



HAMILTON

WORKINGMEN'S CLUB INC.

*Feature articles
inside include...*

**...VERY ACTIVE
SUB-SECTIONS**

**...HOUSE OF
MEMORIES**

**...‘ALL-RIGHT’
CHARACTER**

**...1948 - THE DAY
FRANKTON WAS
RIPPED APART**



2008 Year Book



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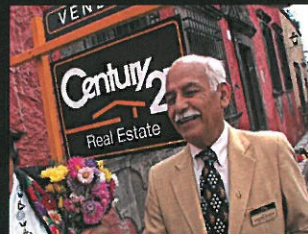
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ENJOY WHAT YOUR CLUB HAS TO OFFER

Experts tell us history shows a club that stands still is actually going backwards.

Fortunately your Hamilton Workingmen's Club has an executive and management who continue to be pro-active as they confidently work together planning for the future.

Our stable leadership, the attitude and expertise of those who hold the various reins plus the combined business and development sense of their experienced advisers, are envied by those involved in other club organisations, many of whom are struggling in the present economic environment.

Our club's recent moves re nearby property purchases have been announced via the club notice boards to enable members to keep up with the play.

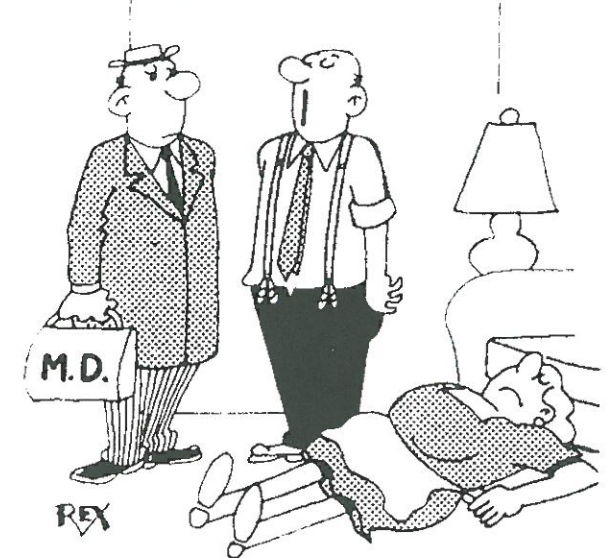
By the time you read this report some of the changes planned for the Commerce St entranceway may have been implemented

The club's elected leaders remain reluctant to publicly accept the praise they deserve. From time to time they have to make the 'big calls' on various issues and we are fortunate to have such experienced campaigners at the helm. They continue to get real pleasure out of watching members enjoy what the club has to offer.

The V8's have come and gone. The club prepared thoroughly for the big occasion and the hierarchy were encouraged by the eager response from members when volunteer help was called for. The management and staff need to be congratulated on their efforts and while the end result was perhaps not as healthy as predicted by those outside sources supposedly in the know, the club's treasurer still smiled when he saw the weekend's final outcome.

As it has been widely reported, some of the expectations of the race organisers and businesses were certainly not realised, but no doubt everyone learnt from the exercise. Overseas contacts said Hamilton's promotion of the event was rated as superb and therefore widely praised. Full marks to the council and race authorities for their enterprise and we all look forward to hearing and debating their plans for the promotion next year.

"ALL I SAID WAS THAT I WAS NOT GOING TO THE CLUB TODAY"



Congratulations to those members who excelled in their chosen sport over the last year. The sub-sections need the support of members. Why not link up with one or more so you make new friends, participate in their programmes and therefore enhance your time spent in the club.

We again remind members goodwill, tolerance and common sense are necessary ingredients for all successful clubs. We will all face situations which test loyalties, friendships and constitutions. There are several ways to react, but remember to go through the proper club procedures so the matter can be handled by the right people at the appropriate time.

Our membership numbers mean our facilities, from time to time, come under tremendous pressure and we again ask you to be patient if you find yourself in a testing situation. Communication is the key so if a problem does arise please advise the duty bar manager.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

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Always remember the language and dress codes that apply and the rules re visitors. The returning of glasses and dining utensils is much appreciated by the staff.

A special welcome to all new members. Our club boasts a splendid history. Some of our senior members proudly tell us they have now been involved for more than half a century.

This year book covers various items of interest as well as the all-important finance report and AGM details. Please support our advertisers. All our executives, management and staff aim to make your visits worthwhile. Please assist them in their endeavours.

Remember, enjoy your club and all it offers.

THEY SAID IT...

Sporting quotes which caused much comment in their time...

- You can stop counting, I'm not getting up – **Jim Watt**, the former world lightweight boxing champion.
- I resigned as coach because of illness and fatigue – the team and fans were sick and tired of me – **John Ralston**, formerly of the Denver Broncos.
- I just opened the trophy cabinet. Two Japanese prisoners of war came out – **Tommy Docherty**, on life as Wolverhampton Wanderers manager.
- After the match an official asked for two people to take dope tests – I offered him today's two linesmen – Docherty again.
- A good darts player who can count seems to always beat a better player who can't – **Leighton Rees**, darts champion.
- For those of you still with black and white sets, Liverpool are in the all-red strip – British TV commentator,
- For ageing boxers, first your legs go. Then your reflexes go. Third your friends go – Willie Pep, former world boxing champion.
- Being a baseball manager is simple. All you have to do is keep the five players who hate your guts away from the five who are undecided – **Casey Stringer**.
- I love Liverpool so much that if I caught one of their players in bed with my missus I'd tiptoe downstairs to make him a cuppa tea – **Anon**.
- I will always give relegated Luton my support – in fact I'm wearing it at this very moment. Some people think it's just the way I walk! – **Eric Morecombe**, UK comedian.
- Epsom again fell foul of a bad referee who insisted on penalising them for their stupid fouls – Epsom and Ewell Advertiser.
- I tee the ball high because years of experience have shown me that air offers less resistance than dirt – **Jack Nicklaus**, golfer.
- English country gents often hunts birds and no one objected when the ruler of Abu Dhabi decided to try his hand at the sport at his luxurious English mansion. What distressed his neighbours was that he used a machine gun – Newsweek.
- You have to treat death like any other part of life – **Tom Sneva**, US racing driver.
- One of our sprinters was told: "You've got no chance against me today, I've had an extra two pints from the milkman." – British Olympic cycling team manager, **Jim Hendry**, claiming blood doping by American competitors had been prevalent at the 1984 Olympic Games.

- Dutch goalkeepers are protected to a ridiculous extent. The only time they're in danger of physical contact is when they go into a red-light district – UK soccer manager, **Brian Clough**, when he signed two goalkeepers from The Netherlands.
- God has a task for all of us and you just have to do the best you can at it. For me, right now, it just happens to be running a marathon backwards – **Albert Freese**, the world backwards marathon record holder.
- I'm still chasing the girls, but now I'm catching them – UK Sports Council Youth promotion slogan.
- Women's influence on the schools sports system has wrecked it. They went for music and movement. Women are basically anti-competition – **Peter Lawson**, the general secretary of the British Central Council for Physical Recreation.
- It should be a cause of real concern to cricket chiefs that the batsman himself has become as much a target for the fast bowlers of the world as the wicket he defends – Wisden editorial.
- What goes on out in the middle is our business, it's nothing to do with you! – Cricket umpire **Mervyn Kitchen** to TV commentator.
- They like me in Japan. I'm small and can hit the ball 300 yards – German golfer **Bernhard Langer** after signing a lucrative clothing contract in Tokyo.
- Team spirit is an illusion which you only glimpse when you win – **Steve Archibald**, Barcelona and Tottenham soccer forward.
- Blacks are first-class citizens when they are winning, but treated like second-class citizens when they stop – **Sid Pickering**, British athletics coach and BBC commentator.
- Zola Budd once got \$180,000 for running a race, but they said she proved she was still an amateur because she came fourth – BBC World Service.
- There are men who fear women more than they love cricket – Lancashire member who seconded motion to let women into Old Trafford pavilion.
- Let the women in and before long the place will be full of children – Lancashire member who opposed motion.
- Give us a pavilion behind the bowler's arm, put in a bar and the women can go where the hell they like – Undecided Lancashire member.

WORTH REPEATING...

The Professor Stent asked his Oxford University creative class to write a concise essay containing four elements – Religion, royalty, sex and mystery. George's prize winning entry read: "My God!" said the Queen. "I'm pregnant. I wonder who did it?"

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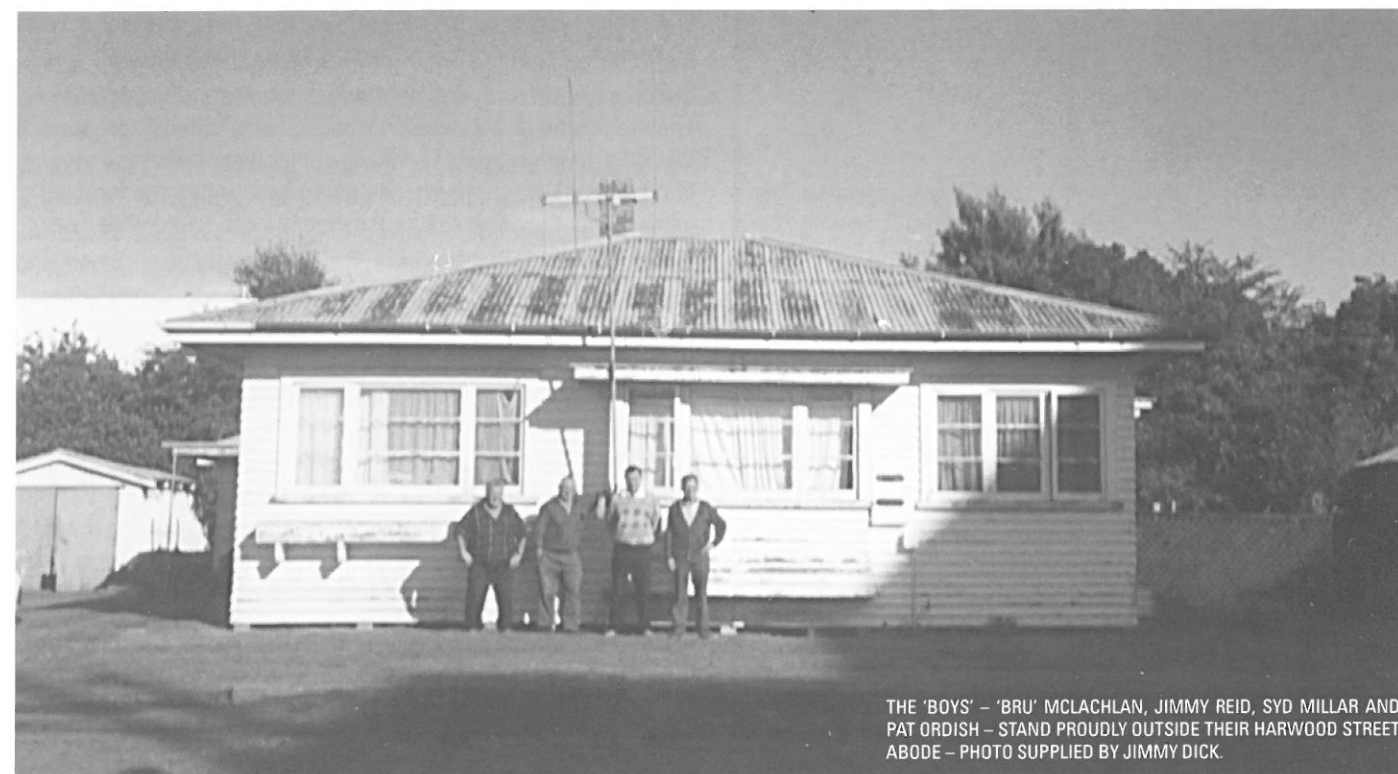
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HOUSE OF MEMORIES



THE 'BOYS' – 'BRU' MCLACHLAN, JIMMY REID, SYD MILLAR AND PAT ORDISH – STAND PROUDLY OUTSIDE THEIR HARWOOD STREET ABODE – PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JIMMY DICK.

Because of its majestic presence just across the road from the 'old' Hamilton Workingmen's Club in Harwood Street, one of the original wooden houses built at northern end of central business district became one of the best-known abodes in the city.

Records showed it had served the needs of many conservative, but well-known identities through two world wars, a tornado and other anxious moments over the years.

However, it took on a new lease of life when it became available as a rental proposition and some characters, with HWMC connections, moved in.

Some affectionately began to call the well-worn structure 'The House of the Rising Sons'! While the hit song suggested it would be the ruin of many a poor boy, the house, in fact, became a special haven for those who arrived on its doorstep with a battered suitcase and little else.

Even though the iron roof and many of the front weatherboards always needed painting, the spouting leaked and the grounds were scruffy, those who were invited into the fold found it was a place of real warmth with plenty of room to eat, sleep, relax and entertain.

Personnel changed slightly from time to time, but as the years went by characters and genuine good blokes such as Jimmy Reid, Jimmy Dick, Pat Ordish, Syd Millar and 'Bru' McLachlan became integrated into the scheme of things. They came from vastly different backgrounds and work places. They all had their own life stories to tell. They soon found peace in their new abode. If they so desired they could escape from the world in their own special room. While it was a place where no-one could tell them what to do, they soon realised it certainly helped if they

went along with the flow and didn't object or interject too often. Sure, there were the odd flare-ups, but most importantly they all discovered they were indeed 'somebody' and had won respect of their peers by just being there. They soon found the others did care, especially if the previous day hadn't gone as planned. The morning breakfast chats, as the various pills went down, were absorbing, amusing, with an ingredient of some agro from time to time to keep everyone on the ball. The lines of responsibility re rent, cooking, cleaning, visitors, home and away functions and money to buy the weekly specials from the wholesaler were clearly repeated time and again. While there were a couple of minor hiccups, financial concerns were aired and soon sorted as they relaxed in their special chairs. Most early aches and pains were usually kept secret until mood changes indicated something was seriously wrong. Visitors who came bearing

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

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Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him...A supercalloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

Did you know more than 600 members attended the over 65 Christmas luncheon on Monday, 26 November, last year. It was a great occasion, especially for those senior members who live away from Hamilton. They always look forward to meeting their old mates, enhancing tales of the past and catching up with the news.

gifts and good humour were always welcome, however those who came empty-handed and bearing grudges were soon discouraged.

They soon discovered it was 176 paces and approx 90 seconds from 'The House of the Rising Sons' to the club's front door, but sometimes 1076 paces and anything up to half an hour on the return journey!

The antics and attitudes of the house inhabitants were always closely monitored. Through their deep love of good times, bowls and racing and most other sports, they all became well-known throughout the Waikato as their expertise shone through.

Sudden changes of fortunes tested the waters several times. They took time to get over the shock of one of the 'lads' leaving the 'nest' to get married. A willing replacement was soon found, but unfortunately there was no going back when the fatal letter arrived with the news the house was to be pulled down.

They left with heavy hearts and even though they vowed and declared their new surroundings were fine and dandy, nothing was ever the same at Dyer Street.

Another move, to Churchill Avenue alongside the Maeroa Intermediate School, lifted spirits again for a time until serious health issues emerged and a couple of the club's favourite sons were dealt their final hand.

IS THIS TRUE?

- Being a Kiwi is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then grabbing an Indian curry or Turkish kebab on the way home to sit on Swedish furniture and watch American shows on a Japanese TV.
- **Only in NZ...**do supermarkets make sick people walk all the way to the back of the shop to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.
- **Only in NZ...**do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a DIET coke.
- **Only in NZ...**do banks leave both doors open and chain the pens to the counters.
- **Only in NZ...**do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars on the drive and lock our junk and cheap lawn mower in the garage.
- **Only in NZ...**do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.

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JIMMY REID DEFINITELY OUR 'ALL-RIGHT' GUY!

'ORL-ALL RIGHT!!! ORL-ALL RIGHT!!! When those magic words echoed out of the casino or TAB or on or near the Frankton Junction bowling green most club members knew in an instant that Jimmy Reid had struck it lucky.

And the majority were pleased at his success because they admired his attitude. They knew just what made their gallant, likable Korean war veteran tick. A man of the world through his experiences as a freezing worker among other occupations, a real fighter for the causes he believed in, James Leslie (Jimmy) Reid loved nothing better than a battle against the odds. Life didn't always go the way he wanted, but he did not dwell on several setbacks. When pressed, he spoke of his war experiences, but generally he was reluctant to recall those days.

In later years he was definitely at his happiest when he found himself out in the garden or behind a motor-mower or in front of a poker machine or in the act of telling a story. He also loved the thrill of the contest when he sat at a card table, when he was in the thick of the action on a bowling green, or when he strode purposely into the TAB. When he had a glint in his eye he left you in no doubt he was a man on a mission who wanted to win. But his world didn't stop if he missed. He just shrugged his shoulders, grimaced, mumbled a few well chosen words and moved on to his next assignment.

Jimmy absorbed his disappointments. Sometimes his reaction was not quite what people expected because of his hearing problem. He wasn't afraid to challenge medical opinions and the professionals came to respect him for that.

Jimmy, whose secret dream was to be a stand-up comedian, made sure he kept himself busy.

"It's no good sitting down and feeling sorry for yourself. You've got to make the best of your time. Mowing a few lawns, weeding a couple of gardens, including those at the club, sampling a King Harwoods beer, betting on the pokies or horses, reading the paper, discussing the news of the day, watching or playing bowls and telling a few stories gave me a daily goal."

He was a straight-shooter with strong opinions on subjects that meant something to him. He thrived on the friendly atmosphere of the club and appreciated the value of comradeship and the enjoyment opportunities it gave him week in and week out.

Jimmy joined the 'Workers' in 1978 after stints with the RSA and Citizens' Club. He soon became involved with the senior members, indoor and outdoor bowls, snooker / eight ball and darts sections. When the cards were revived, he played most Thursdays.

Being runner-up in one club super sport competition gave him great satisfaction. In that arena he said he always admired the skills of fellow club members such as Brian McLuskie and John Dodunski.

Jimmy said he envied the lifestyle and strength of character of former member Bill Field, who owned the house in Churchill Ave where Jimmy lived until his health deteriorated. Bill, who had been a HWMC founder member, loved travel, fishing, bowls, betting and scotch.

RIGHT: YOU LOOK 'ALL-RIGHT' JIMMY!
BELOW: WITH HIS CLOSE FRIEND,
KEVIN BOOTHBY.

BELOW MIDDLE: RELAXING IN THE OLD
FJBC BUILDING WITH ALBIE CATHRO,
BOTTOM: CHAMPIONS - FRED
CLAYDON, EDDIE CHAPPELL, JIMMY
REID AND BILL RITCHIE. - PHOTOS
FROM JIMMY DICK AND HWMC FILES.



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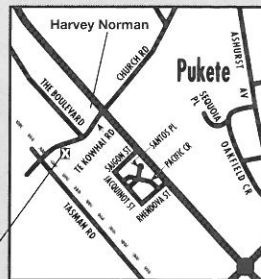
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

"When Bill decided to do something, he just got out and did it! Bill had been a keen hunter in his earlier days and in spite of an eye impediment he was widely regarded as a crack shot. He was tough and never complained about the pain he obviously suffered. I tried hard to emulate him."

Jimmy also had words of praise for his loyal flatmate Bruce McLachlan. "We had our moments, but 'Bru' stuck with me through thick and thin. I hope he realised I appreciated that."

Food went down extremely well with Jimmy, especially ham meals and Xmas dinners. One story, which has almost reached legendary status within our ranks, told of his feat of scoffing a whole cooked roast on his own while his three flatmates and some club friends, who were also looking forward to their piece of the feast, were somehow being delayed across the road at our club so completely missed out. Scones, lavished with whipped cream and strawberry jam, were his after-lawn mowing delight.

Jimmy looked forward to holidaying at Raglan and Tauranga and visiting family in Auckland; his favourite colour was blue; two actors he enjoyed watching were Clint Eastwood and John Wayne; he loved to belt out Engelbert Humperdinck's songs, especially his number one hit 'The Green Green Grass of Home'.

Prime Minister Helen Clark, and any All Black rugby or Kiwi rugby league captain, were the people he said he would have loved to meet.

NOTE: Our interview with Jimmy Reid was undertaken in December because he had been deservedly chosen as our 'Club Person of 2007-08'. We did an update in February. Although Jimmy sadly passed away, aged 79, in early April, we felt his thoughts on various aspects of his life and his contribution to the club deserved to be shared.

'BRU' VALUABLE VOLUNTEER

Bruce McLachlan, outdoor bowling sub section stalwart, became a member of the Hamilton Workingmen's Club in 1982.

He had moved from Waharoa, near Matamata, and remembered his was the last name out of the ballot conducted for those wishing to join.

'Bru', who said he enjoyed the club because he liked to meet good people, served on the executive of the outdoor bowls sub-section for many years. He spent hours doing a host of jobs in the interests of all bowlers with the annual national chartered club event a special highlight for him.

However, his favourite club moment came in indoor bowls when he won the Waikato championship triples title with Paul Horan and Graeme Pederson.

'Bru' said he maintained a special affinity with Waharoa and Matamata where he spent his youth. He said while he was a keen racing follower, he liked to watch all sports.

Last year he was invited as a 'Valuable Volunteer to Sport Waikato' to a special luncheon where he rubbed shoulders with the likes of former All Black Matthew Cooper who took the time to show him through the Waikato Stadium

'Bru's' listed as his favourites – Food: Virtually everything. Drink: Used to be Lion Red, now ginger beer. Colours: Red and white. TV shows: News, sports. Singers: Maria Dallas, Tom Sharplin. Songs: Jailhouse Rock (Elvis), Puppet On A String (Maria Dallas). Sportspersons – Past: Ron Jarden. Present: Rowan Brassey.

FRANKTON DEVASTATION - 60 YEARS AGO!

News reports of August 25, 1948 -

Like a stick of heavy bombs, a tornado smashed its way through Frankton and parts of Hamilton just before noon today.

It killed three people and injured many others, some of whom are in hospital.

Almost 150 houses were wrecked or extensively damaged, and 50 business premises suffered considerably.

Many watched in horror as the tornado struck during a rain storm from the direction of Forest Lake.

Eye-witnesses told of hair-breath escapes and sudden disaster. There was little to suggest that a tornado was approaching until the air was filled with a sudden roar and a great wind bore down upon unsuspecting people.

"I was just setting the table for lunch," said Mrs M E Connolly, of Queen's Avenue, "when I looked out the window and saw a terrible black cloud full of pieces of whirling iron and timber coming up Kent Street. I said to the children to go outside and have a look at it. We started for the front door, but as we got into the hall the house seemed to turn inside out, and the next thing we knew we were sitting on the floor."

The house had been picked bodily off its foundations and turned around as it was hurtled across Queen's Avenue. It came to rest with the back of the house, a bedroom, kitchen and bathroom completely smashed and telescoped. The roof was torn off, and as the building settled on a more or less even keel again the walls simply opened outward from the corners.

Another house in Lake Road was lifted off its foundations and dropped on to the other side of the railway line.

BUILDINGS COMPLETELY FLATTENED IN KING AND KEDDELL STREETS.



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* Later depending on customer demand and support if racing continues beyond these hours.

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Frankton mechanic Ron Proudlock told the Waikato Times he had been in the back of his Commerce Street shop and at first didn't realise just what had happened. "It took only a couple of sheets of iron off the workshop, but when I went into the cycle shop I couldn't believe it.

As well as taking off the roof, the windows had been blown out and the roofing iron had smashed down on to the cycles and motorbikes."

Frankton draper Bill Jenkins told of the wind being so strong it was visible. "It looked like lines in the air. A woman was blown down the street and right through the door into our shop, Hughes and Jenkins. The Bank of New South Wales across the road had all its windows blown in and one of our cheques we had just deposited there was later found on the Cambridge golf course."

"There was an uncanny silence before the cyclone struck," said another victim, who was sent to hospital. "Then the whirlwind hit my house with a terrific roar. It seemed to collapse about my ears, and bricks from the chimney fell at my feet. I remember very little more."

The ruthless power of the cyclone was amazing. Sheds and smaller buildings were lifted bodily, snatched from their foundations in a second, and whirled away across streets and railway lines.

Telegraph poles, including some of concrete, were snapped off like sticks. Great sections of fences became dangerous missiles, flying afar to bring up with a crash against a house.

In Kent, Keddell and King Streets there were scenes reminiscent of the Napier earthquake. Damage was estimated at \$2 million.

Hamilton's Red Cross volunteers and ambulances were among the first on the scene. The Salvation Army helped set up a canteen in St George's Hall within an hour. Clothes and blankets were distributed around the area

On the same day an All Black trial was being played at Rugby Park.

Ace radio commentator Winston McCarthy had to cut back his live broadcast because his equipment was needed for tornado relief appeals and information to be given from the office of the mayor.

The trial was won by Thames Valley/Waikato who beat Bay of Plenty /King Country 17-0. Waikato players involved included Jock Ensor, Has Catley, Bill Conrad, Johnny O'Hearn, Alan Bullick, Gordon Brunskill, Colin Vowles, Joe Carrodus, Keith Arnold, Val Ensor, Alby Rowan, Bryce Cowley, Noel Bowden and Reg Smith.

MEMORIAL RACE HONOURED TWO BOWLS 'CHARACTERS'

Te Awamutu jockey Gary Grylls rode Bringbackthebiff to win the Syd Millar & Gordon Corbett Memorial race at Te Rapa.

The race last June was organised by Rogerson Plumbing with the Waikato Racing Club on behalf of the Frankton Junction Bowling Club.

A good number of FJBC members attended the special occasion which honoured two of their club's life members. Both were remembered as 'colourful' characters both on the bowling greens and on the various racecourses they frequented.

Bringbackthebiff, trained by Roger James, beat the aptly named Whiskey Creek and Stand Tall.

LAKE ROAD HOUSES TORN APART

GRAPHIC SHOTS OF THE WRECKAGE CAUSED BY THE 1948 TORNADO THAT STRUCK CENTRAL FRANKTON IN LATE AUGUST. THESE PICTURES WERE TAKEN FROM THE NOW MICO WAKEFIELD SIDE OF THE RAILWAY LINE LOOKING UP LAKE ROAD TOWARDS QUEEN'S AVENUE (ONLY 300 METRES FROM OUR CLUB!). THE HOUSE NEAREST THE LINE WAS PICKED UP AND DEPOSITED IN A THOUSAND PIECES ACROSS THE TRACK. THE HOUSE OWNER WAS KILLED.

PHOTOS KINDLY SUPPLIED BY GARY CHAPMAN.



**REMEMBER CLUB AGM
SUNDAY, 15 JUNE, AT 10.00AM**

SINGAPOREAN SHARPSHOOTER POCKETED ALL

English-born Singaporean billiards master Peter Gilchrist stunned followers of the game with his displays in Hamilton last October.

The tall Gilchrist, an engaging character who really enjoyed his visit to our club and the fact that the Frankton TAB was only a few metres away, completely dominated the Hamilton Workingmen's Club international invitation tournament. His highest break was 887, but it was generally felt he could have gone much higher if pressed harder.

He proved that the following week at the NZ Open championships at the Cossie Club when he shot a break of 1346, surpassing the previous world record of 1246. He also set a second world record in that in only making four visits to the table for an average break of 426, he eclipsed the previous best 'average best' of 243.

A large crowd was spellbound by the mastery shown by Gilchrist, who was world professional billiards champion in 1994 and 2001. He has been working as coach for the Singapore Snooker and Billiards Association.

Ron Hunt, chairman of our club's billiards and snooker section, was full of admiration for Gilchrist. "This guy was a class above anyone seen in New Zealand before. He was miles ahead of everyone. Most people really appreciated the opportunity to see him in action," he told the Waikato Times.

It was a timely boost for billiards which in recent times been pushed into the background because of the rise in popularity of snooker and eight ball.

Many of our members were introduced to professional snooker in our living room via the hushed, almost reverential, tones of master television broadcaster, Ted Lowe.

Through his top rating 'Pot Black' show, he brought the game to the notice of millions. It was virtually a whole new audience. It was snooker's salvation.

Ted Lowe was asked to put pen to paper to outline the origins of snooker, its changing face from the early days of billiards, and some of the personalities who kept it going through a crisis. Here's an extract from his writings –

'The origin of billiards is very obscure. One train of thought is that billiards was an indoor version of croquet – the mallet replaced by the mace, a wooden stick with a wooden head. The game could have French origins for it is known Louis XI enjoyed 'billard' on his own table, which would have had a wooden bed, the slate bed did not arrive until the 1830s. It is generally accepted the first billiards professional was John Roberts in the mid 19th century. Other leading players of the day were William Cook, William Mitchell and W J Peall. They and some other members of the trade set up the Billiards Association in 1885 and so the official rules of the game were introduced. A new era was born during the early 1900s through Mel Inman and Tom Reece. The rivalry between the two became legendary. In 1920 one of the greats entered the scene, Willie Smith, whose game was that of the ordinary club player but so much better and quite different to his predecessors. He took over the world title from Melbourne Inman who had held it for four years. Around the same time three names were starting to emerge, never to be forgotten, in the history of billiards and snooker, New Zealand's Clark McConachy, Australia's Walter Lindrum and England's Joe Davis.

It was in 1875 that a young Army officer, Colonel Sir Neville Chamberlain (no relation to the man with the umbrella around the time of the Second World War), while stationed in India, had the idea of adding coloured balls to their usual game of pyramids, so-called because it consisted of a pyramid of red



PETER GILCHRIST (LEFT) WITH TOURNAMENT SPONSOR AND RON HUNT, CHAIRMAN OF OUR BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SUB-SECTIONS

balls, which they took turns to pot with the white cue-ball. The name 'snooker' was an Army term, meaning 'loser' – if you failed to pot the colours, you lost your money. Snooker was born. For many years, this variation on pool continued as a fun game, a bit of a joke, something to amuse at the end of a serious billiards match. Not until 1927 did it take on serious overtones.

One player, however, saw the potential in the game of snooker. Joe Davis was not only a champion billiards player (he was only 13 when he won his first open tournament!), he was an astute businessman and talented organiser. He knew, because he was champion, that the three-ball game of billiards was becoming monotonous to the spectator. He lobbied his fellow professionals and friends in the trade to attack the controlling body for a world snooker championship. They were reluctant but gave their consent and 57 years from the inauguration of the billiards championships, professional snooker launched its championship in 1927.

All the history books will tell you how Joe Davis dominated the game for 20 years undefeated – how he built its popularity, how he made the game his own, but these books may not tell you how the game virtually died in 1957 from lack of support and finance.

The three champions of the late 1950s and through the 1960s, Walter Donaldson (twice), Fred Davis (eight times) and particularly John Pulman (eight times of 11 undefeated years) struggled to keep the game alive against all odds. It was difficult for Pulman to survive. He set up challenge matches for his title, and survived seven. For several years there were no championships.

Oddly enough, television, which had played havoc with many entertainments, was to be snooker's salvation. In 1969 'Pot Black' appeared on screens and was an instant hit. It introduced snooker to a new audience. Recorded over three and a half days per programme, 'Pot Black' went all over the world with 'Whispering' Ted Lowe calling the shots.

HWMC results: John Franklin Memorial: P Phillips 1; M Harding, 2. Billiards handicap singles: B Villers, 1; R Hunt, 2. Snooker handicap pairs: J Cottrell, J Williamson, 1; T Hooper, P Meinung, 2. Snooker C grade championships: S Daji, 1; J Cottrell, 2. Snooker SKOT Trophy pairs: J Cottrell, G Pennell, 1; M Scarborough, R Penehio, 2. Snooker B grade championship: R Penehio, 1; P Wilson, 2. Snooker over 50s handicap singles: T Tatler, 1; J Booth, 2. Snooker A grade championship: B Hayward, 1; S Robertson, 2. Billiards singles: B Villers, 1; M Harding, 2. Snooker highest break: 120, S Robertson.



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GOLF PARS TO PUT AROUND

A member with a love of golf submitted the following items:

If a golfer plays only for money, he's money mad; if he keeps all his winnings, he's a capitalist; if he spends it, he's a playboy; if he doesn't try hard enough on course, he lacks ambition; if he tries too hard, he soon runs out of partners.

- Famous BBC TV commentator **Henry Longhurst** always said his best British Open performances included many brilliant patches of complete silence.
- Workingmen's golf section dates and venues for the remainder of the year have been listed as follows – June 8: Walton. July 13: Lochiel. August 24: Ngaruawahia. September 21: Matamata. October 12: Waitomo. November – chartered clubs' tournament at Te Puke. December 7: Ngahinapouri. Check the main notice board (by raffle bar) for golf news, updates and names of contacts.
- A quote from **Shakespeare** - Whether putting from a foot away ...Or chipping from the clover...When I contrive to fill the cup... My ball doth runneth over
- One member walked the Te Kowhai fairway with four caddies. It was his wife's idea. She thought he should spend more time with the kids.
- From trap to trap, then in the water I fall...I sometimes wonder why I play at all...However, even though those shots I fear... All is forgotten when I down my first beer.
- Lying abed with a bump on his head...Our train driver was really sore...As he vowed he would no more...To ignore Big Barry's cry of 'fore!'
- There was this beloved golf chairman who went round in Hamilton's St Andrews in 39-39 for a career-best 78. He was rightly delighted. We just wonder if he can 're-PETE' it!
- Borrowed with thanks from **Mrs C A Wishart** - Sunday morning – crack o'dawn...He's up and got kettle on...A cup of tea, a rasping cough...A door slams, the beggar's off...Be it sunny – be it rain...That's our love chance spoilt again...Then you hear the neighbours say...'Fancy golfing on the Sabbath day!...' Back at night – the hungry beast...Expecting me to provide a feast... You note he's battling to control...His intake of ale from the 19th hole...When I mention garden or hedge...He's at the back swinging a wedge...But there's some compensation... I'm invited to the Xmas presentation...And as he walks up for his prize...There are real tears in my eyes...You see despite our social strife...I'm proud to be a Workingmen's golfer's wife!
- Our four didn't stop playing because we grew old, we grew old because we stopped playing – **George Bernard Shaw**.
- A three putt at Lochiel, feels the same as it does in Australia, the UK and US, believe me! – **Kel Nagle** after an exhibition round at Lochiel.

Golf Section Trophies: *Breweries Salver (5 of 6 nett): G Kite. Rouse Cup (4 from 5 gross): D Cameron. Oliver Cup (5 from 6 Stableford): T Hema. Nett Trophy (4 from 6 nett): B Foster. Keith Hart Memorial (Best nett NICC): J Mohn. Fellowship Cups: O Sigley, B Robinson. Santa Claus Cup: B Cosgriff. Gibstein Shield (Best 4 of 5 cards): P Lee. Turner Tray (best 4 rounds): A Clare. Wimpy Potts Cup (services to section): A Aubrey*



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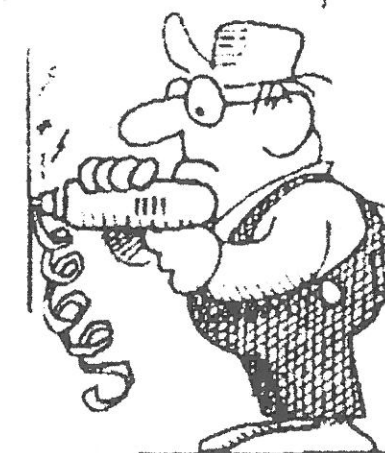
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A MATCH TO REMEMBER...

POOKS SPOOKED IN CLASH OF THE TITANS

Swarbrick Park was the venue. Sunday, November 10, 1991, the date.

All printed tickets had disappeared by the 1pm start time.

It was billed by the local media as the clash of the century so tension filled the air.

The shifty Pooks, who unashamedly claimed an unbeaten record, went in as favourites against a highly-talented, good looking Workingmen's Club / Te Rapa Tavern Invitation XI. At stake were bragging rights.

As usual, the Pooks demanded they batted. They put up their white picket fence to allow their batsmen a royal entrance, but their confidence was completely shattered when the Invitation side, with 'Big Joel' and 'Guts' leading the way, took vital early wickets. The heat of the day meant regular drinks breaks were called for by the elated Invitation XI who were thirsty for more successes.

When their star batsmen was sucked in by a 'shoulder' ball by an injured 'Fish', the Pooks realised they were floundering. When the outfield catch was taken, the 'battered, but dogged, Fish' was



POOKS' CAPTAIN TRYING TO BUILD AN INNINGS.

so emotionally overcome that later medical advice demanded he just had to take plenty of time off work.

Clever bowling changes saw the Pooks' tail fail to wag and they must have known their self-imposed unbeaten record was about to be broken.

However, during the lunch / drinks break, the cunning Pooks' captain called for help from his relations above so when the Invitation XI started their reply the clouds suddenly darkened, heavy rain fell and the players left the field.

The Pooks' biased umpire wanted to call the match off, but was foiled by 'wily Riley' who wanted more action. The fine sportsmanship of the Invitation XI really shone through when it was agreed to have an early afternoon tea.

To entertain the ever-growing crowd, one of the truly talented Invitation players decided to give an exhibition of batting on a wet wicket. Passing cars stopped in amazement as he cut, drove, hooked, swept and pulled. It was a memorable innings. He returned to a standing ovation by those who by then had fully tasted the match sponsors' fine product. When he was able to speak again the next day, one player said all cricket matches should follow the same pattern.

A check through Wisden confirmed the teams announced for the encounter were - Pooks: Jesus, God, Simbo, Greenie, Thommo, Doggy, Bazza, Energiza, Butts, Algie, Wobblehead, JS, Fabes, ET, Jungle, Wardie. Manager: Wayne. Coach: Wolfie. Umpire W (Trigger Finger) Partridge. Invitation side: Hooper, Page, O'Sullivan, Eveleigh, Morris, Henneker, Gutry, Franklin, Fisher, Meyrick, Lee, West, Hood, Felton, Kevin. Manager / sponsor: Phil Kirk. Coach: Hooper jnr. Umpire: 'Wily' Riley.

Official result: A draw.

Message from managing director: This establishment needs no physical fitness programme. Everyone gets enough exercise, jumping to conclusions, flying off the handle, running down the boss, knifing friends in the back, dodging responsibility and pushing their luck.

QUOTES WORTH SOME THOUGHT

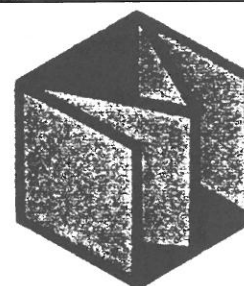
A magazine recently ran a 'Firm's Misleading Quotes' contest. The top eight were -

- 1: As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.
- 2: What we need is an exact list of specific unknown problems we might encounter.
- 3: Your email is not to be used to pass on information or data. It should be used only for company business.
- 4: This project is so important we can't let things that are more important interfere with it.
- 5: Doing it right is no excuse for not meeting the schedule.

- 6: No one will believe you solved this problem in one day! We've been working on it for months. Now go and act busy for a few weeks and we will let you know when it's time to tell them.
- 7: Teamwork is a lot of people doing what we say.
- 8: We know that communication is a problem, but the company is not going to discuss it with the employees.

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

A jumper lead walks into a bar. The surprised bartender says: "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."



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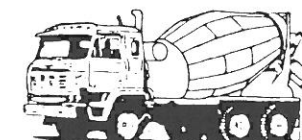


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DEDICATED STALWARTS, PRAISED BY 60 PLUS

It was another busy and productive year for the energetic 60 Plus sub-section.

However, there was genuine disappointment when Bert and Sally Barford and John and Dawn Reid were farewelled from the sub-section committee on March 31.

There were special praise for Sally who had given many years to the section as secretary and who ran the bowls each Wednesday. Sally joined the section when our club was in Harwood Street in 1995. She became secretary the following year. Bert joined the committee in 1997 and became chairman in 2002. He conducted the bus trips for six years.

John and Dawn had been on the committee for four years and both were recognised as very hardworking committee members.

The 60 Plus subsection members would like to extend their grateful thanks to these committee members for their dedication to the position each held.

Once again the section bus trips were well supported. Members visited Motat in Auckland with lunch at the New Lynn RSA; Sky City Auckland Casino; Pakuranga, then by train to Britomart and then return for lunch at the Papakura RSA; spent three days, two nights in Napier and Hastings; Katikati bird gardens and the RSA for lunch. They also had two trips to play bowls at the Mount Maunganui RSA and the Mount Cossie Club. Special thanks to Go Bus for their continued generous sponsorship.

The subsection had a change of venue for its mid-year lunch with 195 members in attendance at Valentines' Restaurant.

Christmas lunch was held at the club with 214 members involved. In January a lunch trip on the Waipa Delta attracted 94 members.

Both the mid-year and Christmas lunches will be held at the club this year. Those wishing to attend are asked to take note of the dates listed on the 60 Plus notice board, next to the stage. Sale tickets usually start around three or four weeks prior to the date. The Club Over 65's lunch is usually held one week before. Members are reminded not to confuse the two functions. One is for the Workingmen's Club members over 65 and ours is for the 60 Plus section.



SALLY AND BERT BARFORD WITH JOHN AND DAWN REID.

It would be great to see more at our lunches. Good music, raffles, refreshments, lucky door prizes and fun is guaranteed.

Very special congratulations to Olga Bravo who celebrated her 95th birthday and to Ted Clarke who reached 90. Olga has given up bowls, but still enjoys her visits to the club. Ted is a regular and still active in indoor bowls. Afternoon teas were provided and our members helped them celebrate their special days.

Many 60 Plus members have purchased the section uniforms and wear them away on bus trips and to bowls on Wednesdays. The uniform certainly stands out and the section receives many compliments on how smart their members look.

Remember the 60 Plus notice board is next to the stage for members to keep up to date with happenings.

60 Plus executive for 2008-09 is – Chairperson: Trevor Moore. Vice chairperson: Winston Scott. Secretary: Dawn King. Treasurer: Clair Banton. Committee: Allan Stewart, Jean Moore, Fred Paetai, Don Evans, Kay Lord, Stan Stoneham and Colleen Gerbich.

HWMC Indoor Bowls

- Club night every Wednesday open to all HWMC members - \$2 entry - names to committee by 6.50pm
- Championships on some Mondays & Tuesdays (winners represent HWMC in Waikato champion of champions).
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- There is also the opportunity to participate in chartered clubs' bowls tournaments.

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SYD WAS A REAL 'PAL' TO MANY

Syd Allott, one of our life members, who died in late November last year, had 55 years involved with chartered clubs.

Known to many old-timers as 'Pal' because of his willingness to assist elderly members who found the going tough, Syd joined our club in 1966 after being with the Quota Club in Te Kuiti and Waitomo Club from 1952 to 1963 and then the South Taranaki Club in Hawera from 1963.

"I always had a great interest in the chartered club movement and especially the welfare of our more senior members. The ever improving amenities provided, the opportunities to participate in various activities and sports, plus the atmosphere and companionship as members meet and enjoy each other's company, is hard to better."

An electrician by trade, Syd, who signalled out his variety of experiences when our club was located in Harwood St as easily his leisure time highlights, said it was a brave move to shift to our present premises, but it certainly had proved positive.

He fondly remembered his time with the senior members' and outdoor bowls sections. He recalled he was often called to settle differences, but said those involved were usually quick to see reason. "Some did get out of hand, but our club rules and disciplinary board soon sorted them out."

Syd was elected to our club's executive in 1977 and remained on that body for 22 terms. He was vice-president from 1981 to 1986 and president from 1986 to 1990. He was elected a life member in 1990.

He represented our club at 15 national conferences. He served on various finance, building and house committees and was a regular delegate to area meetings. He also became minute secretary to the Waikato-King Country-Thames Valley area clubs.

In his younger days had experiences in Yorkshire, Dennison on the West Coast and then Bennydale, Te Kuiti and Waitomo in the King Country. His sporting talent saw him play for King Country at both rugby and cricket. He later became a Waikato outdoor bowling representative with Frankton Junction club, Hamilton and Waikato associations to his credit. He looked forward to the annual chartered clubs' bowls tournaments and went with teams representing our club at both North and South Island venues. In 1980 he was convenor of the national tournament in Hamilton and found time to watch some matches when the event was staged by our club again in 2007.

When interviewed during 2007, Syd said he really missed organising bus tours for senior members, attending the 'smoke' concerts, the 'sportsmen's' evenings, the Workers' v Cossie River Shield battles and his regular outdoor and indoor bowls, snooker and darts challenges against long-time mates.

Syd always enjoyed visiting other clubs and meeting members to hear their views, over an ale or two, on various aspects of chartered club life. He said some good information and thoughts were gleaned from those unofficial chats to help the chartered club movement achieve its aims.

"Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.' The doctor replies: "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." The patient asks: "Is it common?" The doctor responds: "Well, It's Not Unusual!"

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CAN YOU HELP US?

THIS PICTURE OF HAMILTON BUTCHERS, TAKEN IN 1943, WAS BROUGHT INTO THE CLUB BY JIM MURRAY OF GLASGOW RANGERS SOCCER CLUB FAME. JIM'S LATE FATHER-IN-LAW, JACK KANE (FIFTH FROM LEFT IN THE PICTURE), BECAME WELL-KNOWN LATER AS ONE OF THE MASTERS BUTCHERS IN FRANKTON. IT WAS FIRST THOUGHT THE PHOTO WAS TAKEN IN FRANKTON, BUT INFORMATION RECEIVED LATER SUGGESTED THE BUTCHERS AND THEIR FLASH VANS WERE LINED UP IN HAMILTON'S VICTORIA STREET. CAN YOU HELP? CAN YOU RECOGNISE ANY OF THE BUILDINGS? IF SO, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER AT THE CLUB'S MAIN OFFICE AND WE WILL MAKE CONTACT.



JACK KANE (RIGHT) LATER OPENED HIS OWN SHOP IN FRANKTON

LET'S BACK 'FAB FOUR'

New Zealand's world champion coxless rowing four will provide many of our club members with an extra reason to watch the Beijing Olympics later this year.

Dubbed by the media as 'NZ's fab four', the crew of Eric Murray then 26, Hamish Bond (21), James Dallinger (21) and Carl Meyer (26), were special guests at our club's charity luncheon on behalf of the Hospice Waikato campaign and they made such a good impression that all at the function became instant fans and hopes are high they will bring gold back from Beijing.

Film of their world championship victory in Munich was greeted with applause and their stories of how they battled adversity before they gained world-wide acclaim won over their audience.

Their appearance, plus an auction of sporting items, gave our Hospice fund a healthy boost and club vice president, Terry Ryan, who played a huge role in organising the charity week, deserved all the praise he received.

Auctioneer Murray Cleland and 'master spotter' Terry Booth ensured the bidding was keen and, at times, very competitive.

The main message from the humble world champions who were keen to pull together with our club to help Hospice was that goals can be achieved if absolute dedication to the cause and discipline are maintained.

Eric Murray described his crew as a classic mixture of people with very different backgrounds, but they all had the same things in common - the desire and will to succeed!

New Zealand's victory was the biggest upset of the regatta as the reigning world champions from Great Britain were tipped to win easily, but missed out on a medal all together. After dominating the coxless four for the last 12 years, the British had not been beaten for 27 races until the NZ four pulled out the goods in their semi-final race in Lucerne in July.

In the 2000m world final the Kiwis sat at the back of the field early, but a strong third quarter saw them close on the leaders while their amazing final sprint took them to the title over Italy and Netherlands by just under a second.

The Sunday auction, with master caller David Slack, he hasn't missed one yet over more than 20 years, and Terry Booth at the helm, saw many bargains snapped up. The club was delighted to be able to put worthwhile goods, donated by a whole range of Waikato business firms, under the hammer.

To top up the club's assistance, many friends of Hospice Waikato were involved all week selling nightly raffles.

Vice president Terry Ryan said the whole club was behind the hospice plans to build a new dedicated facility at the former Hillcrest Lodge on Cobham Drive, Hamilton. He confirmed members also volunteered to assist builders at the lodge.

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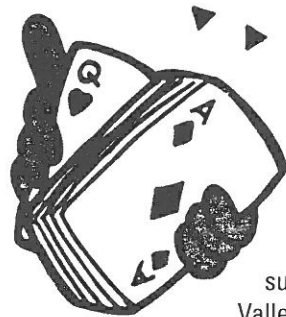
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ORGANISATION DOES THE TRICK



Co-hosting the inaugural North Island 500 tournament in mid-February this year was the proud achievement of the Card sub-section.

Staged in conjunction with Clubs NZ, the event proved an outstanding success with visiting players from Stokes Valley, Rangitikei, New Plymouth, Rotorua Citizens, Weymouth, NZ All Golds Cosmopolitan, Hamilton RSA, Hamilton Cosmopolitan, Hastings RSA, Levin Cosmopolitan, Whakatane RSA and Manurewa all praising the organisational ability of our members.

It was evident during the two days of competition the 84 competitors enjoyed the occasion and all clubs expressed interest to participate again when our club hosts the 2009-CNZ North Island 500 tournament.

Trophies were presented by Waikato – Bay of Plenty CNZ area delegate Don McLeod to – Norman Langdon (NZ All Golds Cosmopolitan) who scored 78, 1; Glenys Fitzgerald (Rangitikei), 2; Joan White (Hamilton Cosmopolitan), 3; Matt Sullivan (Hamilton Workingmen's), 4; Bill Brennan (Hamilton Workingmen's) and Dawn Smith (New Plymouth), equal 5.

Consolation prizes went to the following players whose score on the start of Sunday play was below the average scores for the Saturday – George Matthew (NZ All Golds), Kevin Ward (Hamilton Workingmen's), Hugh Smith (Hamilton RSA). They all had 58 points.

Perfect score prizes were presented to Lorraine Walker (Hamilton Workingmen's) and Joan White (Hamilton Cosmopolitan) who won all the games for that session.

'Wally of the Day' certificates went to Jade Harding (Weymouth), Doreen Russell (Hamilton Workingmen's), Ailsa Martin (Hamilton Workingmen's), Florence Tyson (Hamilton Cosmopolitan) who did not win any games in one session.

The section plays crib 1pm to 3.30pm Mondays; euchre 10am to 12 noon Thursdays; progressive 500 1pm to 3pm Thursdays. Why not try your hand?



CARD PLAYERS AT THE TABLE DURING THE NATIONAL 500 CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Executive members – Chairperson, Warren Pearce; vice chairperson, Penny Judson; secretary-treasurer, Bob Lord; club captain, Ernie Morris; committee, Brian Wood, Elizabeth Karl, Don Evans, Clair Banton, Jean Scott; publicity, Kay Lord.

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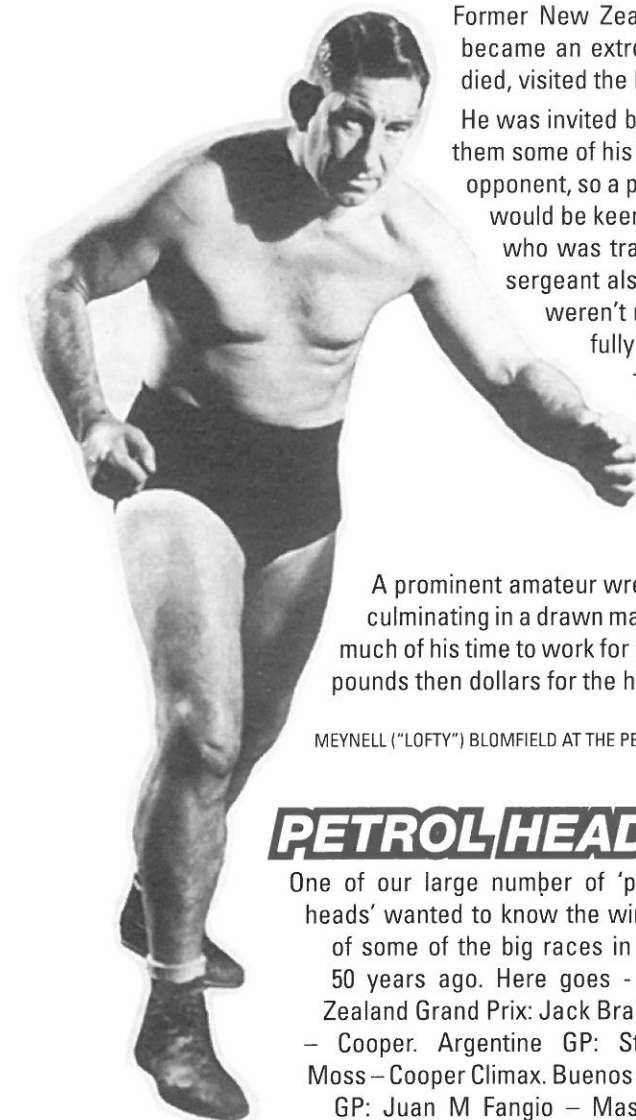
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'LOFTY' CAME TO GRIPS WITH COPS



Former New Zealand professional wrestling champion Meynell ('Lofty') Blomfield, who became an extremely popular licensee of a Whangarei Hotel for many years before he died, visited the Hamilton Workingmen's Club in mid-1958, 50 years ago.

He was invited by keen HWMC sportsmen to speak about his sport to members and show them some of his famous 'holds'. Unfortunately no one present was brave enough to be his opponent, so a phone call was made to the local police station to ask if one of their number would be keen to take 'Lofty' on. The sergeant volunteered one of his young constables who was transported to the club by police car. In case something went wrong, the sergeant also ordered an ambulance and a doctor to be on standby. Fortunately they weren't needed because 'Lofty' took it easy on his youthful opponent and did not fully apply his renowned 'octopus clamp'.

The courageous policeman was rightly rewarded, but the five or six beers he had did not go down well with his sergeant who rang an hour later to tell his man to get back on duty right away or face disciplinary action. However, when 'Lofty' heard the constable may get into trouble he told the sergeant he'd go down to the station and sort him out. Nothing more was heard.

A prominent amateur wrestler in his youth, 'Lofty' had a meritorious rise in the professional ranks, culminating in a drawn match with Bronko Nagurski for the world title in 1938. Later in life he devoted much of his time to work for handicapped children. His hotel 'penny piles' brought in many hundreds of pounds then dollars for the handicapped.

MEYNELL ('LOFTY') BLOMFIELD AT THE PEAK OF HIS CAREER

PETROL HEADS

One of our large number of 'petrol-heads' wanted to know the winners of some of the big races in 1958, 50 years ago. Here goes - New Zealand Grand Prix: Jack Brabham - Cooper. Argentine GP: Stirling Moss - Cooper Climax. Buenos Aires GP: Juan M Fangio - Maserati. Indianapolis 500: Jimmy Bryan -

Belond AP Special. Le Mans 24 hours: Olivier Gendebien / Phil Hill - Ferrari. French GP: Mike Hawthorn - Ferrari. British GP: Peter Collins - Ferrari. Aintree 200: Stirling Moss - Cooper Climax. Australian GP: Lex Davidson - Ferrari. Morocco GP: Stirling Moss - Vanwell. Formula One championship winner was Mike Hawthorn (Yorkshire, England).

FISHING CONTEST

The fishing sub-section held its Coromandel competition in mid-March.

Prizewinners were -

Saturday's average weight snapper: Peter Rowley.

Sunday's overall snapper: Chris Gibson, 4.255kg, 1; Peter Rowley 2.860kg, 2; Peter Gibson, 2.695, 3. Overall kahawai: Paul Bonnett, 1.790kg, 1; Clark Takiari, 1.515, 2. Overall trevally: Brian Milne, 0.895kg, 1; Helen Collier, 0.685kg, 2.

Most meritorious fish: Don Rankin, John Dory 1.600kg.

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DARTS AIMING TO BUILD UP NUMBERS

DARTS SECTION

Watch out for more aggressive marketing of darts. That's the word from the chairman of the World Professional Darts Corporation, Barry Hearn. Hearn, who took on the British-based job in 2001, said darts aimed to target growing global appeal and that included New Zealand.

He claimed more than 35,000 tickets were sold for the Ladbrokes.com PDC championship and said darts had become the second most-watched sport on British Sky Television after premier league football.

He predicted darts had the potential to match or even exceed the extraordinary popularity of snooker during the 1980s and early 1990s.

Perhaps mindful of the spiralling cost of covering live sport, Sky was reluctant to confirm any comparisons, although it was said it was thrilled with the viewing figures.

It was reported that the umbilical cord between darts and the old-style British pub had been broken. The go-ahead clubs have now taken the lead and provided up to date facilities for the classless sport to flourish. Members invite fellow family members, male and female, to watch them perform. They like what they see and join up themselves.

The annual prize money in Britain has risen from £600,000 in 2003 to four million. Groups of four visit various clubs to challenge the best of the locals and to boost the profile of the sport.

The PDC has its eyes firmly on the overseas market, particularly Asia, and there are events planned in China and South Africa. The world championship was also screened live in Holland and Germany and included players from Barbados, New Zealand, the Czech Republic, the Phillipines and Canada.

It was expected two events in America, including the Las Vegas Desert Classic at the Mandalay Bay, would draw huge sponsorship. Crowds of 5000 were expected at the arenas in Wembley, Manchester, Sheffield and Birmingham.

The prize and endorsements world champion, 41-year-old Canadian John Part, received, set him up for life. The £50,000 the runner-up, 21-year-old Kirk Shepherd, won allowed him to join 25 other full-time professionals and meant he put on hold his promotion at his £8000 a year job at his local screws and hooks factory.

Don Evans has been given the 'key of the door' because he has had 21 years as secretary-treasurer of the club's darts section.

Don's service was recognised when he was made the first ever life member of the darts section.

His work on behalf of the sport he loves also includes being on the area executive for the Waikato-Thames Valley-Bay of Plenty and being chairman of the Clubs NZ Darts Association. He has been a member of the Hamilton Darts Association for 18 years and secretary for the last 10.

He is also a life member and former secretary-treasurer of the Taradale District Darts League. His close friends say Don finds 180's harder to come by these days and rather unkindly suggest he gets one about every 10 years!

But they say he remains very active and highly competitive and will no doubt strongly contest that statement.

Perhaps he will prove them all wrong when he competes at the nationals in Invercargill in July.

Information received from the dart section indicates they have virtually given up on trying to keep him quiet. They say it is mission impossible.

But then they add with some feeling they like him that way because his bubbling enthusiasm is the major reason why his sub-section ticks over so well.

Our darts section had another good year in their leagues with the premier team being champions.

Stu Campbell reports club champions were - Men: Brian McLuskie and Shane Daji (*pairs*), John Dodunski (*singles*). Women: Alley Terry and Mary Ann Henckel (*pairs*), Mihi George (*singles*).

He reported Mihi won the North Island singles and she and her partner Millie made the North Island team. Brian McLuskie did well in the men's singles plate round.

Bryan and Gareth won the John Lyons drawn pairs trophy.

Members keen to join the darts section can contact Don (07-856-7649) or Stu Campbell or ask at the club's front office.



DON EVANS SHOWING OFF HIS CLASSIC ACTION



DONNA STUNS BOWLS STARS

BOWLS SECTION

Donna Crosby's stunning upset victory in the Waikato women's open championship was the highlight of the Frankton Junction Bowling Club's season.

Donna, who has only been playing for three years and therefore still qualified as a junior, took on and beat a strong field of seniors to take the coveted champion of champions title. Her fantastic effort certainly impressed the likes of the highly experienced Matamata and Waikato star, Annette Bell, one of the top players she knocked out.

Donna displayed great courage and showed outstanding ability to perform under pressure in edging out Annette Bell 21-20 in her semi-final and then getting home by the same score over Rita Berridge (Frankton Railway).

Some felt Donna did not receive the recognition she deserved for her effort. Bowls had an ideal opportunity here to promote their sport through such a personable, unassuming person, but only those really close to the sport knew of her amazing feat. Donna probably preferred it that way, but hopefully her victory has inspired others to work diligently as they bid to improve their skills.

Sheryl Olsen also had a fine season as she won five club championships.

There was praise also for the performance of the women's triples, Jan Peters, Jan George and Sheryl Olsen who were runner-up in the Waikato champion of champions to Annette Bell's Matamata team.

Mary Mills was selected for the Waikato development team and played in the inter-centre final at New Plymouth.

Terry Hooper deservedly won the club member of the year award for his performance on the match committee.

Frankton Junction Bowling Club results included -

Women's championship singles: D Crosby 1; S Hall 2.

Women's championship pairs: S Olsen, J George 1;

E Broadbent, C Cox 2.

Women's championship triples: J Peters, S Olsen, J George 1; J Wallace, T Hislop, D Crosby 2.

Women's championship fours: J Peters, S Olsen, M Mills, J George 1; S Hall, C Congdon, W Cunningham. S Dempsey 2.

Women's junior singles championship: D Crosby 1, C McMurphy 2.

Women's junior pairs championships: B Cotter, V Allan 1; C McMurphy, C Lee 2.

Men's championship singles: P Bennett 1; B Fletcher 2.

Men's championship pairs: G Body, D Wallace 1; D Burgess, G Dempsey 2.

Men's championship triples: G Body, D McMurphy, B Osmond 1; B Fletcher, G Bowers, A Bowler 2.

Men's championship fours: D Meinung, P Meinung, P Bradding, D Burgess 1; G Stringer, K Steggalls, J Steer, D Hapi 2.

Men's junior championship singles: P Bradding 1; J Rose 2.

Men's junior pairs: G Cotter, M Mosen 1; T Fabling, A Solly 2.

Championship mixed pairs: G Edgar, S Olsen 1; P Meinung, J Waiere 2.

Championship mixed triples: R Brouwer, M Long, S Olsen 1; D Meinung, P Meinung, J Waiere 2.

Championship mixed fours: G Edgar, G Robinson, G Pore, M Cagney 1; W Pakinga, M McLuskie, T Hooper, R Falconer 2.

Handicap pairs - Women: S Olsen, D Rose. *Men:* B Cathro, J Rose.

First year singles - Women: C Wells. *Men:* J Halsall.

Opening day drawn fours: M Donnison, S Beel, J Pollock, L Wells.

Stag Trophy: R Laird, D Clemett, F Morell.

Grandparents' drawn pairs: D Burgess, D Rose.

Howarth Cup women's drawn pairs: J George, B Cotter.

Rose Ward Trophy drawn Christmas tournament: B Litt, I Howie, G Russell, B Gray.

Syd Millar Memorial - Remembrance Day: D McMurphy, J Roberts, M Hogan, B Gray.

President - Patron Cup: N Herbert, D Hapi, P Moke, F Subritzky.

Keith Phillips Cup: R Laird, J Mills.

Two-day Classic - Rex Clemett Memorial: T Fletcher, B Fletcher, P Bradding, E Knox.

Good Friday optional fours: A Bell, M Hooper, G Asplin, S Broadbent.

Easter Saturday optional pairs: W Pakinga, P Meinung, 1; G Braithwaite, J Dick, 2; M Hewitt, L Hewitt, 3; A Cathro, C Congdon, 4.

Easter Sunday triples: P Meinung, W Pakinga, A McLachlan, 1; M Oldfield, J Sinclair, G Oldfield, 2; M Llewellyn, J Peters, M Pye, 3; G Cotter, R Falconer, V Allen, 4.

Easter Monday triples: B Cathro, D Crosby, M Adamson, 1; W Pakinga, P Eriksen, D Pakinga, 2; K Margan, L Fitzpatrickm P Graham, 3.

FJBC / Hillsborough OTB: G Cotter, J Roberts, M Hogan, L McLellan, 1.

Consistency - Women - Ward Cup: S Olsen. *Men - M Llewellyn Trophy:* P Meinung.

McGloin Cup - most improved junior: D Crosby.

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Brian Johns (treasurer)

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Did you know more than 600 members attended the over 65 Christmas luncheon on Monday, 26 November, last year. It was a great occasion, especially for those senior members who live away from Hamilton. They always look forward to meeting their old mates, enhancing tales of the past and catching up with the news.

'LAFF' GETS 'EM TALKING

Hamilton's self-professed long-toothed panelbeater Brian Lafferty was rightly praised by older members of the motor trades for organising an 'unofficial' afternoon of reminiscing in our club. 'Laff' said there were many wonderful characters in panelbeating, but the only time they got together in recent years was at funerals. So he decided to do something about it. He checked out his idea with fellow panelbeaters Colin Gegan, Norm Higgins and Guy Coombes. They shared his enthusiasm so he put an ad in the Hamilton This Week paper and more than 100 turned up.

The oldest was 83-year-old Ron Sadler, who for years was parts manager for L W Jones in Rostrevor Street. Doug Dean, of Hamilton Panelworks fame, was another keen participant.

Birth names registered – Shanda Lear, Ivor Down, Lavender Hanky, Hedda Lettuce, Stan Dupp, Dwayne Dwopp (who will get rather tired of hearing 'Dwayne Drops Keep Falling On My Head!')



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The first of our members to get a Gold Star was Matt Sullivan in 1991, followed by Kevin Boothby (1997), Wally Blair (2001) and they were joined in 2007 by Clare Hill, Kelly O'Neill and Malcolm Chandler.

Indoor bowls secretary June Pearce reports club players did well in all events entered.

Central area results - Singles: M Chandler, 1; C Hill, 2. *Pairs:* G Townson and B Johns, 1. *Triples:* M Chandler, K O'Neill, C Hill, 1; C Sirbu, M Sullivan, B Currie, 2.

Gloria Hewitt Memorial fours: P Stacey, K Gibson, J Rose, J Pearce, 1.

Challenge Shield (club v club): Hamilton Workingmen's 1.

Club events - Championship singles: R Middleton, 1; D Coombes, 2.

Pairs: P Stacey, R Falconer, 1; K Gibson C Hill, 2.

Triples: K O'Neill, B Johns, B Currie, 1; J Pearce, C Hill, D Coombes, 2.

Fours: K O'Neill, K Gibson, V Longman, 1.

Club singles: K O'Neill, 1; K Gibson, 2.

Pairs: K Steggalls, B Jowers, 1; J Bell, K Lord, 2.

Triples: L Crawford, J Pollock, E Morris, 1; K O'Neill, G McCormick, D Hunt, 2.

Fours: B Finlayson, B Lord, T Tregoweth, P Crawford, 1.

Handicap singles: G McCormick, 1; B Lord, 2. *Bain*

Pairs: G Sirbu, J Rose, 1; M Chandler, R Finlay, 2.

Points trophy: L Crawford, 1.

FINLAY TAKES THE REINS

Ray Finlay has been elected chairman of the club's outdoor bowls sub-section.

Other officers – Vice chairman, Mike Cagney. Treasurer: Brian Johns. Secretary: Mary Mills. Committee, Colleen Congdon, Graham Cotter, Noeline Hancock, Jean Hill, Terry Hooper, Margaret Pye, Jack Sowerby.

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"Why, that's my Speaking Clock," the man replied. "I'll show you how it works," the man said, giving the gong an ear-shattering blow with an unpadded hammer. Suddenly, a voice from the other side of the wall screamed: "You clown, don't you know it's twenty to two in the morning!!"

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TOP PLACINGS FOR SHOOTERS

Hamilton Workingmen's competitors were to the fore when the Clubs NZ 2008 North Island Clay Target Single Rise tournament was hosted by the sub-section at the Waikato Gun Club in mid-February.

Dave Muggeridge and Yvonne Wilcock were top shots in the single rise championships, Graeme Madgwick won the Butler Cup and Hamilton won the teams cup.

Results were –

Kilwell Gamebore Trophy match: Greg Nicholl (Pukekohe Cossie) 1; Ian Clark (Weymouth) 2; Graeme Allen (Taupo Cossie) 3; Paul Parsons (Waitomo) 4; Rob Drew (Waitomo) 5; Larry Discombe (Hamilton Workingmen's) 6; Dave Muggeridge (HWMC) 7; John Beaver (Mt Maunganui Cossie) 8; Graham Hughes (Mt Maunganui) 9; John Storey (Mt Maunganui) 10.

Clubs NZ North Island single rise championship and trophy: Dave Muggeridge (Hamilton Workingmen's) 1; Greg Nicholl (Pukekohe) 2; Rob Drew (Waitomo) 3; Cameron Elliott (Pukekohe) 4; Steve Hanford (Taupo) 5; Frank Bombaderie (Weymouth) 6; Graeme Allen (Taupo) 7; Graham Hughes (Mt Maunganui) 8; Phil Brown (Mt Maunganui) 9; Malcolm Goer (Weymouth) 10; Larry Discombe (HWMC) 11; Graeme Cooper (Onehunga) 12; Trevor Ewens (Waitomo) 13; John Storey (Mt Maunganui) 14; Gary Discombe (HWMC) 15.

Women's event: Yvonne Wilcock (Hamilton Workingmen's) 1.

Butler Cup: Graeme Madgwick (Hamilton Workingmen's) 1; Vic Edwards (Onehunga) 2; Yvonne Wilcock (HWMC) 3; Blair Bond (HWMC) 4; Murray Pratt (HWMC) 5.

Teachers' Cup teams match: Hamilton Workingmen's (Graeme Madgwick, Dave Muggeridge, Neville Discombe, Larry Discombe, Gary Discombe) 1.

Members keen to join the sub-section should contact Noel 07-846-4173.

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REVEALING FRONTLINE VIEWS...

One of our members has had access to a letter from a serviceman in the Middle East. Here are some of his views...

Our role as 'advisors' is to help the US and British forces in liaising with the locals. We have been very well received. Our vehicles are Ford 350s factory-armoured with protected windows and windscreens. It hardly ever rains, but when it does it comes down in torrents turning everything into mud. The Coalition Forces cannot move on the road without being attacked by the insurgents. The Coalition is firmly in control of the bases it occupies and also of the air, but that is where their control starts and ends. The West must win both the hearts and minds of the people. To fail in that is to lose the war. To lose would be to invite the ultimate disaster on ourselves. The Americans appear to barricade themselves in at night enabling the enemy to run riot. The insurgents seem to have everything in their favour. They choose the time, the place and the weapons to attack. All we do is respond and nobody wins by just reacting. If only the Americans would use their superior firepower.

Most buildings are three stories high/ Rubbish is everywhere. Packs of wild dogs roam the streets. Most evenings in Iraq offer the most beautiful sunsets. To provide sport for his friends, Saddam stocked his man-made lakes with all kinds of freshwater fish and so there is a big fishing craze here. A huge amount of fishing gear is being imported.

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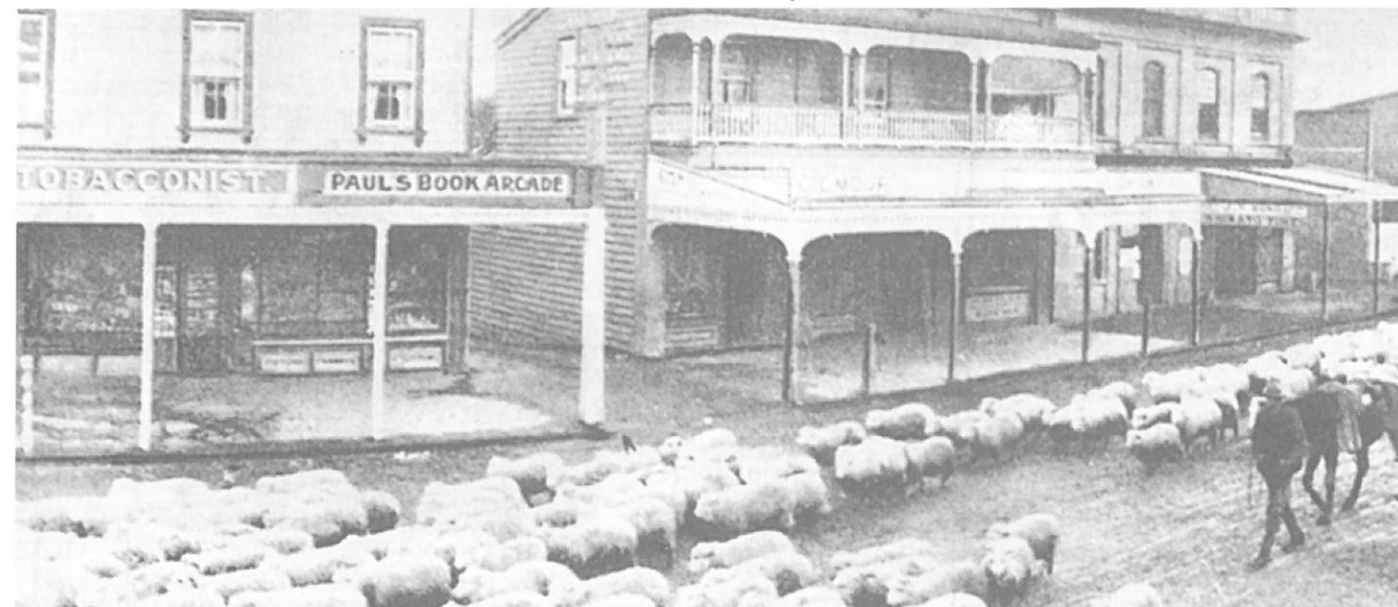
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HAMILTON HAPPENINGS DOWN THE DECADES...



c1905 - SHEEP MOVING SOUTH ON VICTORIA STREET ON SALE DAY. PHOTO COURTESY OF CHAMBERLAIN COLLECTION

1878: "The town of Hamilton looked gay from early morning with its floating bunting and holiday dressed inhabitants. Punctually to time, the train, consisting of 15 carriages, propelled by three engines, drew up at the station." - That's how Hamilton historian, H C M Norris, described the arrival of the railway to Hamilton – or rather to Mr Thomas Jolly's 'Frankton' farm - in December, 1877. "The Cambridge band, unfortunately, was upon Carter's large coach, which got stuck at the entrance to Mr Jolly's paddocks, so that the band was not on the spot to receive the excursionists with music." Mr Jolly, a short fair-headed Englishman who had emigrated from England to Canada then to New Zealand, had bought his farm, largely swampy land, from Major Jackson Keddell, second-in-command of the 4th Waikato Regiment, for 30 shillings an acre. Thomas Jolly built a shingle-roofed wooden home near Lake Rotoroa. He grew wheat on the slopes where Lake Road now runs down to Commerce Street.

1878: Thomas Jolly sub-divided his land next to where the railway station – then called Hamilton Station (it became Frankton Junction two years later when a branch line was opened to Hamilton town centre) - was built.

However, his sub-division was more than a mile from the town and so needed a name. So he called it Frankton, after his eldest son, Frank.

1908: Leisure time activities became more and more important as Hamilton families settled into a more settled weekly pattern. The second Waikato Winter Show at the Horse Bazaar in Ward Street was rated a phenomenal success. Dr Arthur Seymour Brewis invested in many sections near the river. More land was purchased in Claudelands was purchased for upmarket housing. Steele's Hill, which later was renamed Hillcrest, also attracted buyers. Some grand houses were built in London, Ulster. Willoughby, Mill and Richmond Streets. Hamilton Parade was also popular. There was also building on higher ground around Ohaupo Road, Milton Street and behind Garden Place. There was also growth in the Jolly subdivision which had been named

Frankton. The southern end of Victoria Street came back into favour with the completion of a majestic town hall (which later became the Civic Theatre and then the senior citizens' home).

1908: Swimming was not just a recreation. Many people either had no baths tubs and were not in habit of bathing regularly so many a dip in the river or lake was accompanied by a cake of family soap with a parent shouting instructions from the bank.

1908: King Street (where our present club stands) was considered to be the likely main connection between Hamilton and Frankton. It was made wider in case trams would be used for public transport to and from the rapidly expanding Frankton Junction railway facilities. Morning train times – Paeroa to Frankton: Leave Paeroa 6.30am; Te Aroha 7.10am; Morrinsville 7.45am; Kirikiriroa 9am; arrive Frankton 9.15am. Te Kuiti to Hamilton: Leave Te Kuiti 6.30am; Te Awamutu 7.45am; Frankton 8.30am; arrive Kirikiriroa 8.45am. Note: Passengers to and from Thames and Taumarunui usually stayed at Paeroa and Te Kuiti overnight.

1908: Hockey officials asked for more dressing sheds to be built in a proposed new pavilion at Steele Park. They said players from outside of Hamilton needed to freshen up after matches so they

Chicken SpOt

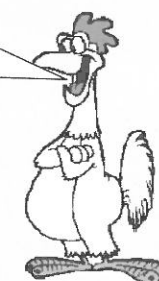
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could spend the night in the town. J B Hooper, who had arrived from the Junction Hotel in Thames to take over the Hamilton Hotel from the Raynes' brothers, supported their cause and suggested the hockey players make his premises their 'home'. He said he would arrange to transport players to games on the understanding they would return to his establishment to clean up and for after-match festivities. He allowed them the use of his sample room for a meeting on Friday, April 10, to form a hockey association. He presented a cup for competition. Two competitions, Wednesday afternoons and Saturday, were arranged. Te Kuiti and Thames asked for matches. Hamilton clubs were United (black colours), Green and Colebrook General Chain Store (green), Kiakaha (royal blue and white), Hamilton (red and black), Rawhiti, YWMI and Cambridge. The Waikato association held its first committee meeting in Dick English's office in late May. Green shirts and black shorts were association colours. Hinemoa played Raupo in women's hockey while a schools tournament was staged at Steele Park.

1908: The arrival of English and Scottish tradesmen to work in the railway yards sparked off interest in soccer. The year previous would-be Hamilton players had answered a friendly challenge from Huntly and the occasion at Steele Park on Friday, October 4, encouraged followers. Then James McKinnon announced he made proper goals and sought permission to erect them at Seddon Park which was much closer to the railway workshops. Premises in Hood St became the club's social room.

1908: The YMCA was formed in September. Sports teams were entered as Waikato Young Men's Institute.

1908: The Hamilton Croquet Club was formed in December. Play started on private lawns.

1908: One of the early highlights of 1908 was the Waikato Trotting Club's inaugural meeting at Claudelands, Wednesday, January

15. It was said Claudelands was the ideal venue. The club had been formed the previous March on the motion of W I Conradi, seconded by W H Knock. Six events for a total purse of 150 sovereigns, with 40 sovereigns set aside for the big race. R J Gwynne became president. Special trains delivered patrons right to the gate. Bookies were there in full force.

1908: Hamilton's cricket season started in October. Clubs formed were United, YMCA, Hamilton East, Kiakaha and Rangatira. Play was on Saturday and Wednesday. Hamilton representatives played Auckland, Morrinsville, Matamata, Tuakau and Cambridge.

1908: Hamilton bowling president was A F T Wheeler. Mrs F T Wilson rolled the first jack which the Argus newspaper said 'she did with a considerable degree of accuracy, nobody in the vicinity being injured in the process'. T J Mitchell of 'Whitiora' invited several members of the Hamilton club to meet on his private green. His green was officially opened on Saturday, November 21. Club president was T B Booth.

Visitors from Ponsonby, Rocky Nook, Waihi, Cambridge, Carlton, Mt Eden, Paeroa and Rotorua attended Hamilton tournaments.

1908: Dr A S Brewis was the guiding light in tennis which started in early November. He chaired most meetings, accepted the role of Hamilton club president and donated many of the trophies. Six courts were used. Coach was W S Fabling. Play was on Wednesday afternoons and Saturdays.

Major tournaments, like at Easter, saw men's finals decided over three sets while the ladies finals were usually the first to nine games. Handicap singles winners were the first to 50 points. St Andrews club had courts in Heaphy Terrace. Hamilton played matches against Cambridge, Te Awamutu and St Andrews.

1908: Hamilton rowing regattas, usually in late January, attracted entries from West End, North Shore, Auckland, Waitemata, St

George's and Ngaruawahia clubs. Special excursion trains ran from Auckland, Te Kuiti and Paeroa. Hallensteins presented sweaters to winning crews. An estimated 4000 lined both sides of the Waikato River in January - 300 had arrived by train from Auckland - to watch the rowing with swimming and chopping events also on the programme. Boarding house rowing was also very competitive. Champion axeman Dave Pretty headed the chopping entries. Master organiser Dick English chaired the Hamilton Regatta AGM held in King & Co auction mart.

1908: The Hamilton band's list of engagements had grown steadily. Valued conductor was T B Booth. Band members won the Thames B grade contest.

1908: The Hamilton Amateur Dramatic Club met in Mr R De Lisle's Studio. First planned production was the comedy drama 'The Sport of Kings.'

1908: Harry Gillies, considered to be the father of Waikato golf and founder of St Andrews course, arrived in Hamilton and played golf at the Claudelands A and P grounds and later beyond the hospital approx where Tawa Street and The Nest later were developed. St Peter's schoolroom was the venue for the golf meetings. Rev N C Ratcliffe and Dr Hugh Douglas were leading administrators. The new links at Claudelands, although it was said left for much to be desired, were well patronised by members every fine Wednesday and Saturday. Players usually arrived around 11am. Boy caddies were used. Auckland professional W F G Hood gave pre-season lessons.

1908: Hamilton fishermen were delighted a consignment of 2000 fry had arrived by train to Hamilton for liberation in local ponds made on Mr L O'Neill's property in Claudelands. The ponds were situated in a shady nook on the bank of the river. The first 600 well grown fish were liberated into the river near the railway bridge.

1908: Cycling received a timely boost when Hamilton cyclists F Keep and J Peterson staged a challenge race for a stake of five pounds from the Royal Hotel in Hamilton East to Cambridge and return. Keep conceded Peterson five minutes. When Keep started Peterson was already over Steele's Hill (Hillcrest). Keep gradually narrowed the gap and at the turn was only a minute behind. However, Peterson kicked again to win by four minutes in one hour 33 minutes for the 24 mile journey. Grass track meetings were held at Steele Park.

1908: Shooting events remained popular. The Hamilton rifle cadets held competitions of five shots from 200 yards and five from 300 yards. When the shooting gallery ran its annual contest, A Tyler won a rolled gold watch and H Peace a silver mounted pipe. Lieutenant Raynes' farm at Tamahere was the venue for the A Squadron, 2nd Regiment AMR contest. A handsome cup was presented by Jasper Montgomery of Hamilton. Their main aim was a life size 'man' on horseback. Competitors had to gallop about half a mile, fire three shots at a static target, gallop on again, fire three more at a target hanging from a tree then move on to the 'man moving on horseback', fire four shots and then return to the starting gate.

1908: Rugby used the Claudelands Showgrounds as a venue for the first time for major end of season fixtures. It was decided to admit ladies free to the stand area. Waikato played in green jerseys and white pants.

The Argus newspaper praised the move to Claudelands. "When the railway footbridge is opened, spectators will be able to walk across the river from Victoria Street north." Hamilton had four clubs City (westside streets south of Bryce St), No1 (Frankton, Beerescourt, Te Rapa), Suburbs East (Hamilton East, Claudelands etc) and Suburbs West (Hamilton lake and hospital area to Rukuhia). Teams from Te Rapa area, Newstead, Tauwhare

and Wanderers also played friendly matches. F B Jolly's land, opposite Mr Tebb's residence in Harwood Street, was used.

1908: Waikato Athletic Club secretary, J B Scott, said a ¼ mile track would be formed at Seddon Park, Hamilton West.

1908: News of the split in English rugby circles became a major talking point. The Argus carried an article on a rugby league (northern union) team in UK called 'Pro Blacks', that noted. each player involved had paid 50 pounds into a fund. They then received one pound a week back from the Northern Union body as wages and finished with a bonus each of a hundred and fifty pounds.

1908: Chess gained in strength where Hamilton beat Cambridge 7½-6½ and then 9-4. Auckland beat Hamilton 6-2 in a match played by telegraph.

1908: South Auckland Racing Club, urged on strongly by chairman Isaac Coates, decided to run two-day meetings at Claudelands. Attendances around the time were between 2500 and 3000. The 1908 South Auckland Cup over 1½ miles, was won by Lady Hune, owned by W Douglas and ridden by C Browne.

1908: The Shakespeare Club produced Henry IV at the Old Borough Chambers. Dr Hugh Douglas played King Henry.



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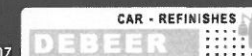
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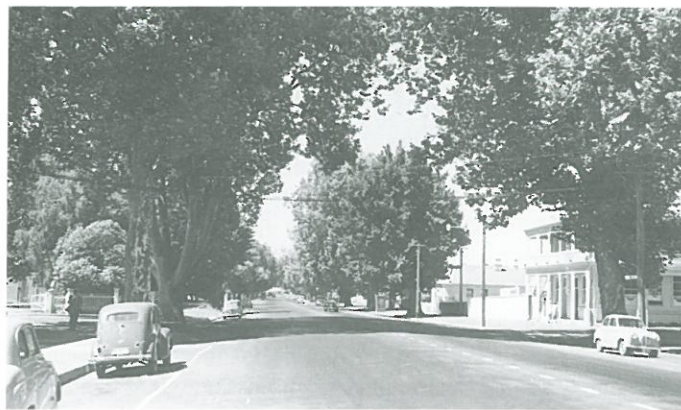
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1950'S PICTURE OF THE ROYAL HOTEL, HAMILTON EAST

1908: The North Island Egg Laying Association Ltd at Cambridge saw 2352 eggs laid during the week, a record by 84.

1908: George Boyes said he had sold half of 40 sections for sale in Frankton. Railway facilities at Frankton continued to be upgraded and enlarged with marshalling yards, a coaling depot, more station buildings and an improved signalling system. Mayor J S Bond said Hamilton's population was 2150, Frankton 542 and Claudelands 341.

1908: Ward Street, the home of the saleyards, horse bazaar and land agents was soon called 'sharks alley'...

1908: W S Higgins installed milking machines on his Tuhikarama property about 1.6km from Frankton while Hamilton's River Road had started to be formed.

1928: It was reported an American-built buggy had taken over from the gallant horses and began to carry passengers to and from Raglan. The buggy was capable of carrying nine people at speeds of up to 24 kilometres per hour. To cover all bases, the buggy was also set up to be horse drawn should the two cylinder engine fail to fire.

1928: Manager of the 1927-28 New Zealand cricket side was Mr Thomas Douglas Baird Hay, a sharebroker, who lived in Dawson Street, Hamilton.



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1928: Item from the NZ Herald, July 17, 1928 - See how they march down Queen Street, this clear fine winter day in July, the mothers and the misses of modern Auckland. Blithely they step out, unencumbered by any clinging mass of drapery about the limbs, striding along with a freedom only born with the present generation. It is impossible to tell the mothers from the misses. They all wear little felt hats pulled tightly down over their shorn heads, dresses without a waistline that end an inch or so above the knee and the rest is legs, silk-stockinged legs, pearl-grey, rose-beige, mushroom, atmosphere, sun-blush legs. Sun-blush!

1928: From NZ Herald - The dangers facing a young girl were pointed out in a sermon on 'The Flapper, her Perils and her Possibilities', delivered by the Rev Leonard H Hunt in the Mt Eden Presbyterian Church. Many girls, he said, fell into the error of expecting permanent happiness in pleasures that could never give it. Dancing and similar amusements had no power to give lasting pleasure. He said the modern girl was trying to ape men, especially in their weaknesses and vices. "She naturally reasons that is she does similar work to a man she should be able to enjoy his pleasures and hence we find 'flappers' of the bolder type drinking cocktails and smoking cigarettes. I know it is often argued that if these things are good for man they are good for a woman, but are they?"

(Note: A girl in her teens was known as a flapper).

1938: Indoor bowls had become popular in Hamilton. It was introduced the previous year by a group of firemen, including our club patron, Frank Haines, at the Hamilton Fire Station who first started playing the game on a length of scrim laid on the social hall floor with a set of old wooden bowls which had been donated to them.

1938: Advertisement for Hamilton swimming baths custodian - Applications invited from competent swimmers. Four pounds a

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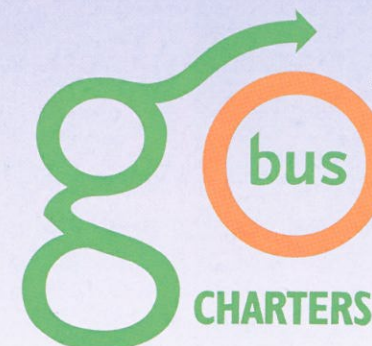
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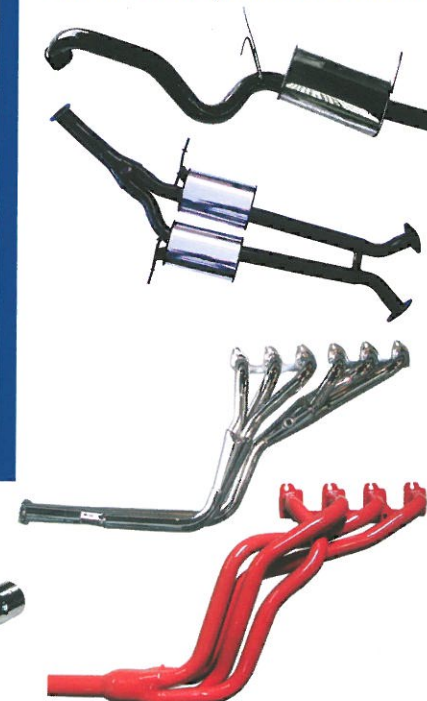
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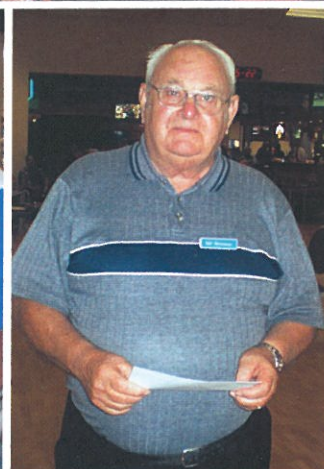
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PHOTOS AT RIGHT; THE TALENTED SECTION OF WORKERS' PLAYERS AND BELOW; SECTION CHAIRPERSON WARREN PEARCE FLANKED BY CLAIR BANTON AND OLA SULLIVAN.

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1938: Evening entertainment schedule – A: Frankton Town Hall euchre and old time dance every Thursday evening 8pm to 12 midnight. Famous Rialto band. Free buses leave Boundary Road 7.35pm, Nixon Street 7.40pm and Hamilton Post Office 7.45pm. B: Wednesdays at Frankton Town Hall for Ritz Ballroom old time dancing with streamers, confetti, snowballs and supper supplied. Dance to Hamilton's Snappy Five. Free buses from usual areas. C: Efi Shalfoon's Band will be at the Regent Ballroom on the first Saturdays of every month. D: Manchester Unity Dance, Toorak Hall, Wednesdays – flannels may be worn. E: Country dances at Eureka, Matangi, Ohaupo, Whatawhata, Te Kowhai, Gordonton, Ngaruawahia and Raglan with Clarrie Cresswell's Orchestra (check daily advert in Waikato Times for venues and bus routes). Movie cinemas: Regent, Royal, Roxy, Civic, State.

1938: Tasker's Cycles in Ward Street (opposite Winstar Show buildings) for all your riding needs. Ladies cycles from three pounds 15s.

1938: Jack Markham's specials (opposite Commercial Hotel, Victoria Street) include field glasses from 10s6p.

1938: Cook's Travel escorted tours of Europe – 73 day tour from 279 pounds 17s, including return steamer tickets and visits to France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Belgium and Great Britain. NZ Shipping Company offered direct steamer service to the United Kingdom via the Panama Canal. Fees for the Remuera, Rangitikei, Ruahine, Rangitane and Rotorua – First class from 94 pounds single, 165 pounds return; cabin from 74 pounds single, 130 return; tourist from 43 pounds singles to 77 pounds return. Fees for the Niagara and Awatea to Australia available by request.

1938: Ebbett Motors had advertised it had 10,000 pounds worth of used cars and trucks on its Hood St yard for its clearance sale. Top bargains listed were – Austin 7, 1929 saloon, usually 110 pounds, in sale 85 pounds; Chevrolet, 1928 Sedan, 105 pounds; Essex, Sedan, 85 pounds; Whippet, 4 Sedan, 85 pounds; Chrysler-Maxwell, Sedan, 55 pounds; Essex, Sedan, 50 pounds; Plymouth, Sedan, 110 pounds; Chevrolet, 1929 Sedan, 120 pounds; Ford, Model A, 75 pounds; Chevrolet, 1934 Sedan, 185 pounds; Chevrolet, 1936 Coupe, 245 pounds. Also around that time J Pomeroy & Co Ltd were the Morris agents in Alexandra St, Hamilton; Armstrong Motors, on the corner of Collingwood St and Garden Place, had the Ford dealership; while R B Seabrook Ltd in Victoria St, had a wide variety of late model Morris, Austin, Ford vehicles available.

1938: Hamilton Girl Guides appointments – Division Commissioner, Mrs G L Taylor (Cambridge); district commissioner, Mrs A R Clark; committee, Mesdames Vere Chitty, T C Fraser, Hugh Douglas, T Richards, W H Blakeway, T W Pemberton, J B Smith, S J Atkins, T P Weatherhog, C H Holloway, H J McMullin, Allen Bell, Lance

Tompkins, Eric Grocott, T J Shaw; hon secretary, Mrs J M Horton; official hostess, Mrs Vere Chitty.

1938: For Sale – Bungalow in Palmerston Street, five rooms, good view, ½ acre, 1150 pounds. House in Te Aroha Street. Five rooms, 995 pounds.

1938: D F Barker won the Southwell School steeplechase over about 3 ½ miles from 26m47s. A Lloyd was second.

1938: YMCA building in Bryce Street hosted a gymnastic display. Dancing and ballet arranged by Misses Mavis Laurenson and Patty Blake, lighting by Mr E Oldham, and music by Mr W Pringle and Miss Joyce Martin. Leading performers from the 200 entries were Misses J Martin, A Storey and M Walsh (women); J Salisbury, J Haycraft, P Bullock, F Ladd, H Piper (men).

1948: The air age finally came to Hamilton to stay in 1948 when the National Airways Corporation made its first commercial flight out of Rukuhia. Aerial topdressing of phosphate on farms also increased markedly.

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1948: Many of the 1948 City senior rugby squad had early involvement with the Hamilton Workingmen's Club when it was formed in the mid 1950s - A Campbell, F Buckingham, R Buckingham, L Walker, C Kurth, O Sperry, R Andrews, E Grocock, M Johnson, J Marshall, J Allen, L Liddington, O Hawkins, W Dean, D Dean, Powell, D Moroney, Stevenson, E Ashton, Millar, A Ormsby, A Kneebone, J Smith, H Ensor, W Jones, R Sanderson, M Kelliher, R McCurdy, V Moroney. Coach: Bluey Clemett.

1948: Waikato Rugby Union's after-match menu, decided after a close vote - two dozen ale, one dozen soft drink, sandwiches and 50 half pies.

1958: It was a golden era when children played safely in the streets; when the local policeman clipped an ear or two or placed a size 11 boot in a strategic part of the body to deter troublesome youths; windows and door could be left open; being a stay-at-home mother was something to be proud of while automatic washing machines, inside lavatories and central heating were just around the corner while television was also on the horizon. Children could be children for longer, they happily played outside until dark. Schools insisted on the basics being taught and all age groups were told to respect their elders. Teenagers listened to Elvis, Cliff Richard and Shirley Bassey while Bill Haley and the Comets rocked England and then the world.

1958: Prominent businesses in Frankton included - Jack Rendle (plumber) 90 Commerce St; Colin Goosman (Minster House, men's and boys' outfitter) 231 Commerce St; C E White (automotive electrician) 59 Commerce St; G H Morrow (butcher) Commerce St; Hamilton Canvas Co Ltd, Kent Street; Blue Parrott Restaurant; Jim Roberts (cabinet maker) Hall Street; Coates Cycles, Massey Street; Frankton Hotel (W M Nairn, proprietor); Hamilton Dry Cleaners, corner of Killarney Road and Ellis Street; R E Arvidson (panelbeater), High Street, Frankton.

1958: Waikato reps in 1958 NZ Rugby Almanack XV - Don Clarke, Wilson Whineray, Ian Clarke. Reserves were Dave Wood, John Wood, Rex Pickering and Roger Loveridge. Halfback John Wood was one of the five promising players of the year.

1958: Many Workingmen's club members gathered at the Dolly Varden Milkbar, opposite the Embassy Theatre in Victoria Street, which was well-known for its 'Joybird' and Princess Betty' hand-dipped chocolate delights. Coffee was ground on the premises and mixed with chicory before brewing. Coffee and crumpets for ninepence was popular.

1968: Hamilton's Waikato Motor Hall hosted the 1968 New Zealand Sportsman of the Year Dinner on November 12. Arranged by the Lions Club of Hamilton, the speakers were Trevor P Baron, Canon B H Pierard, Murray Halberg, Jock Sturrock, Don Oliver, Don Tallon, Kelvin Tremain, Denis Hulme, Dr J A Meade. Special guests were 1968 Olympic medallists R J Joyce, R H Collinge, D L Storey, W J Cole (a member of our club), S C Dickie, M Ryan, I R Ballinger. Tokoroa's Mike Ryan was the 1968 Sportsman of the Year.

1978: Waikato Times Gold Cup winners - 1978: Bahrain (C P McNab, W Sanders). 1988: Sounds Like Fun (M T Coleman, J A Gibbs). 1998: Dannevegas (O P Bossom, G E Barlow & J R Lynds). 2008: ?????