

## CARLTON CORNWALL BOWLS. HISTORY.

*Taken from the Centennial book published in 1993.*

1886. The Newmarket Bowling and Tennis Club and greens were formed on a portion of the land leased from the Government in the Railway Reserve at the intersection of the Auckland and Kaipara lines in Newmarket.

Although information is sketchy, the Club appears to have prospered for several years and then experienced a decline when some members moved to the Auckland Bowling Club around 1889.

- 1893 Carlton's immediate forebear, The Newmarket Bowling Club, came into being in 1893, largely out of frustration with the shortcomings of the old facilities. Several members of the earlier Club decided to set up a new and much larger bowling facility in the district, and obtained the lease to a portion of borough reserve opposite the old bowling and tennis club. Four rinks were laid down and the complex was ready for play within the year.

The first president was Mr George Kent, Mayor of Newmarket.

The club progressed for a number of years and the Parnell Bowling Club, which had been based in the former bowling and tennis grounds, across the road, sought to amalgamate with Newmarket. The offer included Parnell's greens and proved irresistible.

- 1902 The Newmarket club decides to convert its former rinks into a winter green and to use the old Parnell green for summer play. Within a few months New Zealand's first winter green came into play.

*SO NEVER ASSOCIATED WITH NEWMARKET B.C.*

- 1903 The name is changed to Carlton Bowling Club. Records indicate that there were two reasons for the change, the first being that the name "Newmarket" was restrictive and limited membership to a relatively small area. Members believed that changing the name to "Carlton" would encourage members from outside the Newmarket district to join.

The second reason was that members had long enjoyed socialising at the popular Carlton tavern in Newmarket – named after the prestigious gentlemen's club in London. "Carlton" was therefore a popular choice, which reflected both something of members English heritage and their great affection for the old Newmarket watering hole.

- 1912 The Railway department gave notice of its intention to reclaim the Newmarket Reserve for railway purposes, and the Club was forced to find an alternative property.

*1909 Carlton Croquet Club began at a private residence in Carlton Gore Rd.*

*1911 Carlton CC affiliated to Auckland Croquet Assoc.*

Within 3 months a suitable property had been found. Known locally as "Osbornes", the rough and rocky, one and a half acre property in Epsom, lay facing northward in Fairfax Road, just off Manukau Road.. Fairfax Road later became Alpers Ave. The committee considered the asking price of NZ pounds 1,050, (NZ\$2,100) well beyond the Club's means. Messrs Kilgour, Gaudin, and Laurie took the matter into their own hands by placing a deposit on the property themselves, "in the hope that a majority of Club members would endorse their action." By a very narrow majority the recommendation to purchase was accepted.

Bowling News 1912 in eloquently wrote about the acquisition:

*"..A piece of land has been secured on an eminence close to Manukau Road, Newmarket, which contains all the essential elements for the making of a good green. From the site, glorious land and water panoramic views are obtained. Away to the north and northeast, the islands of the Waitemata Harbour and Hauraki Gulf stand like emeralds in a setting of a flashing sea of sapphires. To the east and northeast, the exclusive suburb of Remuera shows out distinctly, the red roofs of white houses showing in pleasant relief to the general background of green foliage.*

*The new green is a truly charming spot, where prospect pleases and even man is not vile. It is fortunate that such a favourable site is available in the neighbourhood of the old green.*

*In true Carlton spirit, the club had turned adversity into opportunity, and with determination and hard labour would transform that rocky site into an exceptionally good bowling green."*

- 1912 The Club name is changed to "The Carlton Bowling, Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club Inc. Croquet had always fitted in remarkably well with bowling activities and a very compatible and long standing association was re-established between the two. The relationship continued until 1917 when the Croquet Club moved to its own property in Epsom, where it is still located. With the Carlton Clubs recent move to Cornwall Park there are now three clubs all bearing the Carlton name located in the same vicinity. These are Carlton Cornwall Bowls, The Carlton Croquet Club and Grammar Carlton Rugby Club.
- 1914 J.S. Kilgour wins the Clubs first Dominion title and was the Dominions First Singles Champion. Jack Kilgour was Greens Superintendent at Carlton for 28. years and was responsible for establishing the Carlton greens at Alpers Ave.
- 1915 Construction of the two storey pavilion with an upstairs veranda was completed at a cost of NZ pounds 1,000. (\$NZ2,000). Although the building was finished in

Presumably  
in correct

1926 Carlton C.C. acquired land at  
333 Manukau Rd (present site - viewed  
original land deed)

Ed Graham Bush 2006

## THE HISTORY OF EPSOM

### Carlton Croquet Club

In existence for over 90 years, the club had its genesis at a private residence in Carlton Gore Road, Newmarket, where croquet parties were held. These then transferred to Fairfax Road on grounds leased from the Railways Department, alongside the Carlton Men's Bowling Club. The club was established in 1909, the first president being M. Laurie, and in 1911 it affiliated with the Auckland Croquet Association. The first club championship in 1912 was won by E. Perry.

Calling-in of the lease forced the club to seek a suitable alternative location, and eventually a former tennis club site of one acre at 333 Manukau Road was purchased for £765. Finance was obtained through loans from members, and a donation was



Twenty-five year stalwarts: foundation members (Mesdames E. Perry, L. Cahill, E. Wilson and M. Laurie) at the Carlton Croquet Club, 1935

Carlton Croquet Club

## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN: SPORTS CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

received from the Carlton Men's Bowling Club. In 1926 the club pavilion was officially opened before 250 guests. In having freehold title to its site, Carlton Croquet Club is a rarity among croquet clubs.

During both world wars, members assisted with various fundraising activities. When it was suggested in 1940 that the pavilion forecourt be concreted, it was decided that this expenditure was not warranted during wartime. The club is not overly pushy or competitive, but it has contributed a respectable share of representatives, and members have often featured on the various Auckland Croquet Association shields and cups. E. Heatley, who represented the club brilliantly in the 1938-9 season, winning the English Gold Medal, was the only woman to ever win this trophy in New Zealand.

info re Papatoetoe

Joy Hanna

now Carlton CC

### Carlton Croquet Club

1999  
The Carlton Croquet Club has been in existence for nearly 90 years. It all began at a private residence in Carlton Gore Road [hence the name of the Club] where croquet parties and cucumber sandwiches were the order of the day. The club then transferred to Fairfax Road to grounds alongside the Carlton Men's Bowling Club.

Officially formed on 10th November 1909, the first President for the year 1910 was Mrs M Laurie. At that time, the grounds were leased from the Railways Department and there appeared to be a controlling interest exercised by the Carlton Bowling Club. When the Railways Department finally required possession of the site, the Croquet Club approached the Bowling Club suggesting amalgamation. The bowlers declined.

Carlton croquet members then decided to look for suitable land to establish their own club. After some years of searching, a former tennis club site was purchased at 333 Manukau Road. This was a major step towards complete and responsible independence. Finance was obtained through the generosity of club members who made small loans available for an indefinite period and a donation from the Carlton Bowling Club. Approximately one acre of land was purchased with a further 40 feet 12 months later. Carlton Croquet Club is one of the few clubs in New Zealand to own land.

During the First World War, members helped with various fund raising activities. In 1915, the Mayoress of Auckland sent a letter of thanks in recognition of the Club's past and continued assistance in the form of donations towards the purchase of waistcoats for "our boys at the front." In 1926, the Club Pavilion was built and at the official opening 250 guests from other croquet clubs were entertained.

The club is not overly aggressive but over the years the names of our representatives have featured a number of times in ACA and National events. In the 1938-39 season, Miss E Heatley won the English Gold Medal and was the only woman to ever win this prestigious medal in New Zealand.

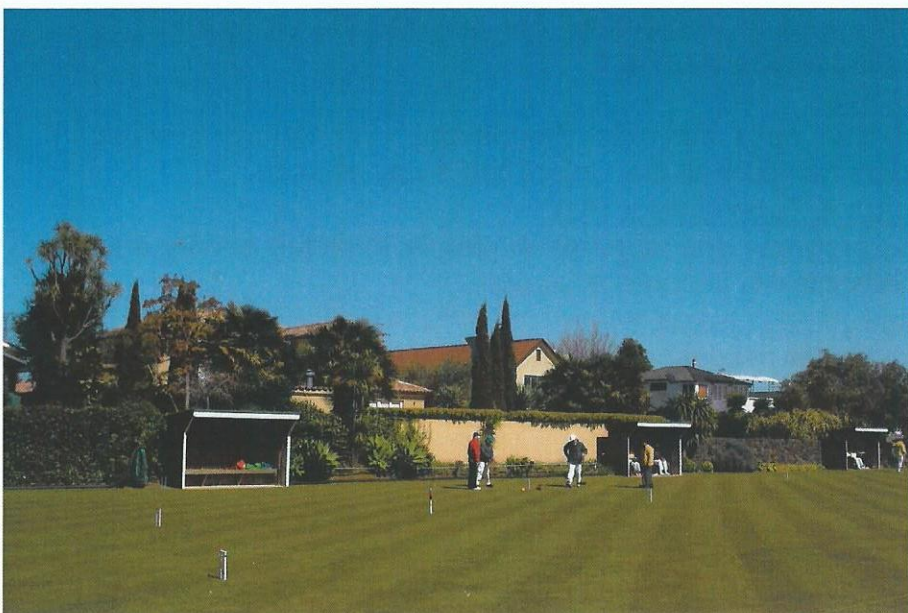


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# **CARLTON CROQUET CLUB**

**333 Manukau Road, Epsom**



For prospective new members the following is some interesting historical information about the Club – plus an idea of what knowledge is needed to play the game of Croquet.

The club was formed in November 1909. It all began at a private residence in Carlton Gore Road, Auckland, where Croquet parties and cucumber sandwiches were the order of the day! In July 1911 the Club was affiliated to the Auckland Croquet Association.

Initially until 1925, the Club used lawns leased by the Carlton bowling Club, adjacent to the Railway yards in Newmarket and after some years of searching land was purchased at 333 Manukau Road. This was a major step towards independence and achieved through the generosity and enthusiasm of its members and the Bowling Club

Now, nearly 100 years later, the Club may not serve cucumber sandwiches but the Hospitality is still warm and friendly with many visiting Croquet players eager to play in our Tournaments and enjoy the famous afternoon teas supplied by members.

Our four lawns are well maintained and set in the heart of Epsom, surrounded by residential properties. The club is at the end of a public right of way between Corbett Scott and King George Avenues. Parking is limited at the lawns, but it is only a short walk from Corbett Scott Ave. where parking is always available.

The game of Croquet is the most intelligent of all outdoor games. It requires delicacy and skill rather than strength, and tactical ability rather than quick reflexes.

In recent years Golf Croquet has been introduced. Both Golf and Association Croquet can be played at any age and by men and women on equal terms. The difference between individual skills is recognised by a handicapping system which enables games between all grades of players to be exciting and full of interest.

Croquet provides plenty of light, healthy exercise which imposes no particular physical strain, though in competitive play it can demand a considerable degree of concentration. Not all players are competitive, many play only for companionship. Once the strokes are learned the idea of the game is realised and the tactics needed to win come into place.

#### **Coaching:**

Coaching is available to new members. The first 6 lessons are free and a small charge is made thereafter. Mallets are available for new members to borrow initially. Our summer season opens in September, but play can be all year round depending on the weather!!

#### **Club Days:**

Social club days are held Wednesday and Saturday when members can play all day or just half a day as suits.

#### **Interclub & Tournament Play:**

As you progress opportunities to play in Interclub events and Tournaments will become available.

#### **Dress:**

It is no longer necessary to wear white clothes...Flat shoes are required.

#### **For further Information phone:**

$$10,380 \times 0.60$$

$$6228$$

$$\times 0.63$$

$$6539 + 311$$

$$\times 0.65$$

$$6747 + 519$$

In the mid 1890's, the club (<sup>Newmarket</sup> BC.) resumed occupation of the old bowling nicks across the road by merging with the Parnell Bowling Club, which had been using those nicks. The amalgamated club was renamed the Carlton BC in 1903. It proceeded to turn railway reserve nicks into a summer green and the borough reserve nicks into a winter green, the first in NZ. The club's new facilities were widely regarded as the best in Auckland.

In 1909, the club gave permission for ladies to play croquet on the winter green.

At the same time it laid down a new tennis court and leased it to the new Carlton T.C.

~~an arrangement~~ an arrangement that lasted only about three years. In 1911-12, the club erected a new pavilion for winter bowlers and cricket players. Shortly afterwards the Railway Department notified the club that it would be taking the borough reserve land that the club's summer ground occupied, in order to make improvements to the Kaipara rail junction. In 1915 the club moved to a new site in Alpers Ave, Epsom, which it has occupied until today.

Phone our umpires

Club Captains - Carlton, Epsom-Remuera, Henderson, Mt Albert, Pt Chevalier and St Heliers.  
Can you please pass on the attached information and encourage current Umpires and interested members to attend.

From: Fishers  
Sent: Wednesday  
To: Claire H  
Cc: "Tompkin"  
Subject: Umpires

info re Papatoetoe

Joy Hanna

now Carlton CC

Claire Heasley



Extended clubrooms 2011



# Carlton Croquet Club



MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES  
1934-35



1936

