responsible for the success of St. Lucia on the district greens.

Coloured clothing had, at this time, become a feature of the game of bowls especially amongst top professionals. BDBA approved light blue as the official colour for St. Lucia but good sense prevailed when Council decided to remain all white with light blue in reverse should we ever decide to adorn our white or cream shirts.

After two years with too many obituaries, only two were recorded. These included Tom Pulsford who had won the Metropolitan fours in 1966 with another club stalwart Len Podmore.

The first meeting of the St. Lucia Bowling Club Inc was held on Wednesday October 23rd 1991. It had been incorporated on 30th September and was confirmed by a Special General Meeting on 7-12-1991.

Socially, it was another successful year with a Polynesian night, the usual Melbourne Cup night, the Christmas party and the All Stars concert. All were well attended, most enjoyable and entertaining and provided handsome profits.

1992-1993

At the first Annual General Meeting of the newly Incorporated Club, members elected Ron Doolan as President and Jack Rowell once again as Honorary Secretary.

Ron's presidency was a year of progress but was almost outshone by Guilio Campobassi's achievements. Guilio defeated Jack Rowell to become the 1992 Club champion. Guilio's four was undefeated in the District first division pennant in which St. Lucia won its section but could not repeat it's result in 1991, losing to Enoggera in the final. Guilio's team of Graham Shillington, Paul Jackson and Steve Glasson won the St. Lucia Master Fours. He reached the last eight in the Gold Coast singles and was runner-up in the BDBA fours title. To add to his achievements, Guilio was the talented chef responsible for the meal served at the Music Hall and Melodrama function, the final event on the social programme.

At District level, St. Lucia had four teams in the last eight of the fours. Brian Bennetts lost to the eventual winner who defeated Guilio in a close fought final. David Harman was runner-up to Jeff Twist in the singles, an achievement by any standard.

The club competitions proceeded well with all finals decided on time. The Club fours was won by Doug Brown, Rau Arrowsmith, Jack Keane and Ian Blake; the triples by Harry McKenzie, Nick Dyer and Pat Campbell and the pairs by Des De Nino and Ed Frazer. The "B" and "C" singles were won by Des Winton and Bryan Woolcock respectively. The President's fours resulted in another win by Alan Schulte, on this occasion with Geoff Gargett, Alan Hope and Max Rowe. Jack Rowell skipped the winning team in the Patron's triples with great support from Tony Grano and Colin MacLeod.

Eric Brown organised another Veteran's triples championship but his own team lost in the final to that of Arthur Duffy who had Sam Millar and David Picking with him. It was another great year for Life Member David, Patron of the BDBA, and elected a Life Member of the RQBA. David joined St. Lucia in 1956, was club Champion in 1961 and had won numerous other club events. He was President in 1977, President of the RQBA in 1983 and inaugural President of the BDBA. These are just a few highlights of the career of St. Lucia's "Mr. Bowls".

St. Lucia has played host to a number of social clubs over the years. The RE1Q bowlers visited on 10-12-1992 resulting in a full 16 rinks being used. They are often accompanied by the lawyers and insurance agents.

Selectors are a much maligned group in any club. They seldom receive any plaudits and no doubt would appreciate the ode to all selectors about the selector who reached at the pearly gates. St. Peter tolled the bell and said "come in and take a harp, you've had enough of hell".

President Ron commenced a programme of up-dating the club kitchen and the original club house, now machinery shed. The latter was re-roofed, re-stumped and, with Ron's generosity, eventually the walls clad. The shed is now an asset instead of a leaking liability.

At this time poker machines - to be or not to be - was a lively topic within the club. In fact, few members favoured their introduction, the vast majority wanting to preserve St. Lucia as a club for bowlers. The subject died on the vine and was never put to a vote.

Dad's army lost more of its regulars but the purchase of a new rider-mower and whipper-snipper assisted in maintaining the surrounds in first class order.

Ray White, Toowong sponsored a set of new non-slip mats and mat and jack holder. These remain a great asset and have proven a great benefit to bowlers.

At Ed Frazer's suggestion, the club organised a well-attended advanced bowlers seminar which featured the skills and strategies of good bowling as well as the psychology behind successful achievement.

Who was the well known Super-vet who was breathalysed at 5.30 am whilst driving his bowler wife to the Trash and Treasure? It might have had a less pleasant result if the test had been 11 hours earlier. Then there was the prominent member who carefully arranged a lift home only to discover he had left his vehicle parked at the club. He had commented to his chauffeur "I wonder whose car that is" on the way out of the club parking area.

The club lost some nine bowling members during 1992-93 but only one by death, namely Clem Bate.

Col King and Wayne George used their combined talents to effect a much needed up-grade of the club's PA system. New liquor licensing legislation provided for a less restrictive club license which permitted take-away sales and more generous trading hours without the need to obtain permits to remain open to midnight for social functions.

Members were amazed to see a hole in the Keith Street fence and hedge, seats, scoreboards and shades scattered. We have become used to minor vandalism on the greens but this was something different. A student managed to drive his father's car onto the edge of the Red green. Fortunately the parent made good the damage.

1993-1994

Allan Morgan assumed the role of President at the second AGM of the incorporated club, with Ralph Sheehy commencing a long stint as Honorary Secretary.

The club lost one of its outstanding members in Arthur Rogers, OBE during the year. Arthur was a life member, master bowler, President in 1985, Hon. Secretary, selector, special games director and initiator of the sponsored Friday triples. His counsel, knowledge of bowls matters and his abilities as an organiser are still missed. Almost single-handedly he revived the club's ailing finances during the mid 1980's, establishing a sound base for the period under review and beyond.

Other deaths recorded were Dick Hampson and Geoff Gargett.

In his 1982 Presidency, Vie Pearson commenced the Club News bulletin much valued by members. Early in its life Club News passed from amateur into the professional editorial hands of Ted Bray. This worthy vehicle for club news, results, coaching and umpiring tips and bar room gossip reached the milestone of no. 100 issue and it still appears approximately monthly.

The 1993 Masters fours was again a great success despite some interference from rain. Sixty four teams, a full field, fought out the sectional play. Amongst many close and interesting post section

games, Jim See's four (including Tony Goodman) defeated John Parella in an extra end - a real cliff hanger! However See came up against a good team skipped by Rob Parella in the final. Rob had Barry Bullock, John King and Robbie Robbins with him and revealed all his skills in winning the title.

Once again our St. Lucia ladies excelled with their talents in providing meals and teas for the players over five days. Max Hemming with his culinary skills arranged the menus and organised catering supplies. No tournament of this size is successful without a lot of effort behind the scenes by the organising committee members and by others such as Eric Brown and Bob Murray.

St. Lucia again won Westbowl, making it five wins out of eight years of competition. Regrettably the club could not repeat its triumph of the previous year in the first division pennant. In 1993 it succumbed to old rival Enoggera. The lower division teams - second and fifth performed with credit despite having to supply reserve players up to top division. One fifth division pennant four comprised members with a total age of 330 years! The lead was 84, second 88, third 82 and the skip a lad of

After 24 ends they led by one shot but lost two on the last end!

On the club scene, Brian Bennetts triumphed to become 1993 club champion. Tony Goodman, Alan Schulte and Guilio Campobassi won the club triples and with David Harman the fours championship. Doug Brown and Eric Baker won the pairs. The B singles was won by Colin Macleod and the C by John Border. In the Patron's triples Mark Hoare, Colin Macleod and Ray Edmonds defeated the three Arthurs - Marjason, Duffy and Bligh in the final. One notable result in the first round of the 1994 club triples was the defeat of the 1993 champions, 19-17 by Peter Bolton, Ralph Sheehy and Ray McNamara.

The Keith Street ditches were replaced at a cost of \$8,000 and both greens were laser levelled, a more acceptable result than by the wire method. The club kitchen is now subject to registration and annual inspection under health legislation administered by the City Council. Luckily we passed muster with a minimum of cost. The club was obliged to purchase standard glasses and electronic spirit dispensers to meet new requirements of liquor licensing laws. A new cash register was purchased.

Fred Higginbotham, a first division bowler noted for his driving, returned to the club after several years away from Brisbane. Lance Robertson and Ralph Sheehy received their national umpire badges joining many other club members who have served well in this capacity including Arthur Duffy, John Hunter, Jack Horsey, Ron Gough, Ray Edmonds, Noel Capp and more recently, Kevin McPhee.

Ray McNamara had initiated visitors or founders day for former and older non-playing members in his presidential year and has carried this on usually coinciding with Armistice Day. Former Patrons Sir Charles Wanstall and Jack Bedgood are regular attendees.

1994-1995

Membership had declined during 1992 and 1993 when Colin King took the reins as President at the 1994 AGM. Col set out to recruit new members establishing an active recruitment committee which is still active under his leadership and has been most successful. As at the 31st of March 1997 our membership had been significantly increased and since that date several new members have been admitted. One notable recruit was John Cockburn, President in our Jubilee year, a son of late long time member Les Cockburn.

Once again Enoggera proved St. Lucia's nemesis in the BDBA first division pennant. We took some consolation in the round robin finals involving the top two teams in the two sections. BDBA always manages to make unpredictable changes in the pennant format. Westbowl was won by Indooroopilly being decided by the close result in the final game when St. Lucia lost to the ultimate winner 3 rinks all, 116 shots to 110. St. Lucia teams involved 64 players in the five games.

John Hunter became champion of the club defeating the 1989 champion 25-24 in an excellent final described by Max Rowe as better than Jack High. This result meant that the title had changed every year since 1988. John, a Past President (1981), is currently Senior Vice President and an

excellent club man.

The 1994 fours championship was again won by the Campobassi -Schulte combination, this time with Pat Campbell and David Harman. They represent a formidable team which could hold its own in any company. As noted earlier, Alan and Guilio were knocked out of the triples in the first round. Doug Brown, Ray Arrowsmith and Jack Keane won the final. That giant killer Ray McNamara repeated his great win over Guilio Campobassi by knocking out Jack Rowell's team in the same event. The club pairs title was won by Alan Schulte and Guilio Campobassi. Kevin McPhee, a recent recruit to the game, showed his potential by winning the B singles while Jim Dimitriou took out the C singles. Spy-glass bowler Peter Bolton featured in both B and C singles semi-finals. Regrettably the 1994 Presidents Fours and Patrons Triples had to be cancelled.

The 32nd St. Lucia Master Fours involved 56 teams in the three days sectional play. Gil White at 89 years of age played again, having played in every St. Lucia Masters. Ted Bray, two months older than Gil, played as a substitute in the youthful Peter Leon's team and gave an excellent account of himself. He was some years older than the combined ages of his three Team mates! A feature of this Masters was the entry of Barry Guthrie of Ferny Grove and his three sons. They reached the final but were beaten by Doug Brown's team of Jack Keane, Ray Arrowsmith and Robbie Thompson.

Several St. Lucia members and ladies participated in the World Masters Games. In fact, the Club was one of several host clubs. John Dale and Elaine Latta and Evon Robertson, a regular visitor, won bronze medals. A bowling workshop for new and improving bowlers was held with the aims of improving skills and competitiveness. It was well supported.

Late in the 1994 winter, concern was expressed at the state of the St. Lucia greens. A greens committee was established and professional assistance sought to develop an annual programme of maintenance. Soils analysis revealed an accumulation of fine soil particles and a poor growing environment in the root zone. The new programme of regular drilling and top dressing with coarse sand mixtures was facilitated by the purchase of a new 10 drill machine. By the autumn of 1995 the greens had improved to the extent that they were rated by the BDBA greens committee as very good and good. The additional drilling requirement placed a burden on volunteers who responded enthusiastically to the Greens Director's call for assistance.

Arthur Marjason, convenor of the disk jockeys panel, was obliged to make repeated calls for volunteers for this unrewarding but important task. He had lost several jockeys to higher office or to their higher reward. Fortunately he received a good response and good order was restored.

Further improvements were made to the kitchen with mains gas installed for a new gas oven and a four burner cook top. The ladies provided new fly screens and assisted with the purchase of a new refrigerator. In the cold room the club incurred the expense of a new-fan motor on the evaporator.

President Col King undertook a project to publish a Club handbook and diary. This was most appreciated by members and the handbook has been repeated each year since.

Apart from the usual social evenings, all very successful, Tony Grano exercised his fertile mind on ways and means of raising funds for the club. He arranged in conjunction with the ladies the first of his garden parties held at his home and beautiful garden situated on the river bank at St. Lucia.

Arthur Rogers' contribution to the club was commemorated at the last Friday triples for the year. It was sponsored by Gwentyth Rogers and her family and has remained on the St. Lucia calendar since.

Once again the list of members departed was too long and included Brian Freemantle, Clarrie Hervey, Ian Blake, Jack Gibson and Sheldon Gilmore.

1995-1996

One of new President Bryan Woolcock's first duties was to receive from the Ladies club a cheque for \$5,000 with appropriate words of appreciation of their support. The AGM had agreed to an increase in the annual subscription to \$90, including the BDBA and RQBA affiliation dues.

Tony Goodman, 1995 champion, further enhanced the club's standing at district level by winning the Champion of Club Champions. Tony had defeated Guilio Campobassi in a close fought final to win the club title.

The club fielded four pennant teams, a somewhat ambitious attempt to give all regular bowlers experience at the competitive two bowl game. First division finished second in their section after dropping critical games late in the season. The second division side was frustrated by two one-point losses to Windsor and finished fifth. Despite increased sponsorship for the 33rd Masters Fours, only 54 teams competed for the 16 knockout places. However the standard was as good as ever with the youthful Paul Jackson's four defeating Jeff Twist in a thrilling final. Once again the event was well organised and run and drew much praise from participants.

The QLBA organised a short night mixed bowls competition. St. Lucia was represented by one team of 12 players with Auchenflower as our home club. Our third placing in the event encouraged a repeat entry in the following year but again had inconsistent results. Once again St Lucia was second in the Westbowl competition, this time to Corinda. More than 60 St. Lucia players participated in this event.

Two new masters emerged as a result of a great win in the 1995 club fours by a team skipped by Ray Edmonds with Col MacLeod, Michael Harman and Mark Smallbane. They defeated Nick Dyer's team in the final. The triples title went to Wayne George, Alan Schulte and Guilio Campobassi and the pairs to Arthur Duffy and Jack Rowell.

Frank Laudari showed his skills in winning the B singles and Alan Hope took out the C event. After no competition in 1994 it was pleasing to see the President's fours re-instated. The final was won by Bob Apelt, Max Hemming, Doug Youngberry and Doug Brown. John Hunter's team of George Frost and John Cockburn won the Patron's triples. Both finals were closely contested with the result determined by the last bowl played.

Novel competitions to enliven social bowls days are always welcomed by players. A State of Origin game with Queensland v The Rest was evenly contested with rinks even but a small margin of shots in favour of the Southerners.

A need to revamp greenside mesh wire seats was recognised and donations sought from members and ladies. Their most generous support enabled the project to proceed without cost to the club, the renovations being undertaken by a hard-working group of volunteers led by Col King. Col also designed and erected a weather vane featuring a bowler in action to assist judging wind direction during play.

Apart from Tony Grano's Garden Party, the social programme comprised four successful evenings of dining, wining and good entertainment. Allan Morgan, with assistance from John Cockburn again organised these events with his customary flair and efficiency. Due to the culinary efforts of Max Hemming with willing help from our ladies the club coffers gained substantially as a result.

How often does a club celebrate the awarding of Patriarch badges to two of its most esteemed playing members in one year? Arthur Bligh and Ted Bray reached this venerable age as active bowlers and great club men. While Arthur's health has since deteriorated, Ted remains active and still capable of out-leading many opponents.

Colin King, recognising the approaching Golden Jubilee year, formed the Past Presidents Chapter to advise Council on the Jubilee celebrations and other issues of importance to the welfare of the club and its members. The Chapter with Col in the chair and Jack Rowel 1 as secretary has been a helpful adjunct to the Council in the planning of the Jubilee.

Max Hemming in conjunction with his friend Keith Poole arranged a visit to West Caloundra which has led to bi-annual contests between the two clubs on a home and away basis. The clubs play for a shield which has spent more time in West Caloundra hands than at St. Lucia. The games are seriously contested but are much enjoyed by all participants.

Jackpot pairs, commenced as a mixed event on a Sunday was moved to coincide with twilight mixed triples on the second Thursday of each month and has been popular since that change. An Exhibition holiday carnival sponsored by Henderson Charlton, stockbrokers, was won by Ted Bray, Gwenyth Rogers, Bryan Woolcock and Derek Shew. The Brisbane West Rotary day was again a great success. Roger Simmonds as Games Director obtained Council approval to commence club competitions as soon as possible after the AGM with the objective of completing all events within the club year. The 1996 competitions were in fact completed before the 1996 AGM due to Roger's great organisation and enthusiasm.

The club recorded the deaths of three stalwarts in Peter Bolton, Jack Johnston and Graham Kennedy.

1996-1997

Sir Theodor Bray was elected Patron of the club at the 1996 AGM replacing Jack Bedgood who stood down due to indifferent health. Jack was a great contributor to the club's progress over many years as a Past President, Games Director, Life Member and benefactor. Ted Bray has been a councillor for many years and editor of the club's St. Lucia News. Val Lucas took over the reins as 1996 President with Ralph Sheehy again as Honorary Secretary.

The 33rd St Lucia Masters Fours, due to be held in 1996, lapsed for want of a major sponsor. Instead a Champagne Fours was held in early September with a number of generous rink sponsors. This event involved two days each of two games with winners decided on wins and margins. It attracted a good field and was won by an experienced four skipped by Jeff Twist supported by Peter Leon Snr. and Jnr. and Barry Riordan. Runners -up were Tony Goodman of St. Lucia with Irvine Campbell, Ken Evans and Mick Walker of Cementco. Round winners were skipped by Doug Brown, Stan Pink. Des DeNino and Walter Cooper. Doug had Pat Campbell, Warren Garnham and Bill Fraser with him. Des DeNino, Kev McPhee, Bryan Woolcock and Frank Laudari had a third round triumph over a more fancied team skipped by Guilio Campobassi.

St. Lucia again ran second in their section of the first division pennant and will therefore retain their place in the 1997 revamped first division competition. Second division finished in the middle of the field and will play in the 1997 third division. They distinguished themselves by having a big win over the pennant winners playing away.

In the District Singles final Guilio Campobassi defeated Jeff Twist. Pat Campbell was selected in the State development squad and State trials versus NSW but was not selected in the district side. He went on to win the 1997 Brisbane District singles title and the Brisbane Bus Lines Silver Cup which is currently being displayed at St. Lucia for the second successive year. Pat defeated three top players to win the title.

Brisbane District initiated a Club Achievement Award in 1996 which recognised recruitment and representation at BDBA events. The inaugural award was won by St. Lucia. Our successful recruitment of new members was a major factor in this win.

Peter Oriszenko, who had been a contender for some years, finally achieved his ambition to win the club championship by beating Frank Laudari in the final. Peter went close to winning the District Champion of Champions, losing narrowly in the final. Col (CJ) Woods won the B final and Mike Amerena the C singles.

Doug Brown, Brian Bennetts, Eric Baker and Jack Keane defeated Nick Dyer's team in the club fours. David Harman, Ray Arrowsmith and George Bourne prevailed in the triples and Brian Bennetts and Ray Arrowsmith won the 1996 pairs title.

The 1996 President's fours winners were Eric Baker, Col MacLeod, Jim Johnstone and Jim Dixon. They defeated Wayne George, Arthur Duffy, Tom Passlow and Neville Nixon 27-26 by scoring two shots on the 25th end. The Patron's Triples was also tightly contested with the winners John Hunter, Graham Baumber and Michael O'Higgins -securing the title on the last end. The losers were Roger Simmonds, George Alien and Alan Hope. A St. Lucia side, Alan Schulte, Max Rowe, David Picking and Ron Gough won the BDBA veterans fours title.

St. Lucia participated in the Rediscovery Australia national mixed pairs tournament in which Jack and Vi Rowell went forward to represent us at district level. Other events included the Juniors versus the Seniors, return visits between West Caloundra and St. Lucia, with each winning at home, and the establishment of a Cock o' the Walk. Queensland won the Queensland versus the Rest series 2:1. St. Lucia once again won the Westbowl Trophy.

New scoreboards were purchased to replace several beyond repair. A new greens mower costing \$5,000 was purchased. An application in the previous year for assistance from the State Gaming Fund to erect shades on the northern and southern ends of the greens was not successful. Members responded well to an appeal for donations enabling the club to proceed with this improvement. At the same time the shades on the eastern and western ditches were renovated.

Greens Director Bob Colbran set about clearing the unsightly dump on the northern edge of the property and instituted a commercial cleansing contract. Bryan Woolcock constructed a turf nursery for replacement tift dwarf turf. For ten years the club held a contract with a maintenance firm to maintain the paint work of the clubhouse in good order. It was not renewed at the end of the contract period. The club will engage contractors for external cleaning and painting as necessary. Other council regulations necessitated an expenditure of \$1,500 to install a non-return valve on the club water supply to prevent flow back of chemicals into the town supply. A replacement power board was installed at a cost of over \$2,000 to overcome problems with overload and move to a cheaper tariff.

The Club noted with regret the death of John Border and members and ladies were saddened by the death of Barbara Wood, a great club stalwart.

1997-1998

John Cockburn has assumed responsibility as 1997 President for the golden jubilee year. The jubilee celebrations will centre on the last week in October and will include the release of this history, ladies events, the 1997 champagne fours over two days, mixed events and a formal celebration on foundation day, October 31st.

The 1997 AGM elected three new life members, Nick Dyer, Vie Pearson and Doug Youngberry, Nick is a Past President, a long serving Treasurer and a great club supporter. Vie Pearson is also a Past President, has organised the Wednesday pairs for many years and is a most obliging volunteer behind the bar. Doug, who received his super veteran's badge in 1996, is the only foundation member still playing bowls and has been a member of "Dads' Army" for many years and a willing volunteer for any maintenance work required around the clubhouse since he helped with the construction of our first green fifty years ago.

The 1997 club competitions were virtually completed by the time of the AGM. Guilio Campobassi won the open singles to become club champion for the second time. On this occasion he defeated Des in the final. Guilio went on to win the District Champion of Club Champions Singles title.

Alan Schulte and Guilio won the Club pairs and went on to take out the District Champion of Club Pairs Champion title. Doug Brown skipped the winning triples team to defeat Des DeNino's side. Doug had Tony Goodman and Brian Bennetts with him and Michael Harman and John Hunter made up the losing side. A new competition this year, a novice singles, was keenly contested by new players. Doug Phipps defeated Cec Martin in the final. Both are keen and show promise of a bright future in the game. It is significant that this new event was only possible as a result of our on-going recruiting drive for new members. Corinda won the 1997 Westbowl with St. Lucia in second place.

The club members regretted the death of Past President Col Woods, a great supporter over many years.

The St. Lucia Bowling Club future depends on the number of members and ladies who play on a regular basis. Green fees are our major source of income in these days of restricted bar trade profits. As mentioned in this history update, our recruitment programme over recent years has been eminently successful due to Col King and his committee. The programme must be maintained for St. Lucia to avoid following in the fateful footsteps of many inner city clubs. Your present author offers a challenge to all members to play an active part in recruiting friends and acquaintances in support of

the recruiting committee now and in the future.

The late Pat Gooley challenged us to maintain our values and traditions during the decade under review. He can be re-assured that if anything, the great spirit and friendliness within the club has been enhanced over this period. New members are made most welcome, they receive excellent coaching and are given the opportunity to hone their skills against experienced players. Club Coach Des Winton has given generously of his time in introducing the many new recruits to the game of bowls.

Perhaps the best indication of club spirit and friendship is the great relationship between the ladies club and the members. This has been fostered by the very successful twilight bowls and barbeque meal enjoyed by many even' Thursday afternoon. Members greatly appreciate their help and support over many years. The club boasts beautiful grounds and outlook and is noted for its beautiful gardens of petunias. Beryl and Eric Brown give generously of their time to ensure the gardens are always attractive.

The author, Bryan Woolcock, is a relative newcomer who has found great interest in reading the earlier histories of the club and in researching that of the last decade. He hopes that members will find some interest in reading of the achievements of the last ten years and of the progress of this great club.

B. Woolcock
St. Lucia
May 1998

1997 – 2007

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB

COUNCIL 2007-2008

PATRON
JACK HORSEY

PRESIDENT
JIM CROKER

IMM. PAST PRESIDENT
IAN NEWSON

VICE PRESIDENT
IAN McLELLAN

HON. SECRETARY
MARK LEWIS

HON. TREASURER
MORT HOWES

COUNCILLORS

GLYN GRIFFITHS, JOHN WILSON, DAVID WHITE, DEREK FIELDING

BDBA DELEGATE
RAY EDMONDS

GREENS DIRECTOR
RAY de JONG

PROVEDOR
JOHN BRYCE

SELECTORS
DON WOODCROFT, RAY EDMONDS, KEN MACKENZIE

OTHER OFFICERS		
HON. SOLICITOR	HON. AUDITOR	CLUB COACH
	C. MacLEOD	RAY EDMONDS

LIFE MEMBERS
JACK ROWELL, COL KING, RAY EDMONDS, RALPH SHEEHY, BRYAN WOOLCOCK, JACK HORSEY

PRESIDENTS 1998 - 2006

1998 JOHN COCKBURN	2002 ROSS HUMPHREYS
1999 JIM DIXON	2003 FRANK RYAN
2000 GREG WILLIAMS	2004 DON WOODCROFT
2001 RALPH SHEEHY	2005 RALPH SHEEHY
	2006 IAN NEWSON

Introduction

In October 1997, the Club celebrated 50 years, the history of those years being recorded by a series of historians. Frank Warham covered the period 1947 to 1972, Pat Gooley 1973 to 1987 and Bryan Woolcock from 1988 to 1997.

In 2006, Bryan Woolcock and Jack Rowell accepted a brief from Council to take the narrative along a few more years. Bryan will cover the last five years, Jack Rowell the period 1997 to 2002.

Pat Gooley's contribution emphasised the need to preserve the values and traditions of the club. Bryan reinforced this plea. Present members might agree that those who are here and those who have left us have revered these values and traditions and," flung to the host behind the torch in flame."

1997-1998

The Club fielded four Pennant teams and although 56 players competed each week the selectors were less than pleased with the number of non-availables through holidays and sickness. Our top team escaped relegation by winning its last game by four shots, - a close call.

Brisbane City Council said 'no' to traffic lights at Carr Street corner but planned to abolish the roundabout at the University and install lights.

After a period when Club Championships had drifted further and further behind, Games Director Jack Horsey's "no nonsense" approach was refreshing and put these games back on track. Green fees went up from \$5 to \$6 on 1st November. The Green Keeper came under criticism, the greens were not in good condition and Council considered his performance at that time was below requirements.

Council had programmed special events for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, centering on 31st October as Foundation Day. The Champagne Fours extended over two days attracting 112 players. At its conclusion, a Social was an opportunity to host special guests representing State and Local Government, RQBA and BDBA and old timers. A Commemorative Plaque was unveiled on the Club House verandah reading: "Celebrating 50 years of Good Bowling and Friendship and recognizing all who made it possible."

Representations were made to the University Sports administrators to have lawn bowls included as a sport available to University students in 1998. This eventually came to pass and classes were conducted on Monday afternoons but there was little interest and the initiative failed after a few years.

John Cockburn set some sort of a record by winning three frozen chickens as raffle prizes over two months and leaving them all in the boot of his car to "warm up."

Roger Simmonds became Greens Director and the whole issue of greens, up to this point an increasing problem, took a new turn. Roger prepared a full year's program for servicing and maintenance of greens, a program which with only small variations is still today's Bible. In a burst of activity, lead by Roger and supported by a newly inspired green keeper, an army of members, 15 of them, drilled, shaved and de-thatched the greens providing a basis for the quality greens enjoyed ever since. Truly, this year was a milestone in this area.

A dollar for dollar grant of \$2600 from the Brisbane City Council Sports Assistance scheme assisted the Club to provide shade canopies which have been very effective screening 85% protection from ultraviolet light. Australia Day 1998 saw 15 members start the day setting steel posts in concrete. Later, the shades were fitted, again by volunteers saving the Club many dollars.

Early in 1998, George Walters and Don Morris passed away. Both had served the Club in various capacities, George with legal advice and Don as Treasurer.

Club Coach Des Winton launched a special course of training called "Lift Your Game" and 33 bowlers turned out for his first day. It was an exciting start and the course continued to attract good attendances with input by Des and Ray Edmonds.

1998-1999

The Annual Meeting was held on 30th May and although ST LUCIA NEWS reported that the meeting was conducted in an atmosphere of sweetness and light, the year had not begun as well as it might have.

A minor contretemps in the Final of the Club Singles generated unnecessary heat and a few rude words. Rink 9 had been set down for the Final of the Club Singles to be contested by Wayne George and Giulio Campobassi. Rinks on either side had been held vacant but without permission, four players moved on to one of these rinks to play a pairs game. The resulting protests from the Singles Finalists and officials were quite positive, persuading the offenders they should move to rink 14 immediately. This became a Council discussion, confirming the Games Director's total control of games and rinks.

Wayne won the title after clawing his way back from desperate situations to arrive at 24 all. On the last end, Giulio drew three then Wayne with a tremendous last bowl trickled off a Giulio bowl to finish an inch from the jack. Spectators applauded a wonderful game and Wayne was excused for an exuberant display of jubilation.

As to administration, John Hunter broke a tradition by electing not to stand for President after a year as Senior Vice and Graham Baumber, previously a Junior Vice, retired. With persuasion, John Cockburn agreed to continue on as President and proved that a two year term could be a benefit to the Club. Jack Rowell accepted the position of Junior Vice to carry out the duties attached to that position.

Sadly, the Club marked the passing of Doug Youngberry, an Inaugural member who had played bowls at St Lucia continuously for fifty years.

As a precursor to Pennant, we played a Challenge Match against Jindalee and won by 237 shots to 224. Precision Eyewear sponsored the event and St Lucia came away with \$100 of the \$150 prize money. The shades at the river end of the greens were relocated by a team of volunteers in just under four hours one Monday morning. The generosity of Tony Grano enabled the Club to recondition a mower which was then christened "Tony" in a formal ceremony prior to play.

Jack Horsey's influence on Competition Games became apparent. For the first time for many years, Club competitions finished on time or reasonably close.

Arthur Bligh passed away in August 1998, a colourful and popular character who reached 93 and boasted that when he started bowling he had played as lead for 19 years. The Club also lost Sid Sakzewski, a good member and supporter.

Roger Simmonds earned well deserved commendation from visiting greens experts for his restoration of the greens and the standards he had achieved. In May 1999, we were told that St Lucia had won equal first in the District for the Red Green and equal second for the blue. Achieving this from a standing start caused Council to congratulate both Roger and Bob Wilson, the Greenkeeper. Roger had been in charge of the greens for nearly three years and had achieved a miraculous improvement. In July, he and wife Joy, moved to the Sunshine Coast but his programs had proved their value and were continued to the great benefit of the Club. He was presented with a plaque recognizing his services to the Club.

The Champagne Fours attracted 104 competitors and considerable praise came the way of Bryan Woolcock and his committee for the conduct of the competition. This competition later became the Spring Triples.

Pennant results were poor. The Club entered three sides and struggled to keep them in their Divisions.

1999-2000

In January 1999, a Training and Development Committee was formed. Courses began in February 1999, have continued ever since and this initiative and the members who have served as trainers have undoubtedly improved the skills of many St Lucia bowlers.

In the Final of the Club Fours, Doug Brown, with Frank Laudari, John Dale and Eric Baker massacred a team skippered by Nowell Taylor, 38 to 6. After a run of five sixes, the game ended on the 19th end.

Bryan Woolcock was honoured in the Australia Day Honours for his work in Veterinary Science. He was recognized with a Medal in the Order of Australia.

Pat Campbell won the Club Singles. Green fees were increased to \$7. St Lucia won Westbowl which was contested by seven Clubs.

As a financial measure, the Club adopted tea and biscuits, both self served, for afternoon tea on regular social days. Club finances were on a knife edge and Council needed to prune expenses wherever it could. President Jim Dixon explained the reasons and members accepted the new arrangements with hardly a comment. A visit by University students in February was well regarded by the Treasurer, over \$1,000 was passed over the bar, but the visit was not so well received by the Greens Director who found the greens had suffered certain damage. There were no more visits without proper supervision.

Club competitions continued to throw up surprises and some very close, exciting finishes. Doug Brown and Eric Baker fought out a tough Pairs final against Warren Garnham and Brian Bennetts. The score seesawed all day, dead ends and drives, a slow green, a shower now and again all contributed to a hard day at the office with Doug winning 15 to 14.

Col King, later to be awarded a well deserved Life Membership, was the driving force in recruiting campaigns when prospective members were entertained at Open Days and introduced to bowling. These Open Days have continued to be successful.

Des Winton almost on his own, had been carrying responsibility for coaching. He was joined this year by Jack Rowell. They were appointed Club Coaches.

When John Cockburn, Frank Laudari and Bob Apelt won the Patron's Triples, prize money was awarded by Patron Ted Bray but was donated back to the Club and an opinion expressed that the awarding of prize money should be discontinued. This principle has been adopted.

The Brisbane District changed the Pennant format yet again reducing the number of sides in Divisions but extending the length of the Pennant season to ten games.

Pat Campbell had a dour struggle with John Foster but prevailed to win the Club Singles again.

The Champagne Fours which had taken the place of the Masters Fours, did not attract sufficient entries and it was decided to cancel the event. As an alternative, sponsorship support for the Champagne Fours was directed to a new competition, the Spring triples which has continued to run successfully each year.

Lord Mayor Jim Soorley wrote to our club and to other sporting bodies confirming that the Brisbane City Council, contrary to rumours, was not pressuring sporting clubs to amalgamate.

Past Presidents from both the ladies and men's clubs enjoyed an in-house lunch to consider how they might support the club.

Sid Finter passed away on September 17, 1999. Sid was 87 and claimed to be the longest playing member after Doug Youngberry died. Sid was a great clubman assisting in every activity in his earlier days and then, in later years a popular raconteur around the bar.

The introduction of the Goods and Services tax was causing clubs concern as to how they might comply but eventually the Club was guided to compliance without pain.

Billie Duff was Ladies' President during an active year when they ran many activities such as fashion parades, card days and other social and fundraising events. In this year they donated a new ride-on mower at a cost of \$2820.

Ray Edmonds was appointed a National coach and Ralph Sheehy had another cataract operation.

St Lucia won its section in the third division pennant but was beaten by Ashgrove in the final. First Division finished a creditable third and 52 members were involved in pennant play.

2000-2001

Bar prices were increased from 1 January 2000. Providedore Cec Martin encouraged members to buy home supplies from the club.

Two new interclub competitions were gathering pace. The Premier League numbered representation from 14 clubs extending from Caloundra down to Tweed Heads. Super Challenge also signed up 14 clubs. These were clubs who had missed out on admission to the Premier League. Both competitions offered substantial prize-money financed by entrance fees and playing fees throughout the competition.

The Brisbane District Bowls Association was still fiddling with pennant arrangements. Within the club a fun game took place in February, Queenslanders versus The Rest and was enjoyed by all bowlers.

Twilight bowls continued to be played every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. during summer months and earlier during winter. Gwenyth Rogers, the moving spirit in this area claimed that total attendance in 1999 had been slightly more than 1000, a magnificent effort. The Ladies Club conducted a Trash and Treasure day in March and turned in a nice profit.

Frank Warham died in hospital. Frank was a founding member of St Lucia bowling club and one of the original trustees.

The Club has always maintained good relations with students of Queensland University. Early in the year the Dental Students Association visited, played bowls, enjoyed a barbecue and refreshments. Bryan Woolcock conducted the day, organised volunteers at the bar and ensured proper behaviour and an enjoyable day for the students.

John Cockburn was elected Senior Vice President of the Brisbane District Bowls Association and Doug Brown became a Selector.

Gwenyth Rogers was elected President of the Ladies' Club in February and paid tribute to Vi Rowell who had been Ladies' Secretary from 1981 to 1987 and again from 1993 to 1999, interspersing this service with a year as Lady President.

The Autumn Triples, an innovation this year, took place in April and was well patronized. A team lead by Ken Musgrave won with 8 plus 47. Our own Baker brothers with Kevin McPhee were runners-up and Jack Rowell and company won the fourth round.

The ladies organized a visit from the Teachers Social Bowls Club in March.

John Foster won the Brisbane District Bowls Association Fours with Ray Arrowsmith as lead, Pat Campbell, second and Warren Garnham third. It was a tight game, affected at a vital time by the Umpire, in measuring, moving the jack so that John Foster's opponent scored one shot instead of two. This meant that John and company were tied as they started the last end. Two good draw shots by Pat Campbell put them in a good position, then Warren Garnham covered the back and St Lucia won by three.

West Caloundra Bowling Club paid one of its regular visits in May, a very social day interrupted by bowls. The Australian Postal Institute visit was much more abstemious but also a happy event.

Don Woodcroft fell off his roof and was taken to Wesley Hospital with injuries to back and ribs.

The Olympic Torch en route to Sydney was carried along Schonell Drive, viewed by those members who were persuaded out of the bar and that was the day of the Annual Law versus Real Estate game for which Ted Bray had organised a Courier Mail Shield.

A new concept was launched on 29th July 2000. A competition called Metro 12 Pennant brought into competition the three top sides from the four Metropolitan Districts in a Round Robin. Each of the 12 Clubs was represented by a side comprising three fours and played 25 ends on successive Saturdays. It was good bowling but only had a life of one year.

Alan Schulte was awarded an Australian Sports Medal, a fitting award for such an outstanding sportsman and bowler. The text of the award read, "Presented by Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Australia to Commemorate Australian Sporting Achievements".

Ross Humphries headed up a Committee that organized a Wine and Roses evening on 21st July. His words in St Lucia NEWS reporting the event raised the level of reporting to a new level. Ross said, "There was a romantic atmosphere at the Club on Friday 21st July – Candle Light and Roses – Wine and Music – directed to cementing existing intimate relationships and to providing a window of opportunity for new interactions."

The ladies decided to change from a Sunday Game to a regular second Tuesday each month Mixed Day. The move was supported by quite a few men bowlers and has been a successful innovation.

Doug Brown and Eric Baker did the Club proud at Ashgrove winning the District Champion of Champion Pairs. Doug Brown, in great touch tied the twenty-first end with a magnificent draw shot then drew the perfect shot on the extra end to win 21 to 20.

In District competition St Lucia more than held its own winning the District Fours and the District Pairs, in both cases against Ferny Grove, a Club with over 300 members. Derek Shew was the Club's representative and guide in the Westbowl Competition which St Lucia won again in 2000. Mike Waterhouse and Don Tugby were accredited as National Umpires.

Frank Ryan skipping, with Lou Vincent, George Allen and Ray McNamara scored an "8" against Everton Park, modestly admitting that he couldn't have done it without them. Tony Grano donated a new television set for the bar.

In August, Pat Campbell extended his record of achievements by winning the District Champion of Champion Singles. St Lucia was doing well in the Pennant Competition but was finding the going difficult in the New Metro 12 games.

Sir Theodor "Ted" Bray died in September, a serious loss to the Club in every respect. Ted was Editor of St Lucia NEWS and provided pungent comment on events. He was a good bowler until his eyesight gave out but above all, he was a thoroughly good fellow, respected by all and dear to those who were close to him.

Pat Campbell defeated Rian Lane in the Final of the Club Singles Championship making it three years in a row. Pat has proved himself as a top Singles player at home and abroad. Jack Rowell was awarded the Australian Sports Medal.

The Ladies Club celebrated its 50th birthday in September 2000. Gwenyth Rogers was President for the third time and under her guidance the day of celebration was enjoyable and well organized. There were birthday cakes, cups of tea a special lunch with the tables dressed in spectacular fashion by Betty Woolcock and Beryl Brown.

The Metro 12 Competition designed to provide a higher level of competition was a mixed bag and caused problems in some of the Clubs. St Lucia found the competition a little heavy but the three teams played spirited games and were not overwhelmed by any means.

John Cockburn was elected president of the Brisbane District Bowls Association, our first District President since the Inaugural President David Picking.

Western Triples competition was reviewed in 2001 and a meeting held of participating clubs. St Lucia

retained the 1st Friday in each month Taylor Bridge the second, Jindalee third and Toowong fourth, the fifth Friday when it occurred was taken up by Corinda.

2001-2002

Twilight Bowls continued to be a popular outing each week for mixed bowls and in February 2001 had been a feature of the calendar for eight years. Gwenyth Rogers had been the driving force in introducing a social game of bowls which finds an increasing number of players.

Doug Brown with Frank Laudari, Charlie Baker and Warren Gamham were defeated by one shot in their final in the District Fours Competition. A remarkable coincidence occurred in the Triples entries. Col Macleod, Jim Johnston and John Dale formed a team and then found that the three of them had birthdays on the same day. We asked the University for an assessment of the odds on this happening and they thought 1,330,000 to one was a fair estimate.

In May 2001 green fees increased from \$7 to \$8 while the Auchenflower Club, was sold on a leaseback arrangement extending over three years. Patron Tony Grano provided 30 trees and shrubs which were planted on the east and west boundaries by Doug Phipps, Brian Woolcock and Max See. It was said at the time that their arboreal would perpetuate their names after their bowling prowess had become a memory.

Ronan Lee was elected the new State member for Indooroopilly and was welcomed at afternoon tea by President Greg Williams. Ronan became a full member and sponsored a Friday Triples Day. After a distinguished career as club secretary, Ralph Sheehy was elected President in May 2001. Col King was awarded life membership at the same meeting.

St Lucia nominated four sides for the pennant season. The greens received a rating of nine by the District Greens Committee, an excellent assessment. Graham Walsh and Michael Waterhouse were considered by Council to be the most improved players for the year.

The Patron's Triples was won by a team with an average age of 82. Os Blau, Ray McNamara and Jack Rowell proved that bowls is a game for all ages. Os Blau was born in 1913 and took up bowls in 1998.

Tony Grano was elected Club Patron in May 2001 at the Annual General Meeting. Tony joined the Club in 1990 and became a life member in May 1999. Pat Campbell won the Brisbane Champion of Club Singles Champions in 2001.

The standard of St Lucia greens, rated among the best in the district, attracted competition games and finals. Area Finals were hosted on the 19th August 2001 and the District First Division final was played on the 13th October between Everton Park and Ferny Grove.

Jack Bedgood, a Patriarch, former President and Patron and an early member passed away in November 2001. We lost Max Rowe in the following month.

The wooden folding doors between the clubhouse and bar area had served the club well for many years and had been repaired on quite a few occasions. Finally their use by date had arrived and a decision was made in December to replace them with vinyl cloth commercial folding doors.. At the same Council Meeting it was decided to replace the carpet and make provision for a small area for a dance floor. These alterations were carried out in the following year and added considerably to the appearance and usefulness of the Clubhouse and bar area.

Pat Campbell broke through to the banks of the elite with selection to play for Queensland in the Australian Sides Titles at Holdfast Bay South Australia in March. This was our first State representation since Col Procopis played for Queensland in the 1970s.

The Taylor Bowls Super Challenge competition was launched with 64 clubs contesting in the men's section and 55 clubs nominating in the women's section. There were eight sections with eight teams in the men's section. Prize money was attractive but St Lucia did not enter in the competition at its launching.

A proposal had been gathering momentum to combine the organisations representing lady bowlers and men. The Australian Sports Commission was pushing for unification and had withheld funding pending an assurance that this would happen. Meetings took place in 2002 and unification followed in 2003. The marriage was not without a certain amount of political infighting but eventually its benefits were accepted by all parties and it has become a fact of life.

2002-2003

At the AGM at the end of May 2002, it was a changing of the guard with Ross Humphreys moving up to President, replacing Ralph Sheehy in that role. Tony Grano remained as Patron, Russ Davidson again as Secretary. A healthy sign was that ballots were needed for both Council and Selectors. The Council recommendation that there be no increase in fees was endorsed by the AGM. Most improved player awards were made to Don Quinn (under five years) and to John Dale (more than five years). The Ground Force team led by Greens Director, Henry Friend alerted Council to the need for forward planning for the replacement of ageing greens equipment. As a result Council agreed to the purchase of a new roller at a cost of some \$6,000 and faced up to buying new mowers in future years.

On a sad note Life Member Alan Schulte, a doyen amongst top St Lucia Club, Queensland and Australian bowlers died in April 2003. He had an outstanding influence on the game of bowls wherever he bowled. The closure of Chelmer Club whilst unfortunate was a boon to St Lucia in that we acquired several excellent members and a boost to the Club's financial reserves.

The Pennant season commenced with the new format of sides of three teams in early August. St Lucia entered four sides in Divisions one, three, six and eight. Light blue identification discs on bowls and pocket badges were introduced as part of the St Lucia uniform. The results were not spectacular with the top three divisions all finishing fourth and the eighth division last. There was general agreement that there was room for improvement. A meeting of pennant players was called to discuss this issue, including the problems associated with team selections.

Westbowl competition between St Lucia and other western area clubs continued. This was won by the St Lucia men from West Toowong with our ladies coming second to Taylor Bridge. The Shield contested between St Lucia and West Caloundra clubs and won by St Lucia in May 2002 unfortunately lapsed in the second half of the year. The major event of the year, the Spring Triples was successfully staged in early October. This year it was won by a team skipped by local member Warren Garnham with a remarkably low score of 8 +17. The Western Triples completed its 18th year successfully. A new novelty event, the Round Robin Fours, was introduced over the Christmas-New Year period. This included ladies in eight teams of seven players with each limited to five games in what has become the Birdie Fours. St Lucia competed in a development triples limited to novice bowlers (under 4 years) organised by Michael Waterhouse. Although well supported, it was a one-off event.

Another St Lucia initiative was an invitation Wednesday Pairs with selected members inviting top players from other clubs, named in honour of Alan Schulte. Bowlers from nine other clubs participated in the first event, but it was to have a short life lasting only a few months.

In Club competitions, the Singles Championship was won by Col MacLeod, who defeated Chas Baker in the final. Michael Waterhouse won the B and C Singles from Bill Reynolds in the former and Michael Higgins in the latter. The Novice singles was won by Frank Wark from Ray de Jong. The delayed final of the Club Pairs was won by John Dale and Pat Campbell from Des de Nino and Ed Frazer. The Club Fours commenced immediately after pennants. The eventual winners were skipped by Doug Brown who had Charlie and Eric Baker and Frank Laudari with him. They defeated a team skipped by John Dale with Graham Walsh, Jim Johnston and Russ Davidson substituting for Kevin McPhee. The Triples title went to Nowell Taylor who had John Capel and Mort Howes with him. They defeated Jack Horsey, Des Winton and Steve Beerman in the final.

In Club selected events, the Presidents Fours was won by Allan Morgan (skip) George Bourne, Bill Fraser and Patron Tony Grano. The Patron's Triples went to Bryan Woolcock (skip), Frank Wark and Colin King. A popular Wednesday event, Queensland versus The Rest, known as State of

Origin, resulted in an unusual win for the Rest made up of immigrants from south of the border and other parts of the world.

Council examined a proposal for the development and maintenance of the Club premises and in subsequent years has agreed to extend and upgrade the men's toilet area, to refurbish the lady's toilets and the men's locker room and associated toilet area. It was also agreed to replace the Club room tables. External funding was sought to install cold water fountains near both greens and subsequently to extend shades to both greens.

2003-2004

Frank Ryan took over the reins as President from Ross Humphreys at the AGM on 31st May 2003. Ray Edmonds accepted the role as BDBA delegate and the Hon Auditor was again Colin MacLeod.

The AGM accepted a recommendation from Council that Ray Edmonds, Ralph Sheehy and Bryan Woolcock be elected as Life Members for outstanding services to the Club. At this meeting Wayne George raised for the first time the proposition that St Lucia accept coloured shirts for our Pennant teams. Eric Brown was made an Honorary Member in recognition of his long membership and services to the Club.

Des Winton hung up his spurs after a lengthy period as a Club coach. Most Improved Player awards were made to Ken MacKenzie (under five years) and Colin MacLeod (over five years experience). Greenkeeper Bob put his foot through the floor of the machinery shed resulting in its replacement with support from Patron Tony and guidance from Ray de Jong with help from other volunteers.

A new initiative was a major Melbourne Cup sweep with 1,000 tickets to be sold by members. Well organised Open Days aimed at recruiting new members have been a feature of recent years due largely to the enthusiasm and ability of Life Member Colin King. Pat Campbell was awarded a 2003 Commonwealth Sports Achievement Award, being nominated by the Club. The Council approved the establishment of an Internet Web Site by Wayne George. The debate over coloured shirts, the official Club dress for Pennants and higher events, was finally resolved when it was decided that the only colour was to be a light blue collar on a cream shirt. Water coolers were installed near both greens with the help of a grant from the State Government. The Club had an associate member as a visitor for several months from the Kobe Club in Japan. He was made to feel welcome and was a competent lead.

In Club competitions, the Singles Championship was won by Pat Campbell who defeated Ken Manders in the final. Graham Walsh won the B Singles against Russ Davidson, Jason Manders defeated Ray de Jong in the C Singles and Tony Burton was defeated by Tony Tan in the Novice Singles. In the Club Fours, Ken Manders skipping for Jim Croker, Greg Williams and Mike Amerena had a runaway win over John Capel, Tony Tan, Tony Burton and Ray de Jong. In the final of the Club Triples, skip Ken Manders with Graham Walsh and son Jason as sub for Jim Johnston defeated Frank Laudari, Ed Frazer and skip Warren Garnham convincingly. The Club Pairs was won by Fred Roberts and Steve Beerman when they outplayed Don Woodcroft and Tony Burton.

Our performance in the 2003 Pennants was disappointing. First Division finished a creditable third in a very strong competition. Third Division ran last and faced relegation. Sixth Division came fifth and Ninth Division finished sixth. In other Club selected events, the President's Fours was won in a very tight finish by a team skipped by Mike Waterhouse with Ian Newson (sub), Mac See and Jack Rowell from Frank Laudari, Tony Burton, David White and Bryan Woolcock (skip). The Patron's Triples, after weather and other delays, was finally decided when Mort Howes, Peter Edwards and Mike Amerena prevailed over Frank Wark, Andre de Jong and David White. Westbowl was again played amongst five clubs with St Lucia finishing a very close second to the winners.

The 2003 Spring Triples drew 26 teams from a wide variety of clubs. Following a long spell of fine weather, the event was threatened by rain on the first day but after a delayed start, the weather cleared to a fine sunny afternoon. Allen Cullen's team was one of only four teams after the third

round with a chance of winning. He won the fourth game to take out the honours with an impressive 8 + 53. Bob King was the runner up and Doug brown was amongst the round winners.

2004-2005

Don Woodcroft is the new President with Mort Howes as Treasurer. Russ Davidson remains as Secretary. Election of selectors was deferred until after pennants to permit the present selectors to continue to operate through the pennant season. Jack Horsey was elected a Life Member and as Patron succeeding Tony Grano in that position. On a sad note Charles Patterson, a long term member and an outstanding player, died.

The Pennant season saw St Lucia players in four sides in Divisions One, Three, Five and Seven. The season was notable because our fifth division side won the pennant defeating Ferny Grove in the final in spectacular fashion. They won with a margin of 12 shots, most of the margin being gained on the last ends of each of the three teams, four by Bevan Scott's four, five by the team skipped by Bryan Woolcock and two by Nowell Taylor's team. This was the first flag won by St Lucia since 1991. St Lucia divisions one and three also made the finals series. The new St Lucia shirts might have installed some pride and inspiration into our efforts.

As in the previous year there were some large margins amongst the winners in the 2004 Spring Triples. Giulio Campobassi skipped the winning team of Mal Stewart and Kerry Rice which won on a countback (ratio of winning to losing shots) from Charles McAnany both with 8 + 47, an average of nearly 12 shot wins over the four games played. There must have been a few easy-beats in the field of 24 teams in this event.

Pat Campbell again won the singles championship defeating Wayne George in a closely fought final. Wayne had a very close call in his semi-final against Ray Edmonds described as an arm wrestle in the St Lucia News. The winner of the B Singles was Jim Douglas who defeated Jason Manders in the final. The C singles final provided a closely fought result when Bob McKeon defeated Tony Burton. Neville Brandon won the Novice singles from Rob Shearer.

The final of the Club Fours between teams skipped by Nowell Taylor and Ken Manders was a game worth watching. Ken led by two shots as the jack was rolled for the last end. Nowell's team of David White, Don Woodcroft (sub. for Kevin McPhee) and Brian Bennetts managed to score three shots to win 20 to 19. The Club Triples provided the classic upset in the final when "a champion team beat a team of champions". Mike Amerena led for the former with Mort Howes and Jim Croker to defeat by a wide margin the latter comprising Giulio Campobassi (skip), Ken Manders and Pat Campbell (sub. for Jason Manders). In the Club Pairs final Graham Walsh and Ed Frazer won convincingly from Ray Edmonds and Col MacLeod.

The Patron's Triples saw Jack Rowell back in the winner's circle, skipping Os Blau and Don Quinn to victory over Des Winton, David White and Peter Edwards. The President's Fours final was won by a team skipped by Charlie Baker with Frank Wark, Ray de Jong and Ken MacKenzie providing solid support. They defeated Glynn Griffiths, Don Knox, Don Woodcroft and Frank Ryan (skip) in the final

A Special General Meeting in November endorsed a Council proposal to reduce its size from 18 to 10 members comprising an Executive of four (President, Treasurer and Secretary and one Councillor) and Directors of five committees, House, Greens, Training and Development, Games and Membership. Each of these committees consists of club members giving them input into the management and functioning of Club affairs. This new structure has been eminently successful. The selectors elected at this meeting were Wayne George, Mike Waterhouse and Ken MacKenzie and were to remain in office until after pennants.

St Lucia players entered the 2005 Super Challenge with creditable results. They finished fourth of the eight clubs in section eight in the silver division. It was St Lucia's first involvement in this type of event and was repeated in 2006 and in 2007 when it came under the auspices of Bowls Queensland. The Westbowl trophy was won by Corinda with St Lucia a close second but only four clubs competed this year.

2004-05 was in one respect the worst year in our sixty year history with the expulsion of a member who was deemed to have contravened the Club Rules. The incident created an unhappy protracted period but the matter was handled with skill by the executive and finally a general meeting of members which endorsed the action taken.

On the other hand a more pleasing occurrence was the receipt of a large influx of funds received as the result of the transfer of members from the closed Chelmer Club.

2005-06

At the AGM in May 2005, Ralph Sheehy was elected as President for the second time. This was the first year of the new structure of the Council. Jack Horsey remained in the office of Patron and Colin MacLeod was again Hon. Auditor.

Calum Brownie a student at UQ and experienced bowler from Toowoomba triumphed in his first year at St Lucia by winning the Singles championship defeating Ryan Lane in the final. Ray de Jong continued to show his improving game by winning the B Singles beating Tony Burton. He had earlier defeated Neville Brandon in the C Singles. In the Novice final another student Nathan Harriott defeated John Wilson. The Club Fours was won by Ken Manders this time playing with Pat Campbell, Jim Croker and Jason Manders. Ken was able to exact revenge over Nowell Taylor who beat his team in the previous year's final. Nowell skipped Brian Bennetts, Mort Howes and Kevin McPhee. The Triples saw a victory for Mike Waterhouse, Brian Bennetts and Bob McKeon over Ken Manders, Col Woods and Don Woodcroft. The Pairs was won by Graham Walsh and Ed Frazer who defeated Colin MacLeod and Ray Edmonds.

In April the sponsored Mixed Pairs was a resounding success with more teams than in 2005. Calum Brownie playing with Elaine Latta had a comfortable win with Col and Jenni Woods as runners up. It was an enjoyable event and should have established itself as an annual feature event on our calendar. St Lucia held another Mixed Pairs contest later in 2006 as part of a national event. Ken Anderton and Billie Duff won this event but were beaten by a Ferny Grove pair at District level.

In Club selected games, the 2005 Pennant season was described as not being one of St Lucia's stellar years as none of our four divisional sides made the play-off finals. We looked forward to better results in 2006. In the President's Fours Col. Woods skipped the winning team of Michael Amerena, Roy Fanton and Calum Brownie who beat John Dale's team in the final. John had Andre de Jong, Ross Humphreys and Doug Phipps with him. The Patron's Triples final saw Des Winton, Andre de Jong and Peter Mastin win comfortably over Ken MacKenzie, Sam Harrison and Mike Tyler. Corinda Club again won the Westbowl trophy event with St Lucia a close second. Only four clubs participated again in 2005. St Lucia again participated in Bowls Super Challenge Silver Division and performed creditably without seriously threatening the title.

The 2005 Heritage Spring Triples had a single sponsor and was played by 26 teams on excellent fast greens in fine and warm weather. Bob King with Bill Carey and Ron Haysom took out the major prize with four wins and a margin of 39 shots with George Moss, Bernie Eustace and Nev Pomfrett in second place. Doug Brown was one of the round winners. The Western Triples was conducted successfully in its 20th year, consistently attracting good fields of compatible players with a high standard of play.

The Melbourne Cup sweep was again successfully conducted before the 2005 race. The year saw once again successful Open Days which drew several new members into the Club, maintaining our numbers close to 150 members. A grant was obtained to assist the installation of further shades completing the provision of shade along all green ditches. Plans were prepared for the refurbishing of the men's toilets near the bar and a number of minor maintenance tasks completed largely with voluntary help.

2006-07

A new team emerged from the 2006 AGM with Ian Newson as President. The meeting supported The Council proposal to spend up to \$30,000 to develop the men's toilets and agreed to

spend up to \$15,000 on improvements to the downstairs area. Council approved upgrading of the Ladies' toilet area.

Members at an informal cocktail party in May before the AGM expressed their appreciation and thanks to outgoing President and Life Member Ralph Sheehy for his outstanding guidance and leadership during his two terms as President. Ralph guided the Club through probably the most difficult period in our history with the expulsion of a member.

St Lucia entered five sides in the 2006 pennants. Unfortunately despite valiant attempts to improve our standards through organised practice sessions, the results were unspectacular. First Division finished in third place but none of the others threatened the outcomes. The only redeeming feature was that none of the sides face relegation in 2007. Our Ladies Club on the other hand won a Pennant flag in their sixth division defeating Samford in the final.

In other Club selected events, the President's Fours was won by Mike Amerena, Roy Fanton, Calum Brownie and Col Woods when they defeated Jim Croker's four (Bill Cadzow, Ralph Sheehy and Alan Coote) in a close fought final. Ray de Jong skipped the winning team in the Patron's Triples with solid support from Jim Douglas and Henry Friend. They won the final against Bevan Scott, Mark Lewis and Bob Wilson.

Mort Howes dethroned the 2005 Club Champion Calum Brownie in a thrilling final of the Singles Championship. The B Singles was won by Nathan Harriott by downing Tony Burton in a closely fought final. Nathan Harriott also won the C Singles when he beat Ken MacKenzie. John Wilson triumphed over Mark Lewis in the Novice event. The Club Fours was won by Frank Laudari, Don Knox, Calum Brownie with Doug Brown as skip. They defeated John Dale and his team of Nathan Harriott, Graham Walsh and Tony Burton. The 2006 Fours Champions again triumphed in 2007 when they defeated Ken Anderton (skip), Mike Waterhouse, Bob McKeon and replacement Warren Garnham in the final. The Club Triples final between Dick Croft, an experienced new member and his team of Tony Burton and Graham Walsh, and Chas and Eric Baker and Kev McPhee resulted in a convincing win for the former team. Eric Baker and Kevin McPhee defeated Don Woodcroft and Greg Williams in the final of the 2006 Club Pairs. The 2007 Pairs final between Nathan Harriott and Calum Brownie and Mort Howes and Nowell Taylor resulted in a win for the latter.

The year has been marked by the loss to the Club of prominent life members, David Picking and Nick Dyer, Past President Len Hancock and members Max Morris and George Bourne. Peter Newell's family celebrated his 90th birthday with a luncheon at the Club, the family donating the Peter Newell Shield for annual competition, Queensland v The Rest to be held on a Wednesday close to 30th September each year.

The Open Days in September and May were a great success attracting several new members and ladies. This feature has largely been responsible for maintaining our membership numbers. Life member Colin King has led this activity for many years.

The Club once again entered the silver division of the Bowls Super Challenge competition. It failed to make the semi-finals and may enter the bronze in 2008. The Spring Triples went without a sponsor but was a great success. A team skipped by Barry Jackson won first prize with 8 + 39 from Chas McAnany with 8 + 36. Bryan Woolcock, Ralph Sheehy and Bob McKeon won the second round.

The Western Triples has been played at St Lucia on the first Friday of the month for 22 years. The Triples has had multiple sponsors but for 2007-2008 is being generously sponsored by ABN Amro Morgans.

The Greens Committee under the able leadership of Ray de Jong and the capable guidance of Henry Friend has achieved a great deal this year. Apart from their Water Management Plan gaining BCC approval, they have installed two 30,000 litre tanks and an automatic green watering system with a grant from Australian Government Water – Commonwealth Water Grants. In addition despite the drought conditions prevailing, the St Lucia greens received once again top ratings within the Brisbane District, a situation which has applied for many years. A grant from Government has enabled the refurbishment of the men's club house toilet area, providing water saving installations

and direct access from the Club house. Colin and Jenni Woods have been responsible for repainting the downstairs dressing room and toilet area and the shower has been refurbished.

The Club web site started some years ago has been enhanced under the guidance of Mark Lewis who has also acted as minute secretary for the Council. Life Member Jack Rowell has maintained his great interest in the Club by editing for many years the monthly newsletter "The St. Lucia News" which keeps all members informed of Club activities and events. John Bryce is to be congratulated for his role as Providore for several years. The excellent help and cooperation we receive from our ladies is to be commended and we thank them for their assistance in so many ways.

At the 2007 AGM tributes were paid by President Ian Newson, to retiring Secretary Russell Davidson and long serving Committee member Bryan Woolcock.

The future of the Club looks to be secure with Jim Croker as the 2007-08 President and Mark Lewis as Secretary. Jack Horsey again accepted the post of Patron and Colin MacLeod remains as Honorary Auditor.

The St Lucia Bowling Club Inc has more than survived sixty years, it has prospered especially during the last 10 years. At a time when many clubs are suffering from reduced memberships and several have folded, St Lucia has managed to retain its numbers and to remain in a very stable and sound financial position. The Club can boast that it provides a most welcoming and friendly environment.

B. Woolcock and J. Rowell
St. Lucia
July 2007

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB – OFFICE BEARERS 2007



BACK ROW – J. Wilson (Games Director), K. Mackenzie (Selector), G. Griffiths (House Director), D. White (Membership Director), R. de Jong (Greens Director), D. Fielding (T&D Dir)

FRONT ROW – R. Edmonds (BDBA Del., Selector), M. Lewis (Secretary), J. Horsey (Patron), J. Croker (President), I. McLellan (Vice Pres.), M. Howes (Treas.), J. Bryce (Providore.)

INSERTS – C. MacLeod (Hon. Auditor), D. Woodcroft (Selector)

Note – M. Lewis (front 2nd left) proudly displaying achievement medals of former President David Picking

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB – LIFE MEMBERS 2007



L to R – Bryan Woolcock, Jack Rowell, Ray Edmonds, Jack Horsey
INSERTS – Ralph Sheehy, Col King

ST. LUCIA BOWLING CLUB – SENIOR MEMBERS 2007



BACK ROW – Ted Lee, Alec Morsby
FRONT ROW – Des Winton, Jack Rowell, Ellis Goldman, Jack Horsey
INSERTS – Don Knox, Bill Lee, Arthur Duffy (Not Pictured – Len Buckle)



2007 - 2017

Management Committee 2017

Patrons: Henry Friend, Ralph Sheehy

President: Clive Dixon

Vice President: Ros Mortensen

Secretary: Jeremy Connell

Treasurer: Lloyd Edwards

Ladies Bowls Captain: Jan Morrow

Men's Bowls Captain: Mark Benson

Facilities Director: Clive Hamlin

Greens Director: Vase Griffith

Membership Director: Unfilled

Functions Director: Pamela Miller

Ladies Bowls Section Committee

Captain: Jan Morrow

Chair of Selectors: June Edmonds

Games Manager: Barbara Waterhouse

Training and Development

Manager: June Edmonds

BDLBA Delegate: Coralie Ellis

Men's Bowls Section Committee

Captain: Mark Benson

Chair of Selectors: Ken Anderton

Games Manager: Rijn Camphorst

Training and Development

Manager: Mark Benson

BDBA Delegate: Mark Benson

Ladies Selection Sub-committee

Chair of Selectors: June Edmonds

Selectors: Toni Johnson, Jan Morrow

Men's Section Sub-committee

Chair of Selectors: Ken Anderton

Selectors: Peter Stevens, Rijn Camphorst

Presidents 2007/8 – 2016/17

2007	J.M.Croker
2008	I.G.McLellan
2009	I.G.McLellan
2010	M.F.Waterhouse
2011	M.F.Waterhouse
2012	F.A.Wark
2013	D.E.Woodcroft
2014	A.Burton
2015	A Burton
2016	C Dixon

The St Lucia Bowling Club has, in the decade under review, maintained an ambience of cheerful bowls and socially inclusive fellowship. There has also been considerable investment in an improved infrastructure. The appearance of the Club House has changed: water tanks on the western side, solar panels on the roof and a large open verandah extended from the bar area. Significant honour boards remain and rooms in the clubhouse have been refurbished.

1. Playing Bowls at St Lucia

The basic activity has still focused about Wednesday and Saturday afternoon play (the men's Club) and Tuesday mornings and late Thursday afternoons "with a barbeque to follow" (the women's Club). These events were open to both men and women. The Western Triples (first Friday of the month to 2016) and Spring Triples brought many visiting teams to the Club. During the summer period Birdie Fours provided a relaxed grouping with varied actual team play.

The Club has an active Training and Development program centred on the pre-Pennant season and the full induction of new members. For instance, in August 2012 the coaches were Vase Griffith, Tony Tan, Don Woodcroft, Ann Burton, Pamela Miller and Wendy Ferguson. In 2013, bowls became available for lending to new members programmes. The three elected Selectors played a key role in maintaining player equity.

Until July 2011, Bob Wilson was groundsman, acting under the advice of a greens director, such as Vase Griffith. The Club then moved to paid contractors, such as Green Options and later Professional Grass Maintenance. The greens suffered various vicissitudes, such as algal growth in 2012, subsidence, and blocked drains. A root barrier has increased the uniformity of soil moisture measurement. Drastic renovation was undertaken each summer, but in 2016-17 a more radical attack was adopted. At a Special General Meeting on 22 October 2016 expenditure for renovation was approved by the Club members. Council also agreed on two safety measures, players may return if the shade temperature exceeds 35 degrees C, and play must be abandoned if the lightning comes within 8-10 kms of the green. Council decreed that the objective of green management should be 16 sec.

The games director organised a variety of events which give the opportunity for players at every level to experience some success. At the risk of being egregious the winners of the 2015 competitions are set out. The full historical results are available on the control Touch Screen in the Clubhouse.

Club champion: Warren Garnham (again), B singles: Craig Francis, C Singles: Grant Ballantyne, Novice Singles: Rob Hoskin, Pairs: W Garnham, Vase Griffith, Triples: Peter Stevens, Tony Williams, Graham Walsh, Fours: Ike Owens, Tony Burton, Warren Garnham, Vase Griffith.

There were also Club selected events in which all teams were theoretically equal in strength: Patrons Triples: Frank Wark, Eric Baker and Don Woodcroft, and Presidents Fours: Laurie Hall, Bruce Wilson, Ray Sinkison and Howard Briggs.

For the past two decades and beyond the Club has run an annual event, dignified in 2007 as the Peter Newell Shield, between Queensland and the rest.

2. Extra Mural Competitions

Much of the competitive focus of the Club was in the district pennants competition. Occasionally the Club has gained a Divisional promotion, but usually had to be content with just managing to hold its divisional status, perhaps near the bottom. Over the decade no pennants were won except by the Ladies Club who won the Division 4 Pennant in 2015. At the beginning of the decade, the Club entered five teams (usually obtaining rather disastrous results in the sixth division). The entry was reduced to four teams, then, after a survey of players in 2012, to three teams. This had the effect of improving the number of social players available during the pennant season.

Over the summer months the Club had intermittent entries in the Bronze Super Challenge, the Fred Fern Competition, Premier League and the League Sevens. A St Lucia team won the BDBA Champion of Champions Fours 2015 - V Griffith, W Garnham, I Owens, D Gray

3. Social Life

Much of the social life of the Club continued to be centred around the Bar. In earlier years, it was said that if a St Lucia bowler arrived home before six pm his dog would bite him as a stranger. In these more controlled days, it became usual for bowlers to have two drinks before leaving. The decade has been marked by a greater consumption of German beer and soft drink. The Club started to sell wine by the glass in July of 2013. Marguerite Andrews served us faithfully for twelve years behind the bar, and was eventually replaced by UQ students. John Bryce was an excellent provider for many years, and was succeeded in 2013 by a team of Rijn Camphorst and Pamela Miller.

The social committee usually organised four or five special events during the year, from the President's welcome in May, to the Christmas Party in December, perhaps supported by the Brother James Choir. The Club explored Greek, Italian, Chinese, Irish and "international" cuisine, as well as celebrating lunch in the garden, the Melbourne Cup, Queensland Day, Christmas in July and wine and cheese. Trivia skills and the Club's sixtieth anniversary were also celebrated.

Raffles were a significant fundraiser and in January 2007 the numbers marbles were replaced with an electronic system. When this proved unreliable, the cry would come up "bring back the marbles." In 2016, Pamela Miller was designated the Functions Manager. The President for many years concluded afternoon tea by declaring "God bless Australia, God save the Queen." This practice was discontinued in 2013, the Club gaining points for being cool.

4. Membership

In Brisbane some Clubs have gone to the wall because of declining membership. St Lucia has survived despite a continuing turn over in numbers. The total loss due to deaths, resignations and defaults has varied from year to year from six to as much as twenty members.

Membership convenors such as Colin King and later Howard Briggs and Sam Harrison have attacked the problem by holding special Invitation Days twice a year, offering concessional membership fees and granting an annual prize for the member most successful in recruitment. There was also a presence at local shopping centres and some newspaper advertisements. In 2007 the Club had a total membership of 147. The total over the decade fluctuated from a high of 158 to a low of 131. One participant on the membership committee, contemplating uneaten lunches, became obsessed with the biblical injunction: "go out into the highways and byways and *compe*l the people to come in." The mecca of the Gold Coast as a retirement goal has damaged membership.

In 2016, the membership was 141. The median is a better indication than the mean, which is skewed by higher values. This indicated a median of 76 years, ie. 70 members under 76 and 70 members over 76. There were 45 members over 80 and 19 members younger than 60.

The service of respected players has been recognized by the award of Life Membership of whom there were seven in 2010.

5. Administration and Finance

Over the decade the Club has had many distinguished Presidents: Ian Newsome, Jim Croker, Ian McLennan, Michael Waterhouse, Frank Wark, Don Woodcroft, Tony Burton and Clive Dixon. A good deal of the Club's success is due to the spirit of volunteering, which both reduces costs and increases the spirit of fellowship. The touchscreen in the Club house provides a historical listing of office bearers. The office bearers for early 2016 are listed below: Patrons Henry Friend, Ralph Sheehy, Vice-President Clive Dixon, Secretary Jeremy Connell, Treasurer Lloyd Edwards, Greens director Vase Griffith, House Director Clive Hamlin, Games Director Rijn Camphorst, Membership Director Howard Briggs, training and development John Gooden, Councillor Ralph Sheehy, Providore Rijn Camphorst, Pamela Miller, Welfare Officer Jim Croker. These people were supported by separate committees. Under the leadership of Jeremy Connell, the Club moved into the digital age of communication with email and the website becoming important communication channels. The monthly newsletter was an important source of bringing the Club together.

Over the decade the Club maintained close relations with local elected representatives at federal,

state and city council levels and these folk facilitated many grant approvals, partly stimulated by Henry Friend. We installed new water tanks and an automatic watering system and solar panels on the roof, which reduced our electricity charges by 23 percent. A major change was stimulated by Russ Davidson (project manager) who opened the building in 2016 with a large verandah with access steps, which issued from the bar area. The whole of the internal Club house, including the Ladies' Area, a new kitchen with two microwaves and a dishwasher (2012), new bathrooms upstairs and down, and the main Club room had all but selected honour boards retained as recommended by a special committee. The new system of disabled access was installed. The carpet laid in 2001 was replaced.

Mention was made earlier of the refurbishment of the greens and their ditches, the painting of the seats and the volunteer gardeners kept grounds and car parks in attractive condition.

All these improvements were achieved by careful financial management. In most years, despite the expenditure on improvements, the Club showed a small surplus, despite an unsound investment in the share market where we lost in excess of \$30k. These were accompanied by small bequests from deceased members. Current assets were \$241k in 2007 and in 2016 these were maintained at \$204k, despite the outgoings on improvements. The Club benefited from about 30 sponsors, who contributed prize money and also to general funds. The Ladies Club were a continual source of generous donations (\$7k in June 2016). The green fees increased to \$15 at the end of the decade.

The Club benefitted from the work of a strategic planning committee from October 2015, which laid down guidelines for future directions.

6. Community Outreach

In the decade under review the Club made many efforts to integrate with the local community and there was a special focus on relations with the University of Queensland. Some particular events related to the sport and wellness programs occurred, as well as visits by Political Science and Economics. Some special events were arranged for students, such as a regular Duchesne College Day which attracted more than 300 participants and a profit of more than \$8k. These events were well organised under the aegis of Pamela Miller who used security personnel for backup and age restrictions on the consumption of alcohol were implemented. Union College and International House were involved on other occasions; the Australian Rules Football Club used the Club facilities for a period, together with the UQ Teachers' Bowlers. The Club had a continuing relationship with the Tattersalls Club Charity Day. Frank Ryan's art show was a regular event and for a time the St Lucia Probus Club used our facilities until September 2012.

The hiring of the Club house excited some discussion and events sponsored by members and Not for Profit Organisations received preferential treatment. The LNP used us for election days.

An innovative bowls painting was created on the signal box on the corner of Lawrence Street and Sir Fred Schonell Drive and this attracted a prize from the Brisbane City Council.

7. The Amalgamation of the Men's and Ladies' Clubs

The Men's Club always had good relations with the Ladies Club, reciprocal play was common and the women were assiduous in raising funds which went into the general coffers. The managerial skills of the women were admired by many of the male officers.

The possible amalgamation was mooted for years and culminated in the formation of a committee to propose new rules, led by Kevin Hesse. On the 16th of November 2016 the final meeting of the two councils agreed on a proposal to be put to Special General Meetings on the 6th and 7th of December 2016, when both meetings overwhelmingly endorsed the amalgamation. The amended rules have been registered with the Queensland Office of Trading.

The amended rules, for the first time in the club's history, allow women to become members and, in particular, members of the ladies club to join under advantageous conditions. They provide for a Management Committee consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Ladies' Bowls Captain, Men's Bowls Captain, Facilities Director, Greens Director, Functions Director and

Membership Director. The Ladies' Bowls Captain and the Men's Bowls Captain were to be elected at the annual general meetings of the two sections. The directors are to be supported by a series of appropriate committees. There should also be a Club executive comprising the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If these happen to belong to the same section then the captain of the other bowls section would also be a member. Each section selected a committee of its own Captain, Chairman of Selectors, Bowls Manager and District Bowling Association Delegate. The Training and Development Manager is a member of both bowls section committees.

From 2017, the Club can look forward with confidence to a cheerful bowling future and continued good fellowship. The Club infrastructure has been greatly improved, there is a healthy balance in the Club's reserve funds, and the membership of the women augured well for the future of bowling at St Lucia although the increasing age structure of the membership gives cause for alarm.

L. Ross Humphreys 1/1/2017