

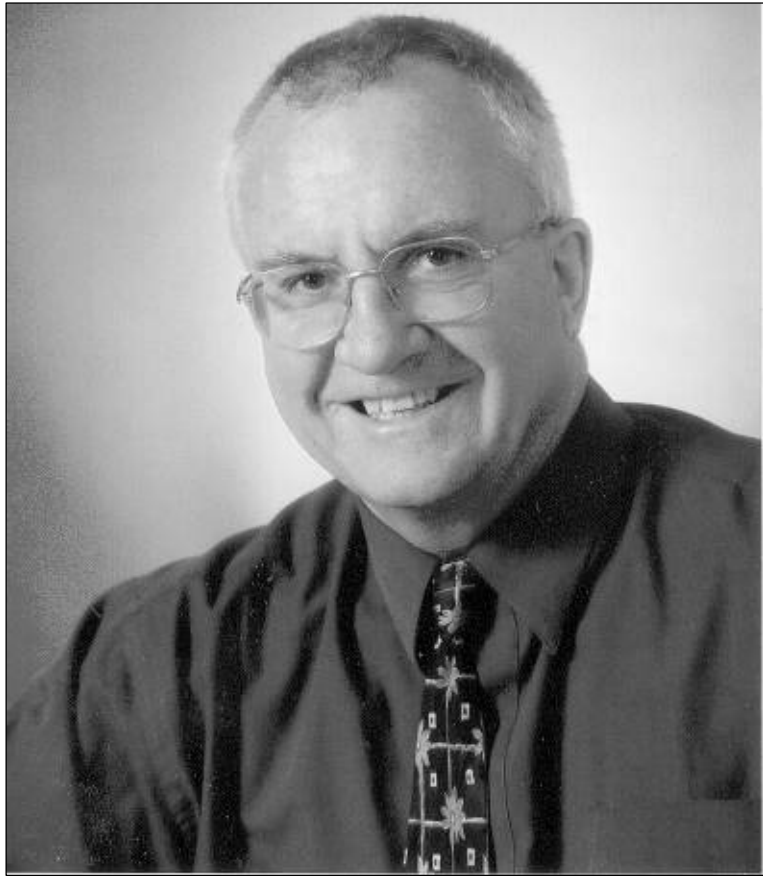
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President's Centennial Message

It is my privilege to welcome all who come to our centennial celebrations, and I know that this weekend will be a really special time, as we celebrate the founding of our club. The achievement of 100 years for any person or club is an occasion well worthy of merit and celebration and it is no different for us at the Kaiapoi Bowling Club in 2002.

We have achieved much over the past century but the achievements are also a tribute and a testament to our administrators who through their perseverance, dedication and commitment have given us what we have here today.



We have a huge amount of wonderful history to recollect, and I am sure you will enjoy browsing through the booklet and learning so much about our grand past. We may also be able to reminisce on our own journeys as club members, and reflect on some of the humble legacies that have enriched the heritage of this club.

While we can justifiably reflect with pride on these first 100 years we must continue to look ahead. There already are, and will continue to be, many challenges for sure. Your support in a variety of constructive ways will ensure that the Kaiapoi Bowling Club will still be to the fore for another 100 years.

The Centennial committee, under the guidance of Malcolm McIntosh, has certainly put in a lot of hard work to ensure that this weekend will be one to remember. So for now, let us get on with the joy of celebrating the past and then enthusiastically move on to challenge the future.

I extend my very best wishes to you all for an enjoyable weekend.

Warren Stanbury
President.



A Message from Bowls New Zealand

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I congratulate Kaiapoi bowling club, on behalf of Bowls New Zealand, on achieving the significant landmark which is their centenary.

The sport of bowls is steeped in tradition, and this doffing of caps to the past is a timely reminder of our heritage which we should of course preserve and hold dear.

But it is only the sports and their clubs that are able to adapt and change, to embrace the needs of modern society, that may look forward with any confidence to the future.

Today we can look backwards and enjoy our history, but tomorrow the job of shaping our own future must resume.

Kerry Clark OBE
CEO – Bowls NZ



A Message from Bowls Canterbury

It is my pleasure on behalf of Bowls Canterbury to extend to the Kaiapoi Bowling Club our most sincere and warm congratulations on reaching the outstanding milestone of 100 years in existence, and celebrating that centenary this year.

Our forefathers who brought to the shores of Kaiapoi their faith, their democratic ideals, and their traditional culture, would indeed be very proud today on the way in which their vision has become reality during the last 100 years.

They would never have envisaged men and women combining together to play this wonderful game of lawn bowls, which has become part of a heritage in the Kaiapoi district over the years.

We wish you continuing success in the future.

Noel McGregor
President
Bowls Canterbury



A Message from the Ladies' President

Dear Fellow Members

As your Ladies' President I consider it an honour to be your President at this particular time. A hundred years is a long time, when we look back and see what has been achieved. I am sure you will all, women and men, have a lot of memories of the past to talk over and as you read through this booklet you will be able to reminisce from the past to the present day. I am sure you will agree the biggest asset to the club is our new green and I would hope in time to come that it will be used by all members and surrounding clubs.

In conclusion I wish all members good health and good bowling.

Dawn McIntosh
Ladies' President



Acknowledgements

Researching the history of the Kaiapoi Bowling Club, in conjunction with our historian George Matthews, has been a fascinating experience. It tells of the establishment and growth of the sport nationally and locally. It also tells a great deal more, it traces some of the history of Kaiapoi's development. We are indeed fortunate that our minute books are in safe custody and therefore the history can be recorded with accuracy.

It is with grateful thanks that we acknowledge Delma Allfrey, for the initial typing of the majority of the book, and to Tracey Brouwer-Bennetts for her contribution also. I personally wish to thank Sumant Murugesh for the hours spent on layout, Vicki Bateup for her cover design, and to The Sir George Seymour National College of Tourism and Travel who provided the facilities for the final printing and binding. Thanks are also due to the Kaiapoi District Historical Society Inc. for allowing us to publish some of the photographs and records from their archives.



Figure 1:
George Matthews, History and Research

While we have mentioned a large number of members it must be appreciated that it is not possible to include every member who has been associated with the club during its existence, in this booklet. I hope that you will enjoy the read and may this small history bring back many happy memories.

Warren Stanbury

The Beginnings

The earliest settlers played bowls in New Zealand but it was many years before the first club was officially formed. This was in Auckland in 1860 and the club was playing on its own green by 1862. Ten years later the Dunedin Club opened its green followed by the third club in Christchurch in 1875. By the turn of the century two further Christchurch clubs were firmly established, these were Canterbury (1883) and Sydenham (1889). The next club to be formed was St Albans in 1902, this date being shared with the first North Canterbury club, Kaiapoi.

There is evidence that bowls were played in Kaiapoi several years before the official formation of the club. A happy band of friends used to gather together on Saturday afternoons on the large lawns of Mr Edwin Parnham at Beachvale and from 1900 with the arrival of the long serving Vicar of Kaiapoi, Rev. John Holland, the Vicarage was brought into play. Both of these extensive lawns were big enough to cater for 24 bowlers on 3 rinks. The minutes also reveal that Mr Isaac Wilson's lawn was occasionally used.

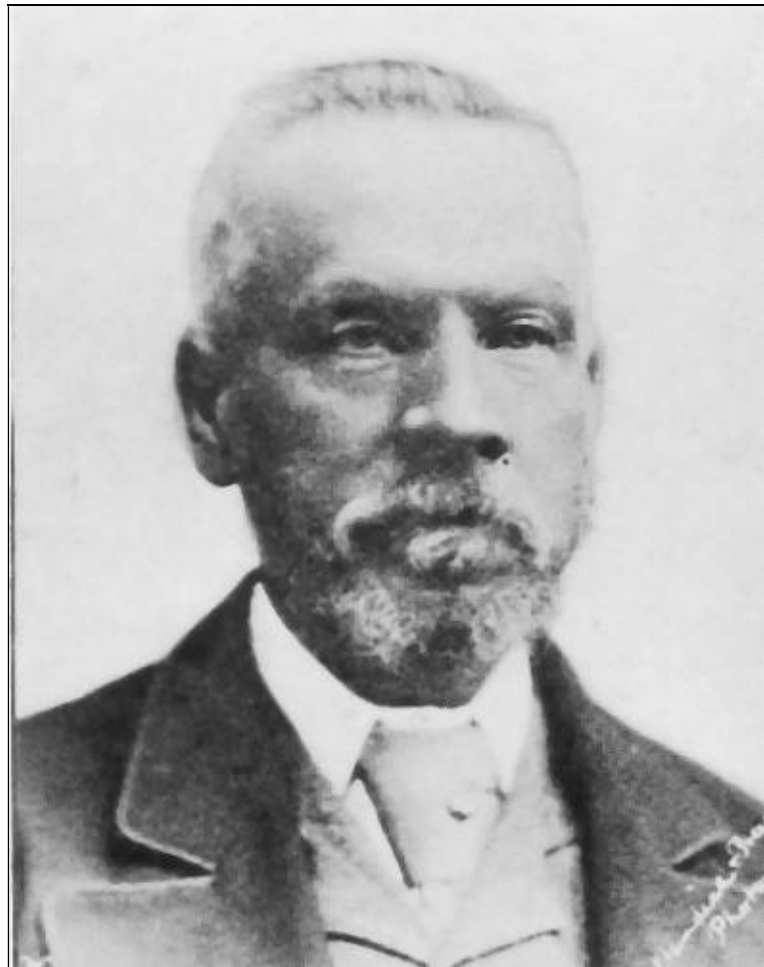


Figure 2: Edwin Parnham-"father of bowls" in Kaiapoi.

The actual date of the formation of the club is not shown in the first minute book but on the first page date 7th October 1902 it was moved and carried that the opening day be Saturday 11th October 1902. A list of some 45 people who were posted invitations is also shown.

At least 20 were ladies being wives and daughters of prospective members. The first opening day on the Vicarage lawn must have been very well attended and the brass band that played all afternoon was rewarded with a guinea (21 shillings) for their efforts.



Figure 3: First President, Kaiapoi Bowling Club-Rev. John Holland.

On that first day some 20 sets of new bowls were purchased for a total of 22 pounds, for new bowlers, and at least 12 sets were sold that day. They would almost certainly have been woods made by Thomas Taylor of Glasgow who have been making bowls for over 200 years. The woods were made from a very hard wood, Lignum Vitae, which came from Central America. These were commonly used until the 1960's but with the introduction of composite bowls, first by R.W. Hensell & Sons in the 1930's, wooden bowls are almost Museum pieces today.

1903

The first Tournament was held after the New Year holidays and the prize, a pair of Silver mounted bowls was won by Rev. Holland. Mr Alex Purdie won the second prize. These were presented on closing day in 1903 at Beachvale after the match. The game Messrs Parnham's team versus the Club was won by the Parnhams. In acknowledgement of her many kindnesses, the members of the club presented Mrs Parnham with a gold mounted greenstone brooch.

The balance sheet for the first season reveals 28 members paid 10 shillings and 6 pence (half a guinea) and this was the sole source of income (14 pounds 14 shillings). The expenditure of 10 pounds 14 shillings and 9 pence included a lawn mower (2 pounds 17 shillings and 6 pence) and six jacks at 1 shilling each (present price over \$50 each).

The first Annual Meeting held on the 5th October 1903 elected Mr Edwin Parnham, President, with Rev. Holland and Mr A. Purdie, Vice-Presidents. The Secretary/Treasurer was Mr A.F. Mackay. The subscription was raised to 21 shillings (1 Guinea). Opening day that year was 24th October at Beachvale. It was designated "Ladies Day" and there appears to have been a large gathering with the brass band again entertaining.

1904

The first Interclub game was played on the Vicarage lawn at Rangiora on 2nd January. Kaiapoi won the two games 48 points to 26 points. A return game played at the Kaiapoi Vicarage resulted in a win to Kaiapoi by two wins and a draw, total points 60-49.

Many of the early members were prominent citizens of the town including clergymen, doctors, lawyers, schoolteachers and businessmen. At least 13 had served or became Mayors of Kaiapoi. Two men, Mr Isaac Wilson and Mr R.M. Moore, had been MP's for the Kaiapoi District.

At that time Kaiapoi was a thriving town of almost 2000 people with over 500 children attending the Borough School. Shipping was still very important with many small ships using the Port regularly.

By far the most important industry was the Woollen Mills, which at its height employed over 600 men and women. It became famous for producing high quality rugs and blankets. The Woollen Mills was started in 1878 when some 15 local men took out shares of 1000 pounds each to finance the formation of the Kaiapoi Woollen Manufacturing Co. Ltd. At least six of these shareholders were foundation members of the Kaiapoi Bowling Club. Messrs G.H. & J.H. Blackwell served as Managing Directors of the Mill for many years.

A match labelled Club v Factory was played on 23rd January 1904, with the Factory winning by 42 points to 22. This sounds a bit like a Gentleman v Players game but it is quite probable that the Factory workers included some of the Directors or Managers of the Mill.

The first venture into Christchurch was against Sydenham on 28th February 1904. The 3 teams of four were beaten 54 points to 28. The mode of transport is not shown but it is quite possible that the train was used although regular coach services were also available at that time. It was to be many years before motor transport was used, the first reference dated 1917 said that car fares were to be 1 shilling each way. Presumably if you couldn't afford a two-way trip you walked home.

With the growth of the club a sub-committee was formed to investigate possible sites for a proper bowling green. At least six sites were viewed and at first the Kaiapoi Park land was a favourite. In March 1904 the half-acre property belonging to the Church Property Trustees was found to be most suitable, the price was 50 pounds.

The expense for the erection of a small pavilion was 70 pounds. Fencing and green expenses accounted for another 70 pounds. To cover these accounts a loan of 100 pounds was obtained from Mr John Sims, the Kaiapoi ship owner. This gentleman donated the flagpole, which is still in use today. With the erection of the pavilion and the formation of the green the club opened the season on October 15th with Mr Edwin Parnham elected President for the second time.

The invitation cards show the address to be the Old Bridge Road (now Revell Street). This road crossed the Cam River at Whites Bridge, continued down what is now Ranfurly Street, and past the Woollen Mills to the Black Track. The road was eventually renamed Revell Street and although marked on most maps it is not signposted. The area originally belonged to one of Kaiapoi's earliest settlers, Thomas Revell, who arrived early in 1853 with his wife and family of five sons and five daughters. A house was built where the carpark of the Bowling Club now is. It was subsequently pulled down in the 1930's. The area at the turn of the river is still known as Revell's Point. The original Mrs Revell had the Mafeking Swing Bridge (by the school) constructed and presented it to the Kaiapoi Borough Council. Many of the fine trees in this area were planted around the homestead. Two of the trees a magnificent Linden (Lime) tree, by the bowling club entrance gate, and a large Elm are protected. This area subsequently passed to a Mr A. Jackson and in 1944 an offer was received to exchange the land known as Revell's for life membership for him and his father. A Special General Meeting on December 2nd 1944 accepted the offer with an overwhelming majority. There is no evidence that either gentleman ever played bowls.



Figure 4: First opening day on present site, Oct 15, 1904.

Amongst the large gathering on opening day were many new members. The list of 62 meant that there was a rise of over 100% in 2 years. Mr Parnham congratulated the members for obtaining such a fine site and Mrs Parnham was invited to send the first bowl up the green. Mrs Pearce, wife of the Mayor, unfurled the flag, which the ladies had presented to the club.

Play then commenced on the four rinks and later that afternoon, tea was presented by Mr Parnham and served by the ladies. Again the brass band was in attendance for the opening day.

A long list of gifts is noted in the minutes ranging from a roller to a box of biscuits. Mr Parnham exhibited a specimen blazer with the Kaiapoi colours of Blue and Gold. After discussion it was carried that the same be accepted as the club uniform.

1905

During the year the club affiliated with the New Zealand Bowling Association and in October 1905 the Committee gave permission to Mr Isaac Wilson (at his own expense) to form the Kaiapoi Croquet Club on land behind the new pavilion. The official opening of the Kaiapoi Croquet Club took place on January 21st 1905 and the Bowling club agreed to collect 1 shilling per head at the gate. Mr Wilson gave the sum of 3 pounds 3 shillings as half share of the entry money.

In January 1905 a team comprising of some of Kaiapoi's top bowlers was entered in the New Zealand Tournament held in Christchurch. They were R.M. Wright, G.H. Blackwell, D. Cossgrove and J. Hayman.

There is no report of their success or otherwise. With only 4 greens in use at that time it would not have attracted a large entry and mostly from the South Island. It was not until 1914 that the first official New Zealand Championships for Singles, Pairs and Fours was held in Dunedin.

In March the first recorded "D" Pennants match was played on the Canterbury Bowling Club green. This was Kaiapoi v Leeston and resulted in a victory by one point, the scores being Kaiapoi 60 Leeston 59. Each had one win and one draw. A noticeable feature of the match was the playing of Miss Gossett of Leeston who played an excellent game throughout.

Women certainly played bowls long before the New Zealand Women's Bowling Association was established in 1930 but their involvement was mostly social games. It was not until 1951 that the first National Championship Fours was held. The following year Pairs were added and finally Singles in 1957.



**Figure 5: Prominent bowlers of the early era included-
Back-Const. Simpson, Richard Wylie. Front- R.M.Wright and G.H Blackwell**

Before the end of the season further games were played against Canterbury with a six rink match on the Kaiapoi green, the more experienced Canterbury bowlers winning 93 to 46. The Rangiora match was again played at Rangiora with the visitors winning by 9 points.

The annual fixture with the members connected with the Woollen Mills and the rest of the club resulted in the club winning by 59 points to 50. The teams named in the Lyttelton Times April 6th showed that Mr G.H. Blackwell (storekeeper) and Mr E. Parnham (farmer) were playing for the Mill.

At the Annual Meeting of the club Mr Parnham, who by this time was known as the “father of bowls” in Kaiapoi, retired from the office of President, which he had occupied for two years. During his speech he spoke of the great pleasure he had in seeing the marked success of the club. He added that after a life long experience of sport in Kaiapoi he could only say that the Bowling Club was the most successful of all of the clubs he had been associated with. The election of officers resulted in Mr G.H. Blackwell being elected President with Dr Murray and Mr R.M. Moore as Vice-Presidents.

On September 15th 1905 a Grand Concert was held with lots of local talent. A copy of the ticket (figure 6) and programme (figure 7) is shown below.



Figure 6: Concert ticket

From the start of 1905/06 season Pennant Games were being played against clubs in Christchurch plus home and away matches against Rangiora. The Rangiora bowling, tennis and croquet clubs were officially formed in 1905 when the present property at the corner of Good and Blackett Streets was acquired. An invitation to Club members to attend the opening day on their new green on December 16, 1905 was accepted.

1906

The Southbridge and Leeston Clubs were informed that Saturday afternoons was the only time available for Pennant matches owing to so many of the club members being connected with the Woollen Mills. The Centre was similarly advised.

In July it was resolved to borrow a further loan of 50 pounds from Mr Sims to pay off the outstanding accounts and repay Mr Parnham's loan of 40 pounds less donation of 5 pounds. This gentleman was thanked for his kindness in lending the club the money free of any interest.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL,
— KAIAPOI —
Friday, Sept. 15, '05.

GRAND CONCERT

IN AID OF KAIAPOI BOWLING CLUB

PROGRAMME.

OVERTURE .. ..	.. ..	MR. C. HOSKIN
SONG .. ..	.. ..	MISS WILSON
SONG .. ..	.. ..	MR. HAWKER
COON SONGS & MANDOLIN SOLO .. ..	.. ..	.. ..
.. ..	.. ..	MISS C. BIRD
COMIC SONG .. ..	.. ..	MR. ATCHESON
RECITATION .. ..	.. ..	MR. ARMITAGE
SONG .. ..	.. ..	MISS MACKENZIE
SONG (Humorous) .. ..	.. ..	MR. J. JOHNSON
SONG .. ..	.. ..	MR. HAWKER
SKIRT DANCE .. ..	.. ..	MISS BIRD
COMIC SONG .. ..	.. ..	MR. ATCHESON
INTERVAL		
CORNET SOLO .. ..	.. ..	MR. C. HOSKIN

To conclude with the Sparkling Comedietta—

"The Father of a Family"

BY KAIAPOI AMATEURS.

SCENE.—The Cabin of the "Saucy Kate"

CHARACTERS.—Captain Salt; Joe, Chief Mate; Harry, Second Mate; Bill, Third Mate; Mr. Murrill, Chief Engineer; Bob, Bos'n; Mrs. Salt; Mary Martin.

—o—

Overture at 7.45; Curtain at 8.

—o—

Front Seats 2s.
Back Seats 1s.

Figure 7: Concert programme

The list of members for the 1905/06 season totalled 56.

At the Annual General Meeting in September, a letter was read from Mrs Parnham, Senior Vice-President of the Croquet Club, advising that the body wished the President of the Bowling Club to be also President of the Croquet Club. A sum of 7 pounds 10 shillings was offered for the upkeep of the two croquet lawns. This was accepted but did not last long, as the following year they elected their own President.

1907

During this year Mr Sims asked for repayment of his loan of 150 pounds and to cover this the club arranged with the Kaiapoi Building Society, a loan for that amount to be paid off monthly over 14 years.

On October 12th beautiful weather favoured the opening of the bowling season. There was a gathering of some 200 ladies and gentlemen in response to the invitations of Mr R. Moore (President) and Mrs Moore who kindly presented afternoon tea. Mr Moore in a brief speech remarked that it was due to the efforts of “the father of bowling” in Kaiapoi Mr E. Parnham that the game had become so popular.

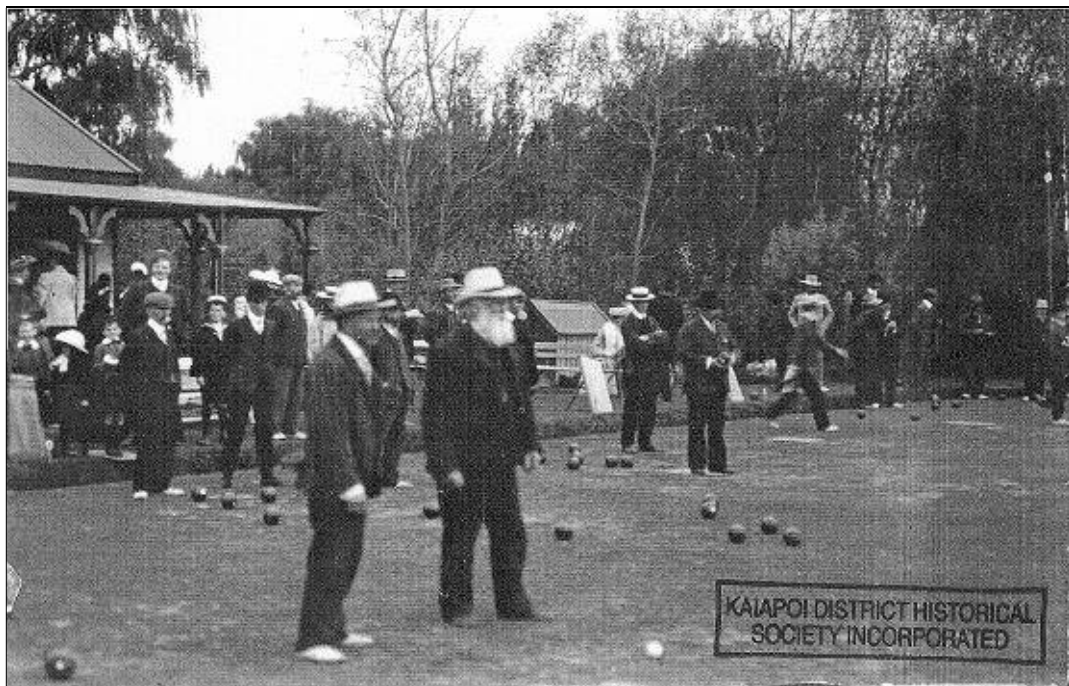


Figure 8: Beautiful weather for opening day Oct 12, 1907

Later in the year an interesting party was held, the green was fully taken up and also the croquet lawns with ladies forming half the teams. They, of course, provided the refreshments and an open-air concert was held.



Figure 9: Note the sun umbrellas

1908

Another opening day with over 200 ladies and gentlemen present. The green was in splendid order and the President was Mr A.F. Mackay who had been Secretary/Treasurer for the first 5 years. The brass band was again in attendance and contributed selections.

By this season there were plenty of Pennant games with newly established clubs, United, Opawa and Ashburton, the latter match being held on the United green.

1910

Disaster struck the Bowling Club in March 1910 when the pavilion was destroyed by fire. The Kaiapoi Record reported on the incident, a copy of which is reproduced on page 14 (figure 10).

Letters of sympathy were received from several clubs and also offers to loan bowls. Mr Alfred Pearce, President of the club, offered to supply Taylor Extra Special Bowls at 40 shillings a set and this was accepted.

At a Special General Meeting in August Mr Pearce submitted the plans and specifications for a new enlarged pavilion. The tender of 171 pounds was accepted, the site being at the southern end of the green.

Fire.

BOWLING CLUB'S PAVILION DESTROYED.

On Saturday night at about 9 o'clock, for the third time in a brief period, the services of our Fire Brigade were called into requisition, when the alarm was given that the Bowling Club's pavilion was on fire. The Brigade promptly got to work and with the hand engine on the drain bridge and the steamer at the swing bridge the fire was quelled, but unfortunately not in time to save anything. A large number of bowls were destroyed. The building and its contents were insured for £100 in the Standard Office, but the loss will be considerably above that sum. The cause of the fire is not known, but the suggestion that some player had left an unextinguished pipe in his blazer is worthy of credence for several reasons. The members, before leaving on Saturday night, fancied they smelled fire, but after an exhaustive but unsuccessful search, concluded they had been mistaken. Loud knocks, evidently caused by falling bowls, were heard by Miss Revell and another lady, who on going outside found the building on fire and promptly gave the alarm.

Figure 10:

Copy of original article as reported in the Kaiapoi Record.



Figure 11: Opening of pavilion, 1910, at southern end of the green.



This pavilion served the club for many years until finally being dismantled in 1986. To raise money for the extra cost a committee was formed to run an Art Union, which resulted in a splendid profit of 100 pounds 1 shilling and 9 pence. The Secretary/Treasurer was Mr Mealings.

A referendum to change the clubs colours was held and with a majority vote of 27 to 13 the colours for blazers were as follows: - Navy blue with orange piping and orange monogram K.B.C. on pocket. The price was nineteen shillings and sixpence, made to measure. An original blazer is on display in the Kaiapoi Museum.

1911

January

A letter from greenkeeper Mr E.A. Greenaway expressed thanks to the committee for assisting to pay for his wife's funeral.

August

The tender of Mr C. Bainton for a 2-inch well to a depth of 310ft was accepted, the final cost being 35 pounds 1 shilling and 3 pence. This provided pure artesian water and was used for many years for watering the green. In a recent gale, a large tree in the southwest corner near the Croquet Club was blown over. The clearing of the ground around the tree uncovered two taps to the original well. The water is still of excellent quality.

1912 March

On March 12th 1912 the club was registered under the New Zealand Incorporated Society Act in the name of Kaiapoi Bowling Club Inc. Books of new rules were sent to each member.

1914-18

While there is not reference to the First World War in the minutes it undoubtedly affected the town badly with some 26 young men who gave their lives. Several were sons and grandsons of members of the club. The patriotic committee was chaired by Mayors J.W. Barnard (1915) and J.H. Blackwell (1916-23) and the Secretary, Town Clerk C.H. Wright. They were all prominent bowlers of the club. On April 25th 1918 they organised the first ANZAC Day celebration with an evening service in the Drill Hall and 3 years later organised the erection of the Raven Street Memorial at a cost of 1240 pounds.

The formation of the Kaiapoi Workingmen's Club Bowling Club in 1916 undoubtedly affected the membership for many years. The first match against them was in December with Kaiapoi winning 98 points to 51. A return match in January 1917 on the K.W.M.C green resulted in a win to them 88 points to 77. The newspaper clippings reveal that at least 6 bowlers of the K.W.M.C had been members of the Kaiapoi Bowling Club.

1916 August

The Annual General Meeting shows subscriptions to be 1 pound 10 shillings, which could be paid in instalments. To meet the overdraft several members took out debentures to be paid off by degrees. Over several years there were many greenkeepers appointed at 2 pounds per week, but none seemed to last more than a few months. When advertised there were often several applicants.

1922

In conjunction with the Croquet Club a gala was held resulting in a splendid profit of 81 pounds 16 shillings and 1 penny. The balance sheet showed a credit of 54 pounds 11 shillings and 7 pence for that season.

1926

It was resolved that electric lights were to be installed in the bowling room and ladies' room. In this year the Croquet Club acquired their present land and had new lawns. With extra work involved the greenkeeper, Mr Joe Jowers, applied for an increase in his 2 pounds per week wage. With the Croquet Club unable to pay more and the Bowling Club unwilling to pay, his services were dispensed with. Mr Jowers was a member for 32 years until his death in 1966.

1928

Annual General Meeting attracted only 7 members.

1930

First mention of the McIntosh Shield for the Inter-Club Sports with Rangiora.

The Middle Years

1930-39

The minute book for these years makes grim reading. For 7 years running (1931-37) the attendance at the Annual General Meetings varied between 6 and 7. The total membership was 20 or less and the accounts show a debit balance all these years with outstanding subs being chased.

1932

Mr Menneer the President reported that arrangements had been made with the Unemployment Board to engage a man to help with the green, the club to pay one week in three.

1933

Congratulations were sent to Mr E. Monk on winning the Maddison Trophy for the Champion of Champions singles for the Kaiapoi W.M.C, a feat he repeated the following year. At that time he was a member of both clubs. The Manning Cup for Inter-Club Pennant Games was won for the first time. One team of two Fours was involved.

1934-36

The Honours Board shows that only the Singles was played in 1936. Pairs and Fours were not played or not finished in those 3 seasons.

1940

From the start of the Second World War membership started to increase with 10 new members. Mr W. Hart, President, was appointed our representative on the War Service Committee. In July Mr Llew Evans was appointed President of the New Zealand Bowling Association.

August

An indoor match with Buntings Ltd for 3 rinks was accepted and the Annual General Meeting reported 9 new members.

1941

At the Annual General Meeting the minutes reveal that it was decided to discontinue with the bank overdraft. The Mackay Badges are mentioned again with teams consisting of two "A" and two "B" players.

1942

September

A request for Sunday play was received from the Kaiapoi W.M.C. A green fee of 1 shilling per player was suggested.

October

The first hint of war involvement was when the Secretary Mr E. Miles tendered his resignation to join the Air Force. He was made an honorary member. A Labour Day Tournament showed a profit of 4 pounds 1 shilling.

December

A Pairs Tournament was held with entry fees of 1 shilling per player. Mr Evans kindly donated 2 bags (25lbs each) of flour for the winners.

The struggle to meet expenses is evident for the first 40 years of the clubs existence. Subscriptions reached a high 2 pounds 10 shillings in 1925 but by 1935 it was back to 1 pound 5 shillings with only 20 members. This was probably due to the depression years.

1943**April**

It appears that the Dr Ramsey Memorial Cup (presented in 1937) was played for the first time this year. Games against Kaiapoi W.M.C and Belfast resulted in our club retaining the Trophy.

June

A letter of appreciation was received from the Kaiapoi Patriotic Committee for assistance at the recent carnival.

1944**July**

There was a large attendance at the Annual General Meeting with the President expressing satisfaction at the sound position of the club.

September

An offer was received from Mr A. Jackson, Camside, to exchange property adjoining the croquet lawns for a Life Membership for himself and his father. This was accepted at a Special General Meeting on December 2nd 1944.

1945 October

The Turner Cup for competition against the Avon Club was introduced. It was played for annually for many years and is still on display in our Trophy cabinet. The Avon Club ceased to operate in the 1980's. The Secretary was instructed to apply for a 40gal petrol licence to enable members to attend various bowling fixtures. A Colts Championship was introduced.

1946

At the Annual General Meeting the first reference to the installation of the telephone was made. After many references over the years it was not until February 1973 that this was achieved.

1947

A monthly tournament on Sundays was introduced for the first time with an entry fee of 4 shillings per player. A decision to have blue blazers with the club monogram was made to conform to Centre rules. In December it was decided to sell club wooden bowls for 5 pounds per set.

1949

March

Results of a raffle showed a profit of 62 pounds 18 shillings and 9 pence. The Parnham Cup was played for the first time against Papanui. Results were Kaiapoi 75 Papanui 83. The Cup is still played for annually and is on a home and away basis.

At the Annual General Meeting the President reported that the past season was the most successful in the club's history, both financially and socially. The club was now free of debt and the 150 pounds owing to debenture holders had been paid off. The cash statement showed a credit balance of 39 pounds 4 shillings and 7 pence.

The membership showed 58 ordinary members and 3 life members. The James Mealings Memorial was first played on our green against Kaiapoi W.M.C on 11th February and resulted in a win to Kaiapoi.

1951

September

A letter was received from Mrs R.C. Crow re admitting ladies to the Bowling Club. After some discussion it was decided to seek information from other clubs and to advise the ladies. A meeting would be called but little action appears to have been taken until the Annual General Meeting of 1953. On the death of Mr J.B. Evans, his son presented an electric clock to the club as a memorial. Dick Haworth offered a cup for members for an evening competition.

October

A meeting with the ladies interested in bowls was called and they were asked to put in writing their proposals.

1952

March

Mr C. Whitley presented a Cup for Champion Fours against Kaiapoi W.M.C, which was won by Kaiapoi.

October 11th

The Golden Jubilee opening day was well attended with Mr W.H. Gillespie M.P. congratulating the club. Jock Yellowlees (the oldest member) rolled the first jack. Mr & Mrs G.E. Graham donated the large bell used for tournaments. The Manning Cup was won for the 2nd time.