**Beecroft Bowling Club**

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Wednesday 16 February 1910, page 1**

Beecroft Progress Association.

The Annual Meeting.

SPORTS. Proposals have also been made for the formation of local bowling and croquet clubs, and although these ideas are only in their inception, they probably will ere long, come to fruition, when, with the local tennis and golf clubs, ample recreation should be available for all residents.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 10 February 1912, page 8**

Beecroft Progress Association.

Wanted, a Bowling Green. The president inquired who was secretary of the Beecroft reserve. They wanted to get a bowling club formed, and with that end in view had sent a letter to the trust, but had not received any answer. Mr. Holcombe (impressively): “The letter was received, and is being considered; and I may say that a reply will be forwarded in due course.” A member: “Oh, the trust does business on the same lines as the Chief Commissioner, then?” (Laughter.) It was stated that if the trust gave permission for part of the reserve to be used as a bowling green, the green would be constructed by means of a “working bee.” Mr. Holcombe: “The members of the trust are, I may say, very favorably inclined to the proposal.”

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 February 1912, page 8**

Beecroft.

Bowling Green. — Mr. Mason has put down a very nice bowling green at his residence, Beecroft, and he and some of his friends are getting into form, what time a bowling club will be started in Beecroft, with rinks on the village green.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 18 May 1912, page 8**

Beecroft.

School of Arts.

Mesdames Holcombe, Fearnley and Herring, placed their lawns at the disposal of the committee for the holding of croquet tournaments.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 22 March 1913, page 3**

It has been decided to start a bowling green, croquet lawn and tennis courts at Beecroft.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 9 April 1913, page 5**

NOTES.

Mr. John Wallace honorary treasurer of the [bowling] association will leave for England next Wednesday or Thursday. At the Commercial Travellers Club on Monday evening, he was presented with two handsome cabin trunks for himself and Mrs. Wallace, and a gold bracelet watch for his daughter. Mr F. G. Crouch presided and spoke in glowing terms of the splendid work Mr Wallace had done in the cause of bowling and his cordial wishes that the trip might result in complete restoration to health were echoed by Messrs A. Laudon, H. A. Scott, D. Storey, A. J. Whitehouse, J. Harrison and T. W. Shadforth. The recipient stated that it was a labour of love for him to promote the interests of bowls and only last week he attended a meeting having for its object the formation of a club at Beecroft which he hoped to see firmly established on his return. The office which he had held for nearly 20 years had had bought him into close association with every president since the days of the late John Young and in his opinion the game had been particularly blessed in the character of its leaders. Mr Wallace concluded by thanking bowlers generally for their good wishes.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 19 April 1913, page 3**

It was decided to form a club under the name of the Beecroft Bowling and Recreation Club, as a limited liability concern. It was proposed to limit the shares to 1000 at £1 each, but a definite decision on this point was not arrived at. Officers were elected as follows: — President, Mr. John Wallace; vice-presidents, Messrs. H. O. Holcombe, H. J. Little, Nicholas Shiels and W. D. Schrader; Hon. secretary, Mr. John Laurie; Hon. treasurer, Mr. A. Moore; committee, Messrs. S. Higgins, Melbourne Green, T. Stobo, R. T. B. Andrews, Garland and S. Ritchie.

Members to the number of 26 were enrolled, and 64 shares were taken up for a start. The president stated that the various kindred bodies in the district had very kindly given an invitation to the members to play on their greens until the Beecroft green is constructed. It Is proposed to provide for a croquet lawn as well as a bowling green.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 19 Apr 1913**

BOWLS.

A meeting of the gentlemen interested in the formation of a bowling club for Beecroft was held on Saturday.

The sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. John Laurie, W. D. Schrader, H. J. Little, T. Stobo and F. Mason, sen., who were appointed to inspect and report on the various sites available for the purpose of a green, recommended the purchase of some land belonging to Mr. H. O. Holcombe. The meeting confirmed the choice.

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Members to the number of 26 were enrolled, and 64 shares were taken up for a start.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 26 April 1913, page 3**

BOWLS.

The Beecroft bowlers have decided to form a company to be styled “The Beecroft Recreations Limited”; capital £1500, £1 shares; allotment when 250 shares have been applied for.

Messrs. H. Little, H. O. Holcombe, Albert Moore and N. Shlels were appointed provisional directors: secretary, Mr. D, Hartwell; solicitor; Mr. Schrader; auditors, Messrs. Higgins and Garland. The committee are arranging with a surveyor for plans and specifications, and when these are ready it is intended to call for public tenders and proceed as soon as possible with formation. The movement has received great support, and indications point to the club being a success from the very start. Members, it is expected, will be drawn from Pennant Hills, Thornleigh and Normanhurst, and probably a few from south of Beecroft.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 May 1913, page 12**

The Beecroft Bowling Club is issuing a neat prospectus in connection with the proposed establishment of a green at Beecroft, inviting residents to take up shares and become members. An institution of this kind should prove- f great benefit to the village.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 28 June 1913, page 1**

BREVITIES.

Beecroft Recreations, Ltd., have disposed of £250 worth of debentures, and hope soon to raise a further sum, when the work of constructing the bowling green and croquet lawns will be started.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 2 August 1913, page 3**

BOWLS.

The Beecroft Club is preparing to lay down six rinks at a cost of close on £1000.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 9 August 1913, page 8**

Beecroft.

Garden Fete. – A garden fete aid of the funds of the Ministering Children's League and. the Beecroft branch of the Harbour Lights Guild, was held in the grounds of Mrs. L. Herring's residence, on Saturday. On one of the spacious lawns, tables had been arranged in the form of stalls, for the display and sale of various articles; on another lawn golf croquet was being played.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 16 August 1913, page 13**

BEECROFT.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Beecroft School of Arts, Mr. Skellett presiding.

Special mention was made of the efforts made by the ladies of Beecroft to raise funds for the institution, by means of a village fair, four euchre parties, croquet tournament, … …

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 23 August 1913, page 3**

BOWLS.

Congratulations to Beecroft, who started laying down their six rinks and a tennis court this week.

The site belongs to the club, and has a frontage of 132 x 264 to Copeland-road.

Our old friend, Mr. Mason, was the father of bowls at Beecroft, members having the advantage of practising on the two rinks he has laid down at his private residence.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 4 October 1913, page 8**

Beecroft

Arrived. Mr. arid Mrs. John. Wallace and Miss Wallace arrived in Sydney on Sunday, by the sis. Shropshire, after an enjoyable six months holiday in England. The party received a cordial welcome back to Beecroft by their friends, and the members of the Bowling Club are to tender Mr. Wallace (their president) a club welcome at an early date.

Linen Tea. A linen tea was tendered to Miss Dorothea Wachsmann by Mesdames Perry, Cowley, and Kenyon, at “Coombie,” the pretty residence of Mrs. Kenyon, Beecroft-road, Cheltenham, on Saturday. About 40 of Miss Wachmann 's friends were present and this young lady, who, is shortly to be married, was made the recipient of over 50 articles of table linen, etc., some of which were hand-made and beautifully embroidered. A target croquet competition was won by Miss Olive Birkenhead, … …

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 13 December 1913, page 3**

BOWLS.

The bowling green and croquet lawn for the Beecroft Recreation and Bowling Club are well under way.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Thursday 26 March 1914, page 13**

AUCTION

Beautiful Residential Sites at BEECROFT.

BOWLING GREEN ESTATE, BEECROFT,

The finest, highest, healthiest, situation of all Beecroft, 413ft above sea level.

Property near Station, School, Stores, and Post-office, nearly opposite BEECROFT BOWLING GREEN. Large, roomy Lots, frontage« to Copeland-road and York-street - fine, bright position, with superb views.

EASY TERMS, from £1 down and 10s monthly, including interest, for every £25 purchased. TORRENS TITLE.

Also, Fine D. F. BRICK VILLA, in perfect order throughout, 6 nice rooms, kitchen pantry, bathroom, laundry, water and gas laid on, and every convenience. Easy terms arranged.

AUCTION SALE.

SATURDAY NEXT,

MABCH 28th, AT 3.30 P.M., ON GROUND.

Plans may be had from Mr. Stobo, Agent, Beecroft, or direct from ARTHUR RICKARD AND CO., LTD.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 4 April 1914, page 8**

Beecroft.

At Copeland-road, Beecroft, there is nearing completion a bowling green of six rinks, and a large croquet lawn, formed by the Beecroft Recreations, Limited. The bowling club has been in existence for some time, and play matches on greens of other clubs, who have generously, arranged play wherever possible, to enable, members of the new club the privilege of practice, which has been gratefully accepted; those thoughtful offers again emphasising the fraternity that exists among bowlers generally. On the Boulevard. Cheltenham, the Cheltenham Club, Limited, is laying a bowling green, tennis courts, and croquet lawn, so that choice of grounds and an abundance of games are offered to ladies and gentlemen of the district, which should do much to promote a spirit of friendly emulation, that necessary essential in all games.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 18 April 1914, page 3**

BOWLS.

The bowling green for Beecroft Recreations Ltd. will be, finished this week, and it is anticipated that it will be ready for play about the end of May

Beecroft has had to cry off the opening game with Parramatta on May 2, in consequence of the green not being as forward as was hoped.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 9 May 1914, page 8**

BEECROFT.

Croquet. — A croquet tournament is to be held under the auspices of the local club on the lawn at Mrs. Holcombe's residence, Beecroft, this afternoon.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 16 May 1914, page 8**

BEECROFT.

Croquet. - In connection with the movement to provide a croquet lawn with the bowling green, an afternoon for practice play was given by Mr. and Mrs. Holcombe, on their lawn at Highwick, Beecroft, on Saturday. Fifty ladies, took part, and spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 6 June 1914, page 8**

BEECROFT.

A crowded house greeted the production, on Saturday, in the Beecroft School of Arts, of the two-net comedy, “Naval Engagements.” The entertainment was arranged by Mrs. Rygate, in aid of the funds of the Beecroft Bowling and Recreation Club. From every point of view, it was a pronounced success. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the piece, as was evidenced by the frequent applause and laughter.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Tuesday 30 June 1914, page 12**

CROQUET.

BEECROFT CLUB.

The Beecroft croquet lawn (in conjunction with the Bowling and Recreation Club) was opened yesterday.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 1 July 1914, page 9**

BOWLING.

A NEW CLUB.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Until the **Ryde Club** was formed two or three years ago, that stretch of beautiful suburban country between Strathfield and Hornsby was innocent of a bowling green. But it was inevitable that an ardent enthusiast like Mr. John Wallace, the veteran treasurer of the New South Wales Association, would not be long resident of those parts before taking steps to form a club. It is quite five years ago since Mr. Wallace first put the proposition in train, and the story of the Beecroft Club's beginning is just a repetition of the tale of the rise of the Randwick Club. Mr. John Forsyth, who is himself hailed as the father of the prosperous body on the breezy eastern heights, delights to tell, with due impressiveness on momentous occasions, how Mr. Wallace one day tackled him while busy in his garden on the question of forming a club in the locality, and, with more than the suspicion of a chuckle, John will tell that the beauty spot of to-day was once a rubbish heap, and had long been an eyesore from his residence opposite.

Mr. Wallace has, in truth, done splendid pioneering work in the cause of his Scottish sport, and his inspiring personality made it merely a question of time ere progressive Beecroft had a green which harmonised with its natural beauty. The district has gone ahead by leaps and bounds in recent years, and population has increased to such an extent that it was felt the time had arrived to take decisive steps. On March 10, 1913, the first public meeting was held in the School of Arts, and since then the movement has never flagged. A limited liability company was formed to purchase land and carry through the work of green-making and pavilion-building, and soon afterwards the Beecroft Bowling and Recreation Club came into existence. The possession of their own sward in fit state to practice upon, much less to receive visiting players of experience, was a matter many months distant, yet the first secretary, Mr. John Laurie, set about securing fixtures on the greens of various of the established clubs. So that, already Beecroft players have made themselves known in the bowling circle, and though their paths have naturally not been strewn with the rose leaves of victory up to the present, the novitiates have shown themselves imbued with the true sporting spirit. For week after week, they have plodded from home, playing against heavy odds and meeting with defeat, but all the time they have been building up a store of experience and skill. The art of handling a bowl correctly is acquired only with the patience and application necessary to all games of manual dexterity, but the finesse and knowledge of how to deal with the ever-changing problems of position, whether in attack or defence, are equally difficult, and just as vital as the other. The cleansing fires of apprenticeship have been manfully borne, and now that the green is open for play, the gradual ascent of Beecroft from the C competition to the A class will be watched with interest.

When the shrubs and flower-beds have matured, and the grounds have lost that general aspect of "newness," the latest recruit will have one of the most attractive greens in the State. The hilly conformation of the district made the selection of a suitable position somewhat of a problem. Naturally, the early dwellers absorbed the most favour-able building sites, and the committee had a difficult task in selecting a piece of ground with the dual qualifications of levelness and convenience to the railway station. Many offers, desirable from every standpoint but the last, were rejected, but visiting clubs will appreciate in future years the fact that the green is only two minutes walk from the station. It has a frontage of 132 feet to Cope-land-road, and a depth of 264 feet north and south. A croquet lawn provides ladies with an Interest in the grounds, and a club has been formed, with Mrs. Lindsay as honorary secretary. Already the ladies have carried out several entertainments, which have furnished welcome financial aid to the general movement.

The green itself is 120 feet square, and has its position on the northern end next Copeland-road. A broad turfed patch divides it from the croquet lawn, which is 105 feet by 85 feet on the southern end, and the pavilion has been erected near the western boundary at the end of the bowling green and over-looking the croquet lawn. Mr. Robert Vicars made a handsome contribution to the club for the special purpose of ornamenting the grounds by means of shrubs and flowers, while the Australian flag, which floats from the pavilion masthead, was given by Mr. H. O. Holcombe. The second flag, which adorns the pole at the entrance gate, is in the club colours-chocolate and gold and is the gift of other members. The ground has been terraced in order to give spectators every chance of viewing the play, and the difficult task of overcoming the fall of 11 feet in the frontage of 132 feet has been satisfactorily surmounted.

The first thought of the visitor is the striking beauty of the surroundings. On the south is a well-grown hawthorn hedge, with fruit trees in the background; to the west a gully, with stately gums forming a natural shelter from the western sun; and on the rising ground to the north are beautiful villas in the delightful setting of native bush.

On Monday last those who visit greens regularly could not but have been impressed by two things. Firstly, the generous attendance of ladies, and, secondly, the fact that the opening of the sward, judged purely from a bowlers' point of view, was premature. The presidents' match was not the serious test of skilful bowling that usually marks such an occasion. The running surface was too new, and lacking in settlement, but enthusiasm was abundant, and some day Beecroft will be a power to be reckoned with. Four of the five visiting rinks won, the exception being that governed by the Scottish champion, Kellie, 18-14. George Coates, of Parramatta, just beat Connell, 15-14, and the biggest majority for the president came from Anderson, of Ryde, 29-8. John McClure, of Randwick, exercised his utmost art in contending with the unwonted conditions, 21-9, and it is worthy of record that Secretary Shadforth placed his initial wood on the Jack, and supplemented it by many equally worthy efforts. President Spence allowed his devotion to overcome his generosity in scoring 24 to 9 against the Beecroft president, but made ample amends by the sparkling tenor of his official speech. The day was one which will be long remembered when the new club is numbered among the ancients.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 4 July 1914, page 3**

BOWLS.

Beecroft bowlers have now established a home of their own, thanks to the indomitable pluck of the residents of the pretty northern suburb. The site, which is handy to the railway station, is a most picturesque one, nestling in a dell well sheltered from all adverse winds. On the green is erected a commodious pavilion; and. In addition to the bowling green, the promoters have provided an excellent croquet lawn for the ladies.

On Monday, President Spence, of the N.S.W. Bowling Association, accompanied by six rinks, visited the green for the purpose of officially opening it, and he was welcomed by Mr. Wallace, local president. They were deeply indebted to Mr. Mason (Mr. Wallace said), who had placed his two private rinks at the disposal of the club, and he was pleased to say that their neighbours at Cheltenham were forming a green, and when this was completed the success of the district was assured.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 4 July 1914, page 8**

BEECROFT.

New Green. - Ladies were conspicuous by their presence at the official opening of the new Beecroft recreation ground on Monday, when Mr. Spence, president of the New South Wales Bowling Association, bought along a team of 24 bowlers to do battle against Mr. Wallace, the local president, and his enthusiastic team of colts. The “honors” were well done by the Beecroft bowlers, and were heartily appreciated by the visitors.

Among the ladies present were Mesdames Wallace; Lindsey (secretary croquet club), Laurie, Ogden, Bibbell, Green, sen., Green, jun., Crawford, Williams, Kenyon, Harris, Fearnley, McDonald;, Coates, Carlos, Alcock, Holcombe, Bainbridge, Rowley, Cowley, Hoskins, Seale, Priest, Rygate, Moore, Hayward, Garland, Broughton, Shiels, O'Sullivan, Harper, Brierley, McManis, Cadden, Gorman, Tyler, Lewis, Trigg, Stobo, Thompson, Melbourne Green, Carne, Forsyth, Schrader, Misses Daley, Ross, Hamilton, Wallace, Dobbie, T. and M. Brown, F. Lindsay, Moore, Kenyon, O'Sullivan, Richardson, Higgs, Andrews, Butler, Stobo, Cadden, Carne; and Little. Visitors will greatly appreciate the fact that the green has a frontage of 132 feet to Copeland-road, and a depth of 264 feet north and south. A croquet lawn provides ladies with an interest in the grounds, and a club has been formed, with Mrs. Lindsay as honorary secretary. The green itself is 120 feet square, and has its position on the northern end next Copeland-road. A broad turfed patch divides it from the croquet lawn, which is 105 feet by 85 feet on the southern end, and the pavilion has been erected near the western boundary at the end of the bowling green and overlooking the Croquet lawn. Mr. Robert Vicars made a handsome contribution to the club, for the special purpose of ornamenting the grounds by means of shrubs and flowers, while the Australian flag, which floats from the pavilion masthead, was given by Mr. H. O. Holcombe. The second flag, which adorns the pole at the entrance gate, is in the club colors — chocolate and gold — and is the gift of other members. The ground has been terraced in order to give the spectators every chance of viewing to play, and the difficult task of overcoming the fall of 11 feet in the frontage of 132 feet has been satisfactorily surmounted. The first thought of the visitor is the striking beauty of the surroundings. On the south is a well-grown hawthorn hedge, with fruit trees in the background; to the west a gully, with stately gums forming a natural shelter from the western sun; and on the rising ground to the north are beautiful villas in the delightful setting of native bush.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 3 July 1915, page 8**

BEECROFT.

BELGIAN TOURNAMENT.

The Belgian tournament, organised by the Beecroft Ladies' Croquet Club, has been won by Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Haywood, who defeated Mrs. Lyon and Mrs. Vicars in the final. The prizes were a hand-painted sachet with a handsomely worked handkerchief, and a silver mounted scent bottle. The sachet was the work of Mrs. Fearnley, and the scout-bottle was presented by Mrs. Vicars.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Wednesday 5 July 1916, page 3**

BEECROFT.

The Beecroft ladles collected £31 16s 1d on Button Day, which, with a donation of £5 8s 6d from the Beecroft Croquet Club, brought this district's contribution to £37 4s 7d. Mrs. Lindsey was organiser, and was assisted by Misses Starling (2), Miss Cadden, Miss Fearnley, Miss Camper, Miss V. Lindsey, Mrs. O. Seale, Miss A. Priest, Miss M. Garland, Mrs. Rygate, Miss F. Lindsey and Miss Crawford.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 19 May 1917, page 8**

BEECROFT.

TOURNAMENT.

The croquet tournament between the Beecroft and Cheltenham clubs resulted in £30 being raised for the War Chest.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 22 September 1917, page 8**

BEECROFT.

For the war chest.

The juvenile dance held in the School of Arts hall on Saturday last, in aid of War Chest Day, was a great success. The croquet club ladies visited the bowling green recently and succeeded in raising over £11 towards the same fund.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 27 April 1918, page 8**

RED CROSS EFFORTS.

Last Saturday the Cheltenham and Beecroft bowlers hold a special function on the Beecroft Club’s grounds to raise funds for Red Cross Day. Unfortunately, the weather prevented play on the green, but by means of indoor games and raffles the sum of £17 was raised, and direct contributions were made to the total of £69.

On Tuesday the Beecroft and Cheltenham ladies held a croquet afternoon on the Beecroft Club's lawn, and this realised £18 by means of raffles.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 25 May 1918, page 8**

Beecroft Croquet Club entertained Mrs. Holdsworth (champion croquet player of New South Wales) and Mrs. Lough last Saturday, and their visitors played a fine, exhibition game.