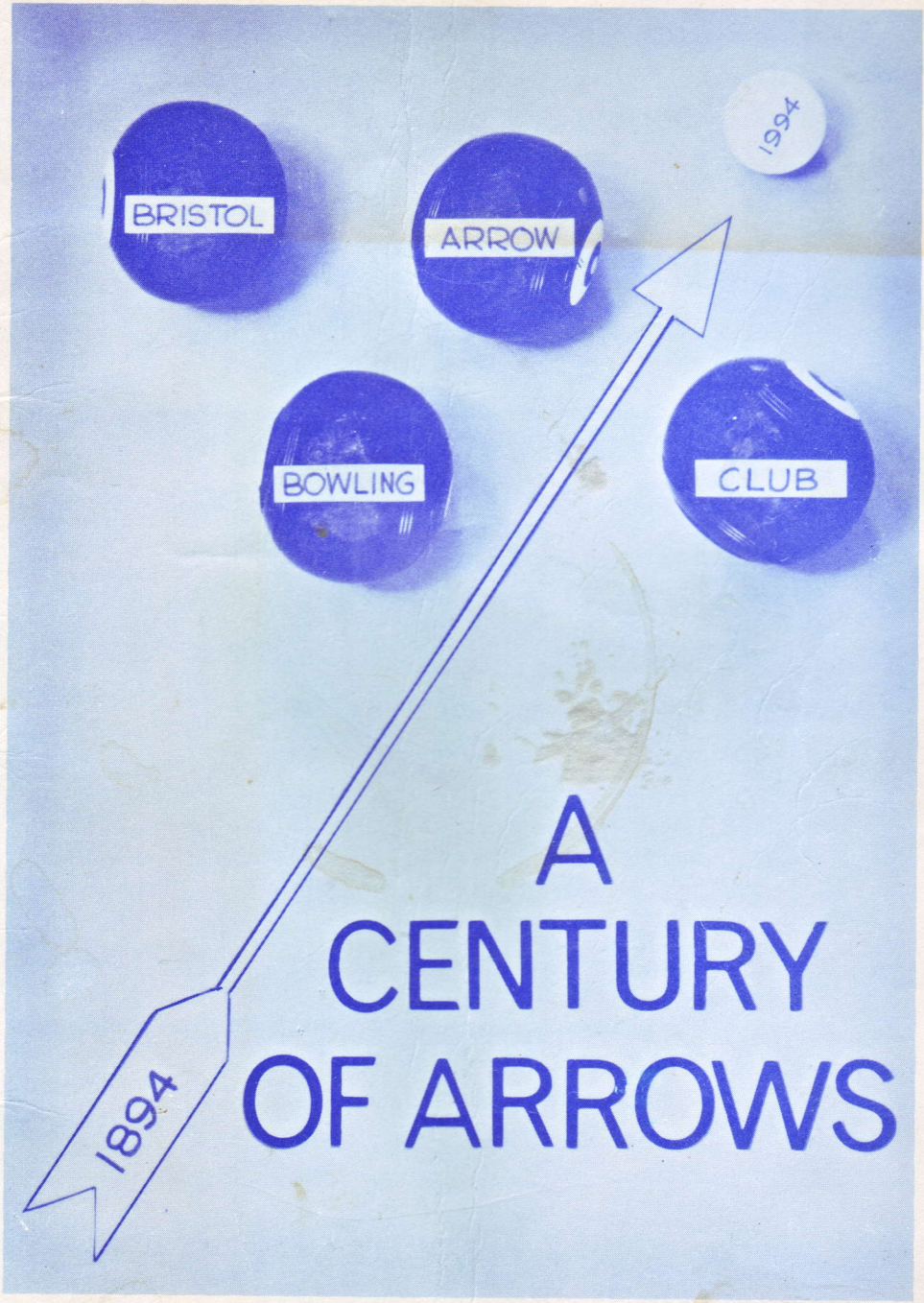


A CENTURY OF ARROWS

THE HISTORY

OF THE

BRISTOL ARROW BOWLING CLUB

by George T. Allen

Subscription Edition
January 1981.

A CENTURY OF ARROWS

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I commend to you this very interesting history of the Bristol Arrow Bowling Club which George Allen has researched and written. It tells of the part played by the Club in the development of the game of bowls in modern times and, as is appropriate, looks forward to the future of the game and its ever growing popularity.

CLIFFORD ELSON
President

January 1981

ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE GAME OF BOWLS

Many articles have been written on the game of bowls, as played on flat greens in Scotland and the Southern half of England and on crown greens in the Midlands and the North West. Space in this booklet does not permit lengthy historical details and, therefore, references are chiefly made to the flat green game.

It is thought that the game developed from a gruesome sport played by the Barbarians who beheaded their captives and rolled the heads towards selected targets 'for relaxation'. Stone throwing to targets was also popular between groups of young men, points being scored according to the object struck. During the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries various forms of bowls were played either on flat pieces of ground, or on courtyards of Inns and other public places. Rules varied considerably between different parts of the country.

There are records of the establishment of bowling clubs in Scotland between 1709 and 1775; but these are mere infants compared with the Southampton (Old) Bowling Club which was founded in 1299. At that time, and for many years thereafter rules for playing the game were very local. The lengths of the greens and the weights and sizes of the wooden balls used varied considerably. It was not until the sixteenth Century that we first read of the use of biased woods.

The game became so popular that both the King and parliament feared that it might jeopardize the practice of archery and it was thus banned. Statutes forbidding it and other sport were passed in the reigns of Edward III, Richard II and other Monarchs. In 1511 Henry VIII confirmed these enactments against unlawful games. In 1541 artificers, labourers, apprentices, servants and the like were forbidden to play bowls at any time except Christmas and then only in their Master's house and presence. This was not repealed until 1845. Any person found playing bowls outside his own garden or orchard was liable to a fine of 6s. 8d.; but those persons owning land of a value of £100 per annum could obtain a licence to play on their own private greens. In 1555, during the reign of Queen Mary, even this was withdrawn because the Queen or her advisers thought the game could be an excuse for unlawful assemblies, sedition and conspiracy.

The last of the legislation of this kind was passed in 1728, during the reign of George II, under which persons found playing bowls could be committed to prison. It was designed to stop gambling which at that time was said to be leading to the ruin of the Country. This brought about a decline in the popularity of the game which showed no sign of revival until these statutes were replaced by the Gaming Act of 1845.

The first official set of rules of the game are probably those devised in 1670 by Charles II. History records that after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651, he travelled in disguise to Bristol and at Leigh Court, where he went into hiding, he saw a group of men playing bowls in the grounds of the Court. The rules bear some resemblance to those in use today,

the concluding rule stating – "Keep your temper, and remember he who plays at Bowls must take rubbers".

Another interesting set of rules, believed to have been in use in the Gloucestershire area in the early part of the 19th Century, have been found by Rex Marsh of the Page Park Bowling Club. Whilst some of the rules bear a resemblance with the current ones, there is one which is most interesting entitled "Number X-Blocking" and reads as follows – "A player, if he thinks proper, may block an opponent at hand instead of playing his bowl". What this old rule meant seems lost in the mist of time.

Even as recently as 1904 we find that Arrow played the Bournville Bowling Club on their green under "Midland Counties" rules which stipulated 13 players per side – each playing 21 shots up.

Undoubtedly it was the Scottish Bowling Association who were responsible for giving the lead in organising the game under a code of laws. They were also pioneers in the laying of level greens of first class quality and in the use of sea-washed turf. Arrow, because of the close affinity that "W.G." had with the Scots, used the Scottish rules in playing their games until 1903 when the E.B.A. introduced the rules we now use.

Arrowsmith's Dictionary of Bristol records that the first green in Bristol was levelled and prepared for bowls in 1622 on the Marsh (now Queen Square) where it remained at the expense of the Corporation "For Merchants and Gentlemen to recreate themselves on at bowls" until 1643, when during the siege of the city it was demolished to make way for a Battery.

Further greens were also laid down at St. James Barton, The Pithay, Redcliffe Hill, Wapping, The Cockpit and Hotwells within the city limits and also in many suburban Taverns and Inns.

As was the case in other parts of the Country, the game disappeared in the Bristol area for about two centuries. Other sports proved to be more popular, such as football, cricket, cycling, pedestrianism (hiking) etc., and were the main forms of entertainment until the 1880's when quoits and bowls were about to make their mark on the sportsmen of the City.

COUNTY GROUND DAYS 1886 – 1917

In the reign of Queen Victoria and when Gladstone was Prime Minister, John Spry (Bill Spry's father) came to Bristol from Cornwall to join the Police Force, but being half an inch too short, was not accepted. However, he obtained a house in Cotham which had a very large garden and some stables and set up as a gardener and cab proprietor. For many years he carried on this business during which period he cared for the garden of Mr. E.G. Clarke, who was, at that time, the Official Receiver of Bristol and this eventually led to his accepting an appointment of taking charge of farms or businesses in liquidation.

It was at this time in 1886 that a Company was formed to consider the advisability of providing a sports ground in Bristol as the city was sadly lacking in suitable playing areas. Amongst those interested in the project were Messrs. E.G. Clarke (who was elected Chairman), J.W. Arrowsmith, Harry Thomas and Harry Beloe.

Land having been procured at Bishopston the work of levelling the ground was commenced and naturally, E.G. Clarke asked John Spry to assist in the huge task, allocating to him the cycle track and outfields which surrounded the cricket area. Dr. W.G. Grace was added to the Board and in 1887 appointed Ground Manager of the County Ground Co. Ltd. With the opening of the ground in the same year, John Spry was appointed Head Groundsman by the Directorate, but not with the approval of "W.G." who had already promised the post to a professional cricketer – Tom Gregg – then coaching at Clifton College. In consequence, things were not very happy, but as time passed matters improved and with John Spry proving that he knew his job, a real friendship between the two became manifest.

There were not many County Cricket matches played in those early days and the Company leased the County Ground to a number of clubs for cricket (Bohemians, Banks, YMCA, Commercials, United Press, United Services, St. Agnes, Rugbeians, Cotham and J.S. Fry & Sons) and for winter sports (Bristol Rugby Football Club and Clifton Association Football Club) to provide the necessary revenue.

Dr. W.G. Grace was responsible for the revival of the game of bowls in Bristol and he, having many friends, 'North of the Border', advised J.W. Arrowsmith to get John Spry to prepare a suitable piece of ground for the flat green type of bowls, rather than the crown type which was prevalent in the Midlands and North of England. The Scotsmen undoubtedly were influential in persuading "W.G." to take an interest in bowls which he did towards the end of his cricket days and A.H. Hamilton, Secretary of the Scottish Bowling Association from 1895 to 1936 wrote an article in "The Memorial Biography of Dr. W.G. Grace" confirming "W.G's" interest in the game.

Whenever his cricket commitments allowed, "W.G." played bowls on the Arrow Green and two stories are recounted of him, the first being when the cricket team were practising at the nets for a local match with Bedminster C.C.

he unfortunately split his trousers in the seat and despite borrowing some safety pins to repair the damage he refused to field, as he would certainly have felt the draught. He filled in the rest of the day playing bowls wearing an umpires coat.

The second story, related by Leslie Williams of the Henleaze B.C., is of his old friend Tom Spoors (Bristol and Gloucestershire rugby player) who told him that as a boy he went to the County Ground to watch a cricket match, but as the play lacked interest he went over to the Arrow bowling green to watch the bowls match instead. He sat on the edge of the green with his feet on the playing surface, when he had his ears boxed and heard a voice shout "Keep your feet off the grass, boy". Although he recognised Dr. W.G. Grace as the gentleman responsible for his treatment and although upset at the time, never the less he considered it a distinction in later life to have been cuffed by the great man.

The first bowls match played in Bristol for over two centuries was on the Arrow green, on Saturday, 8th August, 1896 between Arrow and the Bristol Burns Club (Caledonian Society). Here again, the friendship between "W.G.", J.W. Arrowsmith and the Scots resulted in the fixture. There were only two rinks supplied on either side and after two hours play, which was the agreed limit and despite rain interruptions, the game was an enjoyable one, the Scotsmen winning by 8 shots. The skips and their rink scores were as follows:-

	ARROW		**BURNS CLUB**	
Rink 1	E.W. Mutton	15	A. Anderson	17
Rink 2	H.J.L. Kent	12	H.J. Bennett	18
		27 shots		35 shots

The second and third matches between the two clubs went in Arrow's favour, 60 shots to 20 and in the rubber match, Arrow won 36 shots to 32.

Due to the fact that there was no other bowling club in the Bristol area, the Scotsmen challenged the Arrow again in 1897. Four matches were played that year with the Arrow being successful 3 matches to 1. Again in 1898 our only opponents were the Burns Club, Arrow winning two games with the third tied 37 shots each.

With the outbreak of war with the Boers, there were no matches played in 1899 and in 1900 Victoria (Weston-Super-Mare) paid their first visit to the County Ground on the 26th July, Arrow being successful 64 shots to 46 (3 rink match). Victoria got their revenge however, on the 15th September, in the grounds of the Winter Gardens, winning the match 72 shots to 31.

Quoits was the alternative game to bowls and a report of a typical match played on the 9th August, 1901 reads as follows:-

"The return match between Arrow and Horfield was played on the beds of the former Club on Friday evening, 9th August, 1901. After a closely contested



Plate 1 *Arrow Quoit Team 1901*

game and an exciting finish the visiting team were victorious by the narrow margin of one point." (Plate 1)

ARROW		HORFIELD	
F. Burt	11	R. Smith	10
E. Harding	11	A. Trigg	6
J. Pearce	2	T. Hanham	11
E. Robb	9	F. Smith	11
H. Pope	11	B. Smith	1
H. Berry	2	P. Hanham	11
H. Gliddon	11	J. Ketch	1
R. Taylor	4	W. Trigg	11
	61		62

The first record of Quoits indicates that the game originated in the border country between England and Scotland. It was prohibited in the reign of Edward III. In 1545 Roger Ascham wrote "Quoiting be too vile for scholars". Undoubtedly the game was played in various parts of the country although forbidden and in the Bristol area the game was established by the formation of the Bristol and District Quoits League towards the end of the 1890's.

Quoits used were iron rings, the heavy type weighing approximately five pounds to seven pounds each, whilst the light weight type between two pounds to three pounds each, shaped like a deep saucer with the flat centre cut out, with the upper side slightly convex and a niche on the outer rim that could be gripped by one finger, in the preparation for throwing the quoit. The diameter could not exceed 8½ inches nor be less than 3½ inches in the bore, nor more than 2¼ inches in the web.

Some parts of the country used a heavy quoit and played on beds of blue clay which were covered with wet sacks to prevent the clay drying out when not in use. Other parts played with light quoits on grass beds, as the Arrow did in Bristol. The length of the pitches varied according to the weights of the quoits, but usually 11 yards for heavy and 18 yards for light quoits was the norm. Most teams comprised of 8 players each and with each player using 2 quoits, the game finished when one of the contestants reached 11 points. (See above match between Arrow and Horfield).

Alternatively, matches could be played 21 points up, but Districts varied considerably in the length of the matches and the type of quoit used and indeed the lengths of the pitches, whether they took place on grass or blue clay. At the ends of each playing area an iron rod was driven down into the grass or clay until it protruded no more than 4 inches. Points were awarded, two for a "Ringer" and one for each quoit nearer the rod than the opponents, not unlike the scoring system used today for Bowls matches. Opposing quoits could be dislodged or "pushed out of the bed" so that accurate measuring at the end of each sides quoits was essential. There were a number of other rules, variable by Districts, such as foul throws, turned quoits, "touchers" etc., but the basic rules were as stated above.

The quoits on display in the pavilion were presented to the Club by Mr. Gordon James of the Tyning Inn, Radstock (2 heavy quoits) and the one light-weight quoit was presented by Mr. A. George of Chew Magna.

In 1902 the West of England and South Wales Coronation Bowling League was formed to play for a Challenge Bowl presented by J.W. Arrowsmith. There were only four Western Clubs however with bowling greens, Arrow, Mackintosh (Cardiff), Pontypool and Victoria (Weston-Super-Mare). Mackintosh won the Cup which was inscribed "Coronation Bowling League Challenge Bowl instituted in Bristol 1902. Presented by J.W. Arrowsmith. Winners 1902 – Mackintosh Bowling Club, Cardiff". An important decision was taken in 1903 when the game of quoits was discontinued by the Arrow Club and our title was changed to the "Bristol Arrow Bowling Club". In the same year we were affiliated to the newly formed English Bowling Association, the fee being 10s 6d per annum.

Dr. W.G. Grace was the E.B.A.'s first President, which position he held for three years. When he joined the London Counties C.C. at the Crystal Palace in 1899 he played bowls regularly and became very efficient at the game. Inviting the S.B.A. to a match at Crystal Palace in 1901 the Scotsmen were so pleased with their reception that they presented "W.G." with a pair of silver mounted bowls, which he greatly prized. (The bowls are still in the possession of the family in the care of his grand-daughter Mrs. M. Day in Devon).

Because of his friendship with our founder "W.G." challenged him to a bowls match in 1903 and aided by some bowlers from Victoria (Weston-Super-Mare) and Mackintosh (Cardiff) the Arrow staged a three rink match on the County Ground on the 25th June, the rinks comprising of the following bowlers:-

	WEST OF ENGLAND & SOUTH WALES		*v*	**LONDON COUNTY**	
Rink 1	Mackintosh Cole, Thomas Thomas, Reid	34		Fortescue, MacCulum, Baker, Hay	8
Rink 2	Victoria Palmer, Curtis, Oakes, Smith	26		Baines, Heald, Caffin, Robertson	15
Rink 3	Arrow Gliddon, Stamp, Pearce, Dewar	15		Hogg, Godlonton, Stonehaven, W.G. Grace	29
		75			52

At the dinner afterwards held at the Bristol Liberal Club, J.W. Arrowsmith welcomed "W.G." and his team, especially "W.G." upon his return to his





Plate 3 *Ladies Day 1907*

native city. Despite mild criticism of the Arrow green by some of the London County Bowlers after the match, "W.G." said that they all knew Mr. Arrowsmith was a good sportsman and he conceded that the Londoners had met their match that day but immediately challenged the home side to a return match in London where he promised to provide a better green for the game. This challenge was accepted by J.W. Arrowsmith and on the 19th September his team, to his great satisfaction, beat "W.G.'s" men again, the score being 65 to 43 shots.

The matches between J.W. Arrowsmith and W.G. Grace gained considerable publicity in the press and this no doubt encouraged the formation of a number of local bowling clubs. In 1906 Pontypool and Mackintosh Clubs withdrew from the West of England and South Wales Coronation League in favour of the Welsh Bowling Association. The League was then renamed – The West of England Bowling League. Clubs forming the League in the first few years were, Arrow, Victoria, Bristol and Imperial. They in turn were quickly followed by Knowle, Bath, Burnham-on-Sea, Clarence, Wells, Clevedon, Ashcombe and Portishead, so that by 1914, with a number of Parks, (Beaufort, Eastvillians, Ashtonians, Redfield Brotherhood, Greville Smyth and Victoria Park) being opened by the Bristol Corporation for bowls, the game was firmly established in the Bristol and surrounding areas.

Meanwhile, things were happening at the County Ground. With the Club inviting staffs of other Printers and of local Newspapers to join the Arrow, the membership improved considerably and with the increased revenue it was decided in 1906 to relay the green, extending it to four rinks. John Spry again supervised the laying of nearly 20,000 turfs in the early spring and so well did he do his task, that the green was officially opened by J.W. Arrowsmith, with the Sheriff of Bristol present on the 19th May. (Plate 2). A silver ball 2½" in diameter, held on a silver tripod, mounted on an ebony plinth, inscribed "Bristol Arrow Bowling Club – Presented to the President, J.W. Arrowsmith, J.P. on the occasion of the reopening of the green, May 19th, 1906", was presented to our founder. It is on record that J.W. Arrowsmith, because of his many other business commitments in the City, only played in one match, which was against Victoria (Weston-Super-Mare).

Fixed Jack Competitions were the order of the day, with targets being circles of 1' diameter for 3 points, 2' diameter for 2 points and 3' diameter for 1 point, the bowling lengths from the mat being 30 yards; 25 yards and 38 yards in that sequence.

Our Ladies also played, whilst scoring the same points as the Mens Competitions, their bowling length from the mat was restricted to 16 yards. (Plate 3).

Bearing in mind current costs it seems unbelievable that a new pavilion was opened in 1908, at a cost of £50 which had been subscribed by members. (Even modest extensions to our existing building will cost several thousands of pounds).

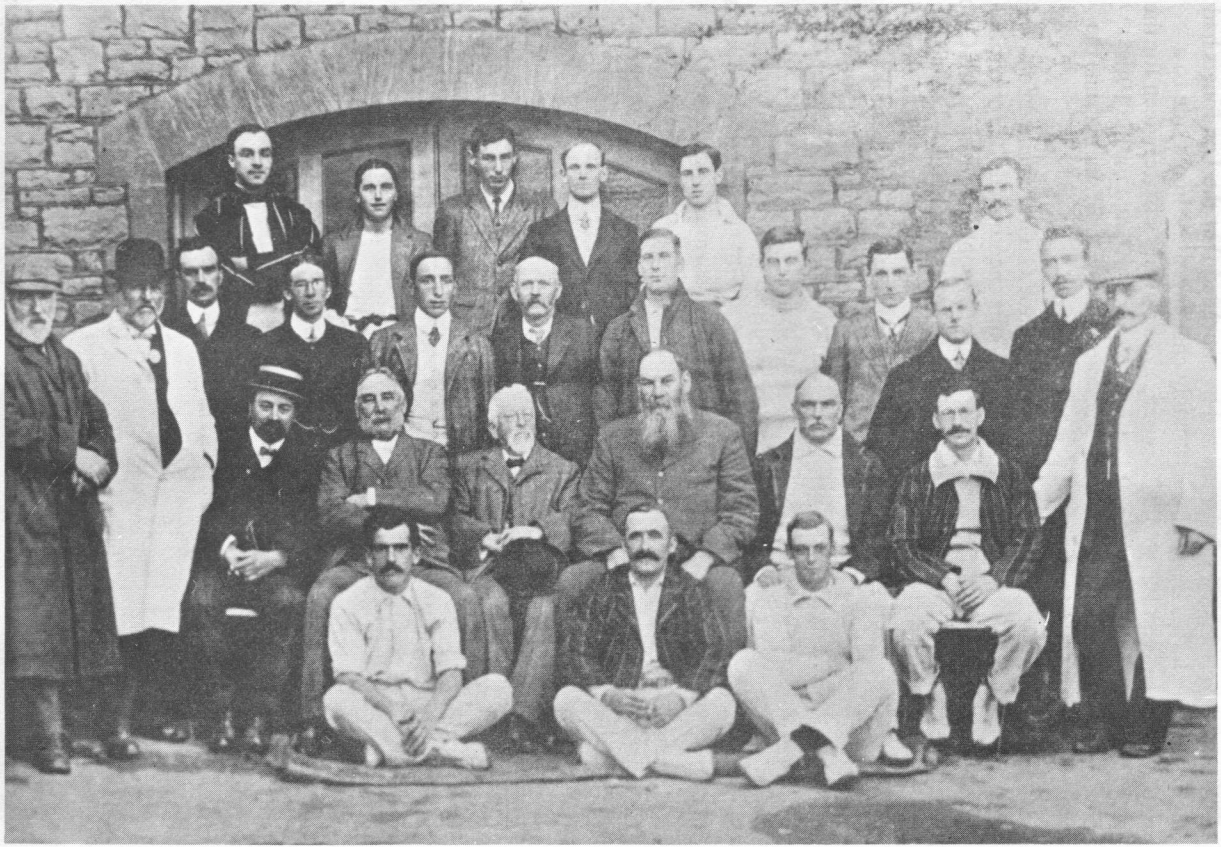
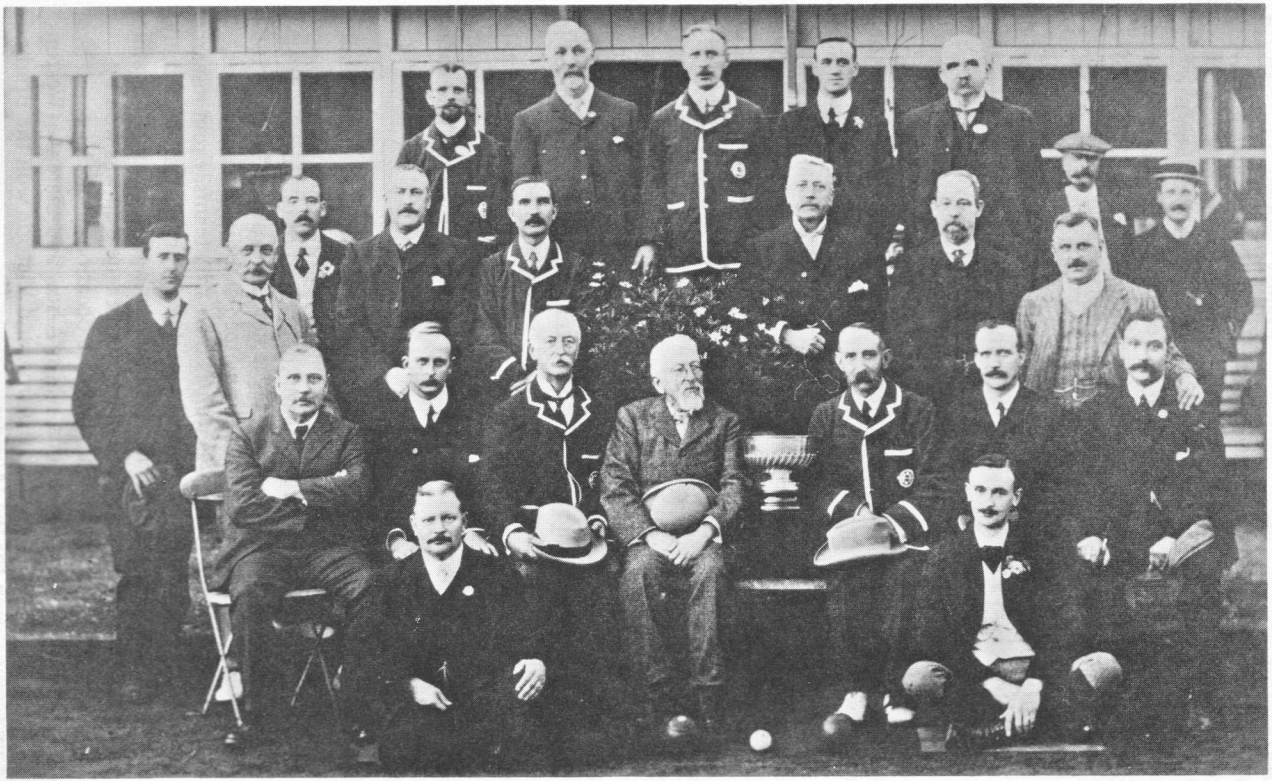


Plate 4 *John Spry Benefit Match 1908*



As a special testimonial to John Spry, who had completed twenty-one years as Head Groundsman at Gloucestershire County Ground, a two day Festival of Sport was held on the 4th and 5th September, 1908. Mainly comprising of cricket, the event attracted large crowds, especially as both Dr. W.G. Grace and his brother Dr. E.M. Grace took part. Bowling Competitions were also held and with J.W. Arrowsmith as Treasurer and over twenty Sportsmen from Local Clubs assisting in the disposal of tickets, a good sum of money was realized. In a group of players taking part in the event, our founder is sitting between two brothers. (Plate 4).

The Club was successful in winning the West of England League Cup in 1909 which pleased J.W. Arrowsmith very much (Plate 5). An interesting experiment was tried by the League in 1910 when clubs played their matches "On a two rink away and a two rink home basis", but it did not prove popular and the following year the League reverted to four rink matches that we have today. The Brinly Smith Cup for the 'A' teams of the League was won by Arrow in 1912.

J.W. Arrowsmith's death on the 19th January, 1913 was a tragic blow to the Club, but with all the good ground work he had accomplished since the foundation in 1894 and with his newphew, J.A. Arrowsmith-Brown accepting the Presidency, the club members carried on with the same spirit and good sportsmanship which had been demanded by the founder.

What must be the first idea of Indoor Bowls in Bristol was mentioned in a speech made by Mr. J. Rafter, of the University Club at the Arrow's end of season dinner, held at the County Ground Hotel, when in responding to the toast of "The Visitors" he suggested that a winter game might be indulged in, if various Bowling Clubs in the City combined to rent a schoolroom, or another long room, where druggets might be put down and games held. This novel idea was acclaimed by all present, but with the Great War commencing in August, 1914 the project was shelved and it was not until 1950 that Indoor Bowls were started at the Bristol South Baths, with the Arrow Club being one of the founders.

The West of England Bowling League ceased when the Somerset County Bowling Association was founded in 1914 and the Arrow Club was affiliated to it on 20th March, 1915. Before we leave that period of our history, it is worth recording for posterity that the League, under its original title in 1894 started with four clubs and finished with nineteen clubs in three divisions, some of the clubs fielding 'A' sides as well as their first teams. From research in the city archives and with assistance from other clubs, all being extremely helpful in examination of their old minute books and with information still being supplied at the time of going to press, the League Cup was won by Mackintosh (Cardiff) and Bristol Club on three occasions each, Victoria (Weston-Super-Mare) on two occasions, whilst Arrow and Clarence (Weston-Super-Mare) were successful once. The Arrow and Victoria won the Brinly Smith Cup (competition for the 'A' sides).

It became necessary, however, to find a new home when Messrs. J.S. Fry and Sons acquired the County Ground for use by their Athletic Club, so, in November, 1916 negotiations were commenced with the Midland Railway Company for the lease of our present green at Redland at an annual rental of £25. The area had been previously used by Clarendon and Hughendon Tennis Clubs.

The Club remained at the County Ground for the whole of 1916, whilst in 1917 prior to our move, the Montpelier Hotel was the temporary head-quarters of the Club and all matches played that year were away fixtures, as the new green at Redland was not ready for use.

Despite the nation still being at war with Germany, the Club officially opened its new home on the 4th May, 1918 with only thirty-seven playing members and an annual income of £53. In fact, the cost of the new green itself was £55. The first pavilion was very small and classified as a temporary wooden changing room.

Due to the absence of the Club's President, Major J.A. Arrowsmith-Brown D.S.O. on active service (I/c Signal Company of the South Midland Royal Engineers, attached to 48th Division), the opening ceremony was made by the Vice-President, F.N. Cowlin Esquire. Four local clubs were invited to provide a rink each, namely Bristol, Knowle, Imperial and Clevedon and after a good match, the visitors were successful 80 shots to 65.

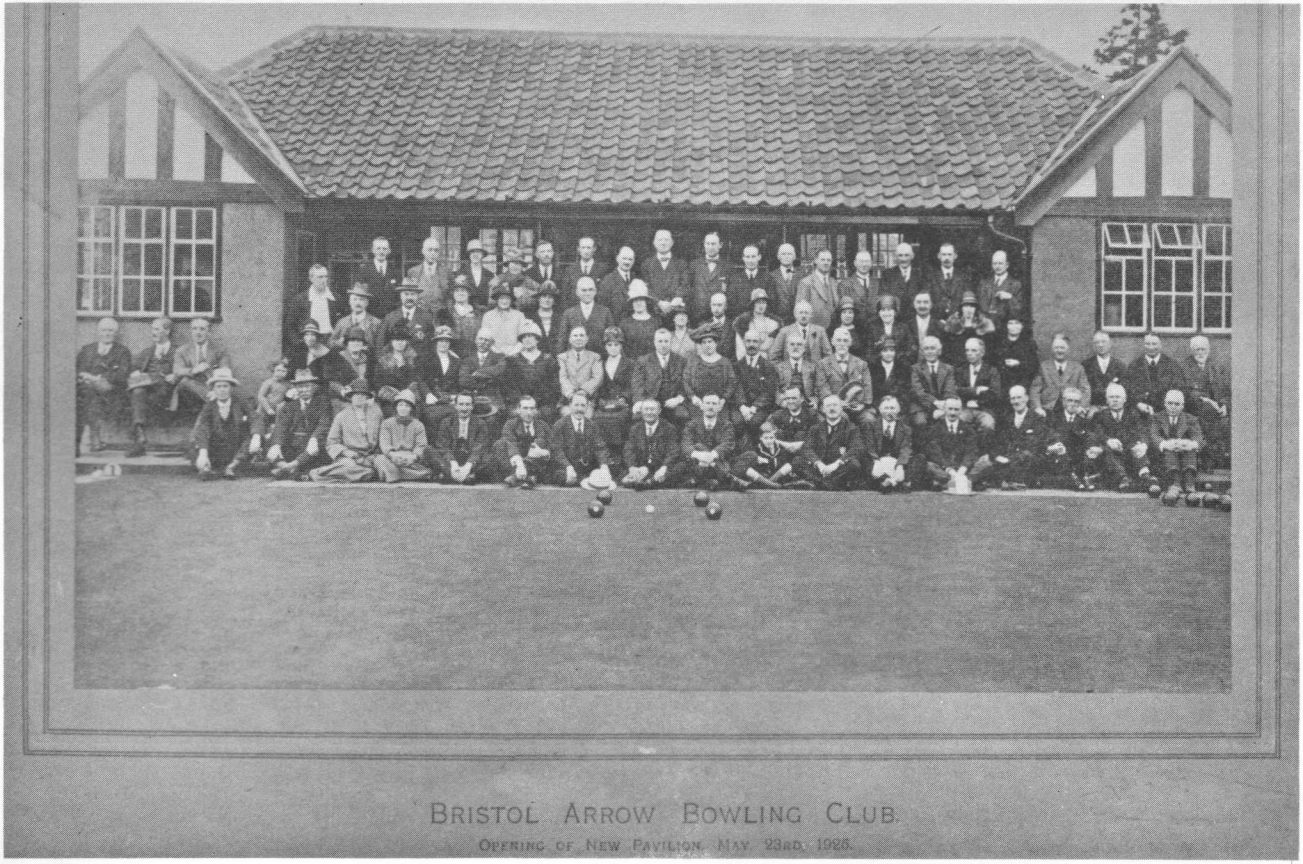
The Club, whilst still retaining a link with the printing firm of Arrowsmith Ltd. in name only, attracted bowlers from other parts of the city and became a fully independent private Club.

Due to the fact that there were not many fixtures, partly due to the war, the Club held a number of Fixed Jack Competitions for the men and once a year for the ladies and these events constituted the practice necessary for the members.

In 1919, a minute from the record book reads as follows:- "On the 19th April, 1919 the green was opened and a match was played between the Captain's side and the Vice-Captain's side and was very interesting. Some said the Captain won, but some said the Vice-Captain won, but I think it was a question of whose side you were on. The last item of the day was the cup of tea given by the Captain and his wife, it being much appreciated by the Members". (With the President being still on active service in France, it appears from the minutes that it was a case of 'whilst the cat's away . . . . . .' with the bar doing very well on this occasion).

In the same year it was decided to have a more suitable pavilion built and plans were made accordingly. With the Midland Railway Company stating that they were considering selling the green and adjacent tennis courts the Club was most interested, but, unfortunately, the Company changed their minds and only offered a seven year lease at £20 per annum. This being accepted, the Committee decided to have the green relaid during the autumn of 1919 for the sum of £440 providing it would be ready for playing in the Spring of 1920. Quite a number of matches were played that year although the green was still not at its best and after some twenty odd games were played on it, the Committee closed the green in late August for further treatment.

With the ending of the Great War, newspapers restarted to print results of bowls matches between local clubs and for the next few years the Club prospered, fixture lists increasing with matches between old friends and many new clubs that were appearing in and around the city and in Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.



BRISTOL ARROW BOWLING CLUB.

OPENING OF NEW PAVILION. MAY 23RD, 1925.

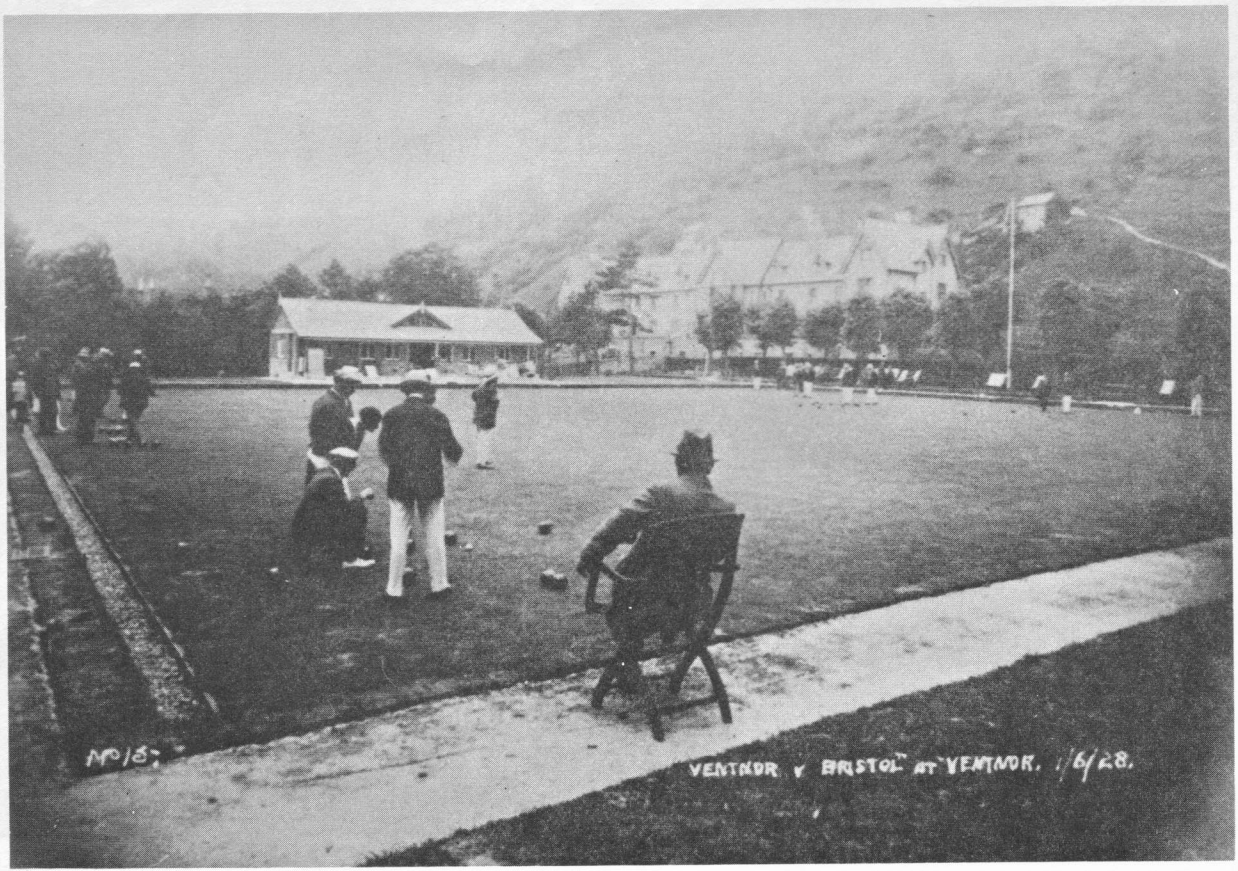


Plate 7 *Isle of Wight Tour (Ventnor) 1928*



On the 25th April, 1925 the new pavilion was opened by the Lord Mayor (Alderman E. Brookhouse Richards) in the presence of a large gathering of Members and friends, the Club's President, Mr. J.A. Arrowsmith-Brown, D.S.O. and the Vice-President, Mr. F.N. Cowlin, representing the Club. It was largely due to the fact that the Vice-President was at the same time, a builder of no mean repute, that the cost of the erection was only £650 17s. 6d. (Plate 6). Through the resignation of the Club's President in 1925, J.S. Salter was appointed to the position and the following year a further lease of 10 years at £25 per annum was made with the Railway Company.

The Arrow's first tour was to the Isle of Wight between the 28th May and 1st June 1928; the Clubs played on the tour and subsequent tours appear further on in this booklet. (Plate 7).

If playing for money means that one is a professional, then the Club was guilty between the years 1926 and 1930 when the winners of the Championship, Handicap and Pairs Competitions not only held their cups for the year, but also received cash awards of £1 10s. 0d. for the Championship, a similar sum for the Handicap and £2 2s. 0d. to be shared by the Pairs winners. The Club was further honoured by the appointment of John Edbrooke as President of Somersetshire Bowling Association for the years 1929 and 1930. (It may have been his appointment that was responsible for the Club to cease the practice of giving cash awards to competition winners thus ensuring amateur status of the Members.)

After the first successful tour of the Isle of Wight the Club toured South Devon in 1930, the same year as W. Fox became President, which post he held for two years, being followed in turn by G.H.J. Osbourne until 1936.

Whilst the pavilion was adequate for general use it became obvious in 1933 that the Club lacked a changing room and for the modest sum of £114 the "Chalet" was opened by the President on the 29th April, at the commencement of the new season. (Plate 8).

1934 saw yet another tour of the Isle of Wight and the reputation of the Club was enhanced accordingly, with one or two other Bowling Clubs in the city also arranging tours for their members.

1936 was an important year for Arrow. After 21 happy years as Members of Somersetshire Bowling Association, the English Bowling Association decided that Arrow along with other Bristol Clubs located North of the Avon should affiliate to the Gloucestershire Bowling Association. This year also saw the formation of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association with Arrow as one of its founder Clubs. This allowed the Club and its members to participate in both 'Gloucestershire' and 'City and County' Competitions and events. The same year also saw the Club with a longer lease – 25 years on this occasion – at the same rental of £25 p.a.

Bowls had become so popular that the Bristol Corporation Parks Committee decided to charge all spectators the sum of one penny to watch a bowls

match on Park Greens. The scheme did not succeed. It was difficult to administer and uneconomic. Needless to say private Clubs did not charge spectators. Had the scheme been adopted and with the continued inflation over the years, one wonders just what that penny charge would amount to today.

In 1937, with Harry Punchard, as the Club's President, it was decided to relay most of the green for £278 and the following year extend the pavilion for £120, the extension becoming very necessary as some of the County Matches on the Arrow green brought a number of bowlers and their friends, making it quite difficult to seat them all in the pavilion for teas afterwards.

The Club was successful in 1938 winning the Clarence Davey Interclub Competition, beating St. George, Canford and Greville Smyth in the early rounds and Greenbank in the final by one shot, 80 to 79. The same season saw the Club reach the final of the Gloucestershire County Challenge Cup only to lose to Greyfriars by 21 shots, 47 to 68.

The Club was further honoured in 1939 when Harry Punchard, our President, became President of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association. He was further honoured to hold it for 1940.

The Arrow was also successful in winning the Clarence Davey Interclub Competition in 1939, beating Bristol, Henleaze, Redfield before defeating St. Andrews Park in the final by 4 shots, 79 to 75.



Plate 9 *C & C Bristol Clarence Davey Cup Winners 1941*

The Club continued its Cup winning sequence being again successful in winning the Clarence Davey Cup for the third time, defeating Cabot, Beaufort, Victoria Park (Bristol) and Bristol in turn and Bristol St. Andrews in the final by 1 shot (70 to 69). (See Plate 9 where Harry Punchard, President, standing right centre of the trophy and his son Cecil Punchard, seated first left were both in the team). Even though the war was at its most serious state, time was found for H.M.Navy to take a half-day off and play a bowls match with the Club on 9th May, 1942 when Admiral Bradley, LT/Commander Gregory and LT. Stevens led a team from HMS Cabot, but met with a strong Arrow side and were repulsed by 59 shots (106 to 47). On another occasion, the Home Guard challenged the Club but they too were defeated by 9 shots (72 to 63). (Shades of Sir Francis Drake!)

Because the war time Government imposed a strict limitation on the mileage permitted for travelling between bowling sides, a large number of the Arrow's matches were between the following local Clubs in years 1939 to 1945:- Bristol (35); Bristol St. Andrews (57); Civil Service (58); Henleaze (31); Imperial (37) and Knowle (37). Whilst we count these Clubs amongst our closest friends today, they and ourselves must have been heartily glad when peace was declared and normal fixtures resumed.

On the 14th September, 1944, the Club celebrated its 50th Jubilee with a 7 rink match between the Club and Old Friends of the Arrow drawn from many Clubs of the City. Naturally, at this time, the celebrations were quiet and modest due to food rationing, but nevertheless, although the Club lost by 18 shots, 135 to 153, history was made that day in that the Arrow became the first Club in Bristol to reach its half century.

In the same year the War Damage Commission awarded the Club £56 6s 0d. for war damage to the pavilion and £27 15s 10d. for the "Chalet".

As a celebration for the ending of the war, the Club arranged to play Abergavenny on the 11th July, 1946. It was a 4 rink match and a coach was hired for £14 17s. 0d. to take the bowlers and many friends to the game. An interesting feature of the celebration was that 2 rinks played at 2.30 p.m., Arrow losing by 7 shots, (29 to 36) by tea-time when the teams were given a Civic Reception in the Town Hall by the Mayor. The fare must have been excellent as upon the match resuming at 6.30 p.m. the Arrow 2 rinks were successful by 16 shots (50 to 34). Thus, the Club left the Welsh side with a 9 shot winning margin. So successful was the match that for the next three seasons, the Clubs played each other on a home and away basis.

S.G. (Sam) Tydeman became President of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association in 1946 and in his second term of office he started the over 80's matches as follows:-

> "Originated by our late President, S.G. (Sam) Tydeman, in August, 1947 the Arrow Club acted as hosts to bowlers in the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association who had reached their 80th birthday. The



Plate 10 *Sam Tydeman 'Over 80's' Match 1966*

first game comprised of six rinks, three being Captained by W. Fox and three Captained by J. Oates.

This became an annual event and when Sam Tydeman passed away it was carried on by the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association and became known as the "Tydeman Memorial" match.

Bowlers were invited by the City and County by their late Hon. Match Secretary, A.J. (Bert) Palmer and through the good offices of H.C.H. (Cecil) Punchard and the Arrow Club. The match is still carried on and hoped by all taking part, will continue for many years to come.

Amongst the many photographs of this annual event, the one selected for this booklet is for the year 1966, when several Arrow men took part, Charles Allen, Sam Crabbe, Bert Cuff and Reg Warn. (Plate 10).

In 1947 the Club undertook their fourth tour, this time to South Devon.

1948 saw more history being made as upon Harry Punchard's Presidency of Gloucestershire B.A. the Club achieved the honour of having provided five separate bowling organisations with its Presidents, namely, the West of England and South Wales Coronation League; The West of England (J.W. Arrowsmith, J.P. both Leagues); Somersetshire B.A. (John Edbrooke); City and County of Bristol B.A. (H. Punchard) and Gloucestershire B.A. (H. Punchard). It is thought that no other Bowling Club in the country could equal the record, of which we must be justly proud. The same year saw the Club reaching the final of the Gloucestershire County Challenge Cup, defeating Brandon, Henleaze, Bristol St. George, Ardagh and Cheltenham in the early rounds only to lose to Greyfriars by 3 shots (50 to 53) in the final. (The second time the Gloucester team had beaten the Arrow in the final).

1950 saw the foundation of the City and County of Bristol Indoor Bowls Club (foreseen by J. Rafter of the University Club in 1913) and the following details supplied by the Club's Chairman records the details:-

"Our history would not be complete without reference to the part we have played in the affairs of the City and County of Bristol Indoor Bowls Club.

Founded in 1950 the Club first had its Headquarters at the Bristol South Baths with 3 rinks playing on a carpet laid on a wooden surface over the baths.

Quite a number of our Club were members and we provided a Captain in Frank Pope, also for several years, Sid Slaughter was the Honorary Treasurer.

The game grew in popularity and the accommodation at the Baths proving quite inadequate, new premises were sought and through the influence and generosity of the late Harry Dolman, the Club moved to the Dolman Stand at Ashton Gate, the home of the Bristol City A.F.C., in 1971.

Initially, the financial arrangements were under the control of the Football Club to which the Bowls Club paid all green fees and bar proceeds etc.

It was obviously desirable that the Bowls Club should conduct its own affairs and the possibility of renting the premises and running it independently from the Football Club was explored.

A feasibility study was carried out by our Hon. Treasurer, Bryn Wilkinson and Chairman, Harold Maynard. Acting upon their report and with the enthusiastic support of the Members the foundation of the Club in its present independent form was laid and opened in 1974.

It is now proudly acknowledged to be one of the best Clubs in the Country.

Bristol Arrow has enthusiastically supported the Club and about half of our members, including the ladies, are engaged in the various leagues. Albert Branch and Roy Lawton have been worthy Captains, while Harold Maynard has been Vice-Chairman since 1973".

Reverting to Arrow history, the Club reached the final of the Clarence Davey Interclub Competition in 1952, beating Bristol St. Andrews, J.S. Fry's, Greville Smyth and National Smelting before losing by 46 shots (64 - 110) to Bristol. The same year saw Harry Punchard, for his second term as President, Gloucestershire B.A.

In 1954 the green suffered a serious outbreak of Fusarium disease and consequently it was only used at the commencement of the season. All the Club Competitions were cancelled and we were fortunate in being invited to play our 'Home' matches by the Bristol St. Andrews Bowling Club on their green at Derby Road.

We lost a famous sportsman in Jimmy Oates, who died in 1956. In his early life he had played rugby for Bristol and Gloucestershire between 1901 and 1906, serving as Captain for both XV's. He remained a member of the Bristol Rugby Club until 1923/4 when, like W.G. Grace, he took up the game of bowls in his later life. He won many honours from 1923 to 1949 including the Gloucestershire B.A. Triples Champions in 1949, the Club's Honours Boards bear his name for the Championship, Handicap and Pairs Competitions.

The Club was again honoured when W.E. Smith became President of Gloucestershire B.A. in 1956. The following year British Rail (Western Region) offered the Club a 21 year lease for £75 per annum.

It was also in 1957 that the Club commenced to sponsor the "Harry Priday" Memorial Matches. The Arrow Club act as hosts and with the good offices of H.C.H. (Cecil) Punchard, they are treated as supper events followed by an auction of gifts presented by those bowlers taking part, the proceeds being handed to the Hon. Treasurer of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association Benevolent Fund.

Originally organised by Harry Priday, O.B.E., J.P., in 1950, the first match was played on Eastville Park and then for the next few years with the

Ardagh Club, between a team from the Transport and General Workers Union (of which Harry was the District Secretary) and other players connected with transport.

In 1957 the Arrow Club sponsored the matches and when Harry died in 1962, the events were organised by Cecil Punchard and the late Bert Palmer, assisted by various members of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association which comprised of three rinks from the County, three from the Arrow, two from Ardagh, two from Avonmouth and two from National Smelting Clubs. In 1967 the event was retitled to its present name.

Many hundreds of pounds have been handed to the Benevolent Fund to date, with a record sum of £150.00 being raised in 1980 (George Brown kindly acting as auctioneer).

In 1958 the Club changed its badge to its present design, as the original, whilst showing the Club's initials and an arrow, was considered unsuitable. It did not identify the Club by its title and this point was thought to be essential, especially when the Club went on tour.

Bill Spry presented the Club with the Cup that his father had won in the Fixed Jack Competition in 1913, with the intention that the same type of game be played for annually. But, after due consideration by the Committee, Bill agreed that it should be known as the John Spry Cup to be presented to the winners of the 2-wood competition, winning the trophy himself in 1968.

Again the Club was honoured in 1960 when W.E. Smith became the President of the City and County of Bristol B.A., but the following year the Club suffered another bad blow in the loss of Harry Punchard on the 24th June, 1961 after serving the Club as its President for 24 years (the longest term of office in the Club's history). He had presided over the Club during the war years and afterwards, when the Club enjoyed the successful run in Cup Competitions, taking part himself. Reading the minute books compiled under his Presidency, his wise counsel and leadership is very apparent.

He was followed by S.G. (Sam) Tydeman in 1952 as President, which post he held for 5 years.

1964 saw the 70th Birthday Celebrations of the Club, teams from the City and County B.A.; Somersetshire B.A.; and Gloucestershire Presidents joining in the weeks matches.

In 1966 a unique rink was organised within the Club, it being known as the "Carmarthen Rink", comprising of Bert Cuff as Skip; Bill Spry as 3; Reg Warn as 2 and George Upham as lead. On one occasion the Arrow played the Falcon Club at Painswick and played against another rink of "Oldies". After the match, it was discovered that taking their combined ages into account, the rink mustered 608 years (about the age of the green they played on). Bert Cuff's rink all used lignums and it was undoubtedly the most successful in the Club for many years.

The four stalwarts practised together as pairs and used to play up to 40 to 50 ends during the summer days, before retiring to the pavilion to play solo. Even during the winter the four used to play solo in each others houses in turn. "Happy Days" says Bill Spry, who contributed to this part of our history.

Bert Cuff had mastered the trick of bowling his woods in a straight line for the Jack and despite his instruction to the writer of the Arrow history on this particular delivery, his skill was not unfortunately sufficiently learned and it remains a mystery to him.

On the 17th January, 1967 it was decided to select the best of the Jimmy Redstone Cups and to hold annual matches with the Avonmouth Bowling Club on Whitsun Monday Holidays. For this year and for the next two, Avonmouth was successful in winning the Redstone Cup and the Club had to wait until 1970 before it was successful in this annual event. Avonmouth had been especially invited to participate owing to the close ties with each other. The Arrow had helped with the Avonmouth Club's formation in its earlier years.

In 1968 when Frank Pope became President of the Arrow, at an A.G.M. it was decided to admit ladies to the Club as Associate Members at £1 10s 0d per annum and that they would be allowed to play at all times, subject to availability of the rinks.

AT REDLAND 1971 ONWARDS

This period in the Club's history includes 10 years of events up to the end of 1980, (the publication date of this booklet). From 1981 until the Centenary of the Arrow in 1994, important historical events will be added annually, by addendums circulated to Club Members' at the A.G.M.'s.

Frank Pope, President at the commencement, held the position for a further nine years until he was forced to resign due to ill health.

Whilst the Club had already played a few Sunday matches with local sides, 1971 saw the first touring side to play the Club on a Sunday. They were the Ealing Tourists, the Arrow being successful by 19 shots (131 to 112). Despite some objections to Sunday matches, nevertheless, this particular match heralded a change of attitude by the Club and it embarked on regular Sunday games leading up to 1980, when no fewer than 14 matches were played, some of them involving coach trips to Cardiff, Minehead, Southampton and Queen Camel.

The Club celebrated its 80th Birthday with matches played between the 2nd and 8th June, 1974, the fixtures being, Bristol Constabulary, City and County of Bristol, Avonmouth, Combined Bristol Clubs, Gloucestershire Presidents, Ardagh and Bristol Omnibus. Frank Pope, as President and Captain, welcomed the visitors and the ladies performed miracles in providing approximately 70 meals each day. It was after the City and County of Bristol match that Cecil Rogers, presented a pair of woods to the Club, that had originally belonged to the Arrow's first Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer in 1902. He had discovered J.W. Pearce's woods by chance in Eastville and he was warmly thanked by the President for the gift. (These woods are always on display at City and County Tourists matches on the Arrow green).

It was also in the same year that the Chedville Ladies Bowling Club challenged the Club to a match on the Arrow green. The event proved to be a very popular fixture and was the forerunner of matches played between the two Clubs ever since. The Arrow had moved with the times as 64 years earlier in 1910, Mr. J.W. Arrowsmith protested "That ladies were being allowed to use the green and stated that the Club was started as a Men's Club and so long as he was a member of it, it must remain so".

The Winstone Cup was presented to the Club by Clifford Winstone, in memory of his father in 1975. The Cup to be competed for annually by the Lady Associate Members of the Arrow.

Just as we talk of W.G. Grace, future generations will talk of David Bryant, C.B.E. and as with "W.G." the question will be asked "did he ever play on the Arrow green?" Our history would not be complete without recording that he played on the Arrow green for the Clevedon Club on several occasions. He has brought honour to the West Country many times and over the years has been the champion of the World, Commonwealth, British Isles, E.B.A. and the British Isles Indoor Championships.

In 1975 our newest and youngest member Jim Butcher, had the temerity to challenge the World Champion to a singles match on the Arrow green. True



Plate 11 *South Devon Tour (Torquay) 1979*

sportsman that he is David accepted, and although Jim put up a surprisingly good fight and David played the 'difficult' hand from start to finish, the latter ran out the victory by a substantial margin. The spectators, who were committed to donating 20p to charity for every shot scored by Butcher, did not get away scot free and were treated to a first class exhibition of 'singles' bowling by the Master.

After a lapse of 29 years the decision was taken to recommence Club Tours, with Exmouth chosen as the base for a South Devon series of matches between the 16th and 21st May, 1976. A ladies rink was included for each match and it has remained the practice since as being a very popular arrangement.

Harold Maynard brought honour to the Club when he was installed President of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association in 1977. In the same year the E.B.A. made a significant change of rules in reducing the age limit to 14 years, thus opening the door to boys being allowed to play bowls and represent their Clubs in matches.

Nearing a hundred matches per season, the Arrow went on tour to Exmouth again, benefiting by better weather, touring between the 19th and 24th June, rather than May, which was found to be a little too early the previous year.

There were two events in 1978 that should be recorded in the Club's history, the first being that the Bristol Blind Bowling Club were invited to an evening match. This newly formed bowls team comprising of both men and women proved to be extremely efficient in the art of bowling. Three rinks were especially prepared with string down the centre of each rink to enable the visitors to line up their deliveries and aided by partly sighted skips, they gave a very good account of themselves. (This has now become an annual fixture).

The second event was that the Club was presented with a plaque bearing the motto 'PRO BONO SAGITTAE' by Clifford Winstone, one of the Trustees of the Arrow. The plaque is in a prominent position in the pavilion and Members are frequently asked by visitors to translate this excellent Latin. Yet again the Club toured South Devon making Exmouth the base once more.

The Club's Hon. Secretary, Alan Wells, brought a further honour to the Arrow in 1979 by winning the Herbert Hayes Cup awarded to the single handed champion of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association, 41 years after W. Aspden won the trophy in 1938.

For a change the Club stayed at Torquay for their tour and those that took part all agreed that the Templestowe Hotel accommodation was very comfortable, warranting further visits. (Plate 11). Frank Pope, due to ill health, resigned the Presidency of the Club and the position passed to Clifford Elson, our current President.

The Arrow Club has strongly supported the Francis Drake Fellowship since its formation and was pleased in 1979 to arrange a tournament to raise

funds for this deserving cause. The President of the Fellowship presented a shield to be competed for each year and with the 1980 tournament, well over £200 has been raised. (We were the first Club to hold a Fellowship Tournament in the West Country).

1980 could be classified as a vintage year with a number of events that made history for the Club.

On the opening day, Saturday 12th April, the President unveiled the new Club notice board that had been presented in memory of P.F. Merrick, by his daughter. Mrs. Jill Cawthorne, was unable to be present that day, but paid a visit to the Arrow on the 17th September and expressed her pleasure at seeing the gift so suitably installed.

For the first time in its history the Club entered a team in the South West Bowling League and by doing so, together with all the customary matches, the extra games played in the league created a new record of 118 completed matches, an increase of 21 games played in 1979.

The Club's oldest member, Sam Crabbe, in his hundreth year, visited the Arrow on the 7th May, being welcomed by the President, Chairman and the Wednesday Captain. Invited to address the bowlers at the tea break he spoke for some time on his earlier experiences when he was an active player for the Club and stated that he was well satisfied with the Arrows progress over the years. (A telegram was sent on his 100th Birthday, the 12th December, by the President, on behalf of the Club, congratulating him on the Arrows highest score 1880 – 1980).

More history was made on the 25th May, when the Arrowsmith printing firm, represented by Miss Victoria Arrowsmith-Brown and her brother James, played a match on the Arrow green and to commemorate the occasion the Club's President received an excellent framed photograph of the founder watching a game of bowls played on the County Ground in 1901 by the Members of that period. So successful was the fixture that arrangements were made for a similar match the following year. The club's tour to South Devon with Torquay, (Templestowe Hotel) as the base, was held between the 22nd and 27th June. Whilst indifferent weather caused a few problems, the players and guests voted the tour to be a very satisfactory one, with the Chairman being congratulated on the tour's arrangements.

An event took place at Christchurch, The Parish Church at Downend in early July, when the President of the English Bowling Association, Bill Hyde, unveiled a plaque in memory of W.G. Grace, who apart from his cricket career, was the founder of modern bowls and became the E.B.A.'s first President in 1903. The Arrow can rightly be proud of its association with "W.G." in the early days of the Club's history.

In early August, 1980, John Fennell, the Club's Greenkeeper was forced to resign due to ill health. He has been our Greenkeeper for many years, and in gratitude to all he had done for the Club he was unanimously elected an Honorary Life Member.



Plate 12 *Glos. 75th Anniversary 1905 costume' Match 1980*

The Gloucestershire Bowling Association celebrated its 75th Anniversary during 1980. A commemorative game was held on the Arrow green on 10th August, when the Club played a representative County side. All those playing and attending (a total of over 90 people) were dressed in 1905 costume. The anniversary was celebrated in great style, and for once, the weather was on its best behaviour. (Plate 12).

Harry Baber, a past President of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association and its tour organiser; Honorary Secretary of Somersetshire Bowling Association; a member of the Bristol Bowling Club and Honorary Member of the Arrow Club for many years, passed away on 6th February, 1980. At the annual match on the Arrow green on 31st August, The City and County President, Cecil Rogers presented our Club with a handsome trophy to be known as 'The Harry Baber Memorial Trophy' for annual competition between the Tourists and ourselves.

In demonstrating the traditional fraternity that exists between bowlers the World over, when the Club played the Ardagh Club an away fixture on the 27th September, the Ardagh President, Charles Sherman presented an excellent framed plaque commemorating the two clubs 50th anniversary of happy associations (1930 - 1980). The plaque was accepted by Harold Maynard, Chairman of the Arrow, warmly thanking the Ardagh Club for their kindness and trusted that the fixture would remain for a further 50 years.

At the A.G.M., held in the Horfield and Bishopston Unionist Club, Nevil Road, on the 1st December, the Chairman informed the gathering, that the new lease finalised with the British Rail, was for a period of 15 years from 24th December, 1978 at an annual rental of £400.00 for the Bowling Green only, (to be reviewed every 5 years).

Thus, after several years without a lease with the British Rail, the Club was assured of a home until 1993. A separate agreement was made in 1980 that the spare ground between the Bowling Green and Cotham Park, as well as three-quarters of the old British Rail tennis courts (2) now used as a Car Park, would be leased for a rental of £278.00 per annum.

BRISTOL ARROW BOWLING CLUB
OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

J.W. Arrowsmith, J.P. (Founder)	1894 - 1912
J.A. Arrowsmith-Brown, D.S.O.	1913 - 1925
J.S. Salter	1926 - 1929
W. Fox	1930 - 1931
G.H.J. Osborne	1932 - 1936
H. Punchard	1937 - 1961
S.G. Tydeman	1962 - 1967
F.R. Pope	1968 - 1978
C.W. Elson	1979 -

CHAIRMAN

S.G. Tydeman	1957 - 1966
H.C.H. Punchard	1967
R.P.E. Byfield	1968
H.S. Maynard	1969 -

HONORARY SECRETARY

J.W. Pearce	1902 - 1904
T.R. Davies	1905 - 1908
J.W. Pearce	1909 - 1912
G.J. Cannock	1913
A.J. Lawes	1914 - 1916
H.J. Hooper	1917 - 1921
C.G. Cooper	1922 - 1935
F.R. Williams	1936 - 1940
E.T. Alley	1941 - 1951
H. Wood	1952 - 1953
H.C.H. Punchard	1954 - 1961
G.P. Upham	1962 - 1966
R.J. Selway	1967 - 1970
H.F. Barrett	1971 - 1972
A.R. Wells	1973 -

HONORARY TREASURER

J.W. Pearce	1902 - 1904
T.R. Davies	1905 - 1912
T.R. Phillips	1913 - 1914
A.J. Lawes	1915
H.R. Jones	1916 - 1927
C.A. Roberts	1928 - 1952
A.G. Mosely	1953 - 1966
C. Chatterton	1967
C.B. Wilkinson	1968 - 1971
P.F. Merrick	1972 - 1973
C.P. Winstone	1974
R.J. Selway	1975 -

YEAR	CLUB CAPTAIN	VICE CAPTAIN	WEDNESDAY CAPTAIN
1902	C. Grey		
1903	J. Dewar		
1904	E. Robb		
1905	E. Robb		
1906	J.W. Pearce		
1907	J.W. Pearce		
1908	J.W. Pearce		
1909	H. Garland		
1910	G.J. Cannock		
1911	G.J. Cannock		
1912	W. Fox		
1913	W.S. Pidgeon		
1914	J. Schofield		
1915	F.S. Bittle		
1916	J. Strachan		
1917	E. Wyatt		
1918	J.S. Edbrooke		
1919	J.S. Edbrooke		
1920	T. Stennard		
1921	G.H.J. Osborne		
1922	G.H.J. Osborne		
1923	W. Rickards		
1924	W. Aspden		
1925	J. Oates		
1926	F.H. Watts		
1927	F.H. Watts		
1928	W. Fox		
1929	W.J. Featherstone		
1930	W.J. Featherstone		
1931	C.V. Osborne		
1932	C.V. Osborne		
1933	H. Punchard		
1934	H. Punchard		
1935	R. Hazelton		
1936	R. Hazelton		
1937	C.G. Cooper		
1938	A. Smart		
1939	C. Matthews		
1940	C. Matthews		
1941	S.G. Tydeman		
1942	S.G. Tydeman	R.A. Cuddon	J.M. Golding
1943	W.S. Pidgeon	E.T. Burry	J.W. Brighton
1944	H. Punchard	E.T. Burry	J.W. Brighton
1945	J. Oates	E.T. Burry	J.W. Brighton
1946	E.T. Burry	E.T. Alley	J.W. Brighton
1947	E.T. Alley	C.A. Roberts	H.C.H. Punchard

YEAR	CLUB CAPTAIN	VICE CAPTAIN	WEDNESDAY CAPTAIN
1948	C.A. Roberts	J.H. Feare	H.C.H. Punchard
1949	J.H. Feare	A. Hood	H.C.H. Punchard
1950	A. Hood	"A" R.J. Rees "B" F.R. Pope	H.C.H. Punchard
1951	C. Matthews	"A" A.W. Gadbury "B" S.H. Crabbe	H.C.H. Punchard
1952	H. Wood	"A" S.W. Williams "B" S.H. Crabbe	H.C.H. Punchard
1953	W.S. Williams	W. Burd	A.M. Lewis
1954	W. Burd	J.S. Tucker	A.M. Lewis
1955	J.S. Tucker	F.R. Pope	A.M. Lewis
1956	F.R. Pope	H.E. Cuff	G.L. Walker
1957	H.E. Cuff	W.A. Cradock	W.A. Davies
1958	W.A. Cradock	R.A. Cuddon	W.A. Davies
1959	R.A. Cuddon	E.P. Airey	F.R. Pope
1960	E.P. Airey	A.G. Mosely	F.R. Pope
1961	A.G. Mosely	D.R. Cameron	F.R. Pope
1962	W.A. Cradock	S.C. Evans	F.G. Sills
1963	S.C. Evans	E.T. Smythers	F.G. Sills
1964	S.G. Tydeman	E.T. Smythers	S. Shaw
1965	E.T. Smythers	R.J. Selway	S. Shaw
1966	R.J. Selway	H.D. Downham	S.R. Slaughter
1967	H.D. Downham	D.R. Rudman	P.F. Merrick
1968	D.R. Rudman	S.R. Slaughter	P.F. Merrick
1969	S.R. Slaughter	P.F. Merrick	R.A. Cuddon
1970	P.F. Merrick	G.L. Brown	S.R. Slaughter
1971	G.L. Brown	V. Schofield	W.A. Cradock
1972	V. Schofield	G.L. Brown	R.J. Selway
1973	E.T. Smythers	G.T. Allen	V. Schofield
1974	F.R. Pope	G.T. Allen	R.J. Selway
1975	G.T. Allen	W.J. Dovey	G.L. Brown
1976	W.J. Dovey	G. Barclay	G.L. Brown
1977	W.J. Dovey	F.W. Stokes	G.L. Brown
1978	F.W. Stokes	R.S. Willan	G.L. Brown
1979	R.S. Willan	G.B. Mansell	G.L. Brown
1980	G.B. Mansell	L.D. Dando	G.T. Allen
1981			
1982			
1983			
1984			
1985			
1986			
1987			
1988			
1989			
1990			
1991			
1992			
1993			
1994			

BRISTOL ARROW OPPONENTS (190) FROM 1894 TO 1980 AND DATE OF FIRST MATCHES

A.	Abergavenny	1946
	Alexandra Park, Bath	1921
	Ardagh	1930
	Arrowsmith	1980
	Ashcombe, W-S-Mare	1913
	Ashtonians, Greville Smyth Park	1911
	Avon & Somerset Police	1976
	Avonmouth	1940
	Avonvale	1958
B.	B.A.C.	1938
	Bannister Park, Southampton	1979
	Barnwood, Gloucester	1979
	Bath	1908
	Beaufort, Eastville Pk.	1909
	Beddau	1979
	Bedminster	1903
	Bloomfield, Bath	1928
	Bournemouth (Tourists)	1920
	Bournville	1904
	Brandon	1944
	Bridgwater	1930
	Brittons, G.B.	1980
	Bristol	1905
	Bristol Blind	1978
	Bristol Bowls League	1925
	Bristol Evening World	1938
	Bristol Omnibus	1937
	Bristol Police	1974
	Bristol South	1980
	Bristol St. Andrews	1925
	Bristol St. George	1909
	Brixham	1980
	Brockenhurst, Southampton	1979
	Budleigh Salterton	1947
	Burnham	1907
	Burns, (Caledonian Society)	1896
C.	Cabot	1940
	Caer Glow, Gloucester	1978
	Cam Mills, Dursley	1952
	Canford	1913
	Carmarthen (Tourists)	1968
	Chedville Ladies	1974
	Cheltenham	1907
	Cheltenham Spa	1938
	Chippenham	1946
	City and County of Bristol (Tourists)	1942
	Civil Service	1927
	Clarence, W-S-Mare	1909
	Clevedon	1913
	Combined Bristol Clubs	1974
	Congresbury	1963
	Corsham	1927
	Courage (Western)	1978
D.	Dawlish	1977
	Devonians	1925
	Donyatt	1970
E.	Ealing (Tourists)	1971
	Eastville Park Methodists	1941
	Eastvillians	1913
	Elders & Fyffes	1926
	Essex Vice Presidents (Tourists)	1961
	Exeter, City of	1947
	Exonia, Exeter	1977
F.	Fairford	1979
	Falcon, Painswick	1927
	Frome Selwood	1909
	Frys	1917
G.	Gloucester City	1913
	Gloucester Spa	1962
	Gloucestershire County	1980
	Gloucestershire Presidents	1964
	Greenbank	1932
	Greville Smyth	1909
	Greyfriars, Gloucester	1925
H.	H.M.S. Cabot	1942
	Hamilton's Team (Tourists)	1944
	Henleaze	1929
	High Duty Alloy	1966
	Home Guard	1943
	Honiton	1978
I.	I.C.I. Netham	1949
	I.T.T. Footscray	1979
	Imperial	1905
	Imperial & Knowle	1916
	Isle of Wight (Tourists)	1934
K.	Kent (Tourists)	1927
	Keynsham	1958
	Kildare	1955
	Kingsbridge	1979

Continued

	Kingswood & Hanham	1964
	Knowle	1909
	Knowle Park	1950
L.	L.C.C. Staff (Tourists)	1932
	Lancastrians (Tourists)	1927
	Leicestershire County (Tourists)	1960
	Lennards	1921
	Listers, Dursley	1956
	London County	1903
	Lyme Regis	1978
	Lyons, London (Tourists)	1935
M.	Mackintosh, Cardiff	1902
	Madeira, Exmouth	1976
	Master Bakers, St. Andrews Park	1942
	Minehead	1978
N.	Nailsea	1938
	Nailsworth	1938
	National Smelting	1946
	Newbridge	1980
	Newport, Mon.	1908
	Newport, Isle of Wight	1934
	Nomads	1979
	Nondescripts	1940
	North East Bristol & District	1914
O.	Oakfield Sports	1973
	Old Friends of Bristol League	1933
	Olveston	1979
P.	Page Park	1952
	Paignton & Torbay	1930
	Parkside, Eastville Park	1917
	Penarth	1926
	Penhill, Cardiff	1979
	Penylan, Cardiff	1979
	Plymouth	1930
	Plymstock	1979
	Pontypool	1902
	Port of Bristol Authority	1971
	Portishead	1911
	Prattens, Midsomer Norton	1937
Q.	Queen Camel	1976
R.	Redfield	1939
	Redland Green	1955
	Resolven (Tourists)	1976
	Rest of League	1909
	Richmond Park, Bournemouth	1908
	Robinsons	1918
	Rodborough	1939
	Royal Colonial Inst.	1926
	Royal Commonwealth Society	1958
	Royal Empire Society	1930
S.	Saints & Sinners, Knowle	1969
	Sandown, Isle of Wight	1934
	Scotsmen, Caledonian Society	1902
	Seaton	1976
	Shanklin, Isle of Wight	1934
	Sidmouth	1977
	Sir Francis Drake (Tourists)	1932
	Somersetshire County	1964
	South Africa (Tourists)	1964
	Special Constabulary	1943
	St. Andrews & Kildare	1972
	St. Andrews Park	1915
	St. Annes & Brislington	1962
	St. Julian, Newport	1925
	St. Keyna, Keynsham	1923
	Stothert & Pitt	1958
	Strand	1948
	S.W.E.B.	1961
	Swindon	1914
	Sydney Gardens, Bath	1916
T.	Tally Ho, Birmingham (Tourists)	1928
	Taunton Deane	1906
	Tavistock	1930
	Tetbury	1979
	Teignmouth	1930
	Thornbury	1915
	Tiverton Borough	1976
	Tiverton Bowling Assoc.	1980
	Topsham	1980
	Torbay Country Club	1930
	Torquay	1930
	Torquay (Tourists)	1909
	Trowbridge	1910
U.	Uffculme	1976
	United Bristol Press	1920
V.	Ventnor, Isle of Wight	1934
	Victoria, W-S-Mare	1900
	Victoria Park, Bath	1910
	Victoria Park, Bristol	1926

Continued

W.	Wells	1927
	West of England Executive	1916
	Weston, Bath	1956
	Westinghouse	1980
	Westlecott, Swindon	1979
	Westmoors Memorial	1961
	Wick	1937
	Wincanton	1938
	Winget, Gloucester	1979
	Winscombe	1926
	Worthing (Tourists)	1936
Y.	Yatton	1932

COUNTY HONOURS

YEAR	
1909	West of England League Champions **(Arrowsmith Bowl)**
1912	West of England League – Runners Up **(Brinly Smith Cup)**
1920	J. Oates, Somerset Singles Champion **(Homelight Cup)**
1921	B. Challenger, J. Oates, Somerset Pairs – Runners Up
1929/30	John Edbrooke, President Somerset
1932	C.G. Cooper, Somerset Hon. Sec. Comp. – Runner Up **(Trevor Cup)**
1936	A. Smart, W. Aspden, C & C Bristol Pairs – Runners Up **(Brookhouse Richards Cup)**
1938	W. Aspden, C & C Bristol Singles Champion **(Herbert Hayes Cup)**
1938	C & C Bristol Inter Club Champions **(Clarence Davey Cup)**
1938	Gloucestershire Challenge Cup – Runners Up
1939	C & C Bristol Inter Club Champions **(Clarence Davey Cup)**
1939/40	H. Punchard, President C & C Bristol
1941	C & C Bristol Inter Club Champions **(Clarence Davey Cup)**
1944	C & C Bristol Inter Club – Runners Up **(Ernie Morris Cup)**
1945	H.C.H. Punchard, W. Hazell, C & C Bristol Pairs Champions **(Alfred Appleby Cup)**
1946/47	S.G. Tydeman, President C & C Bristol
1948	Gloucestershire Challenge Cup – Runners Up
1948	H. Punchard, President Gloucestershire
1949	G.J. Langdon, A.W. Gadbury, J. Oates, Gloucestershire Triples Champions
1952	C & C Bristol Inter Club – Runners Up **(Ernie Morris Cup)**
1952	H. Punchard, President Gloucestershire
1953	F. Tiley, P. Bennett, C.P. Ireland, R.A. Cuddon – C & C Bristol Fours – Runners Up **(George Sutton Cup)**
1956	W.E. Smith, President Gloucestershire
1960	W.E. Smith, President C & C Bristol
1965	R.A. Cuddon, P.F. Wright – Clevedon Open Tournament Pairs Champions
1965	H.C.H. Punchard, President C & C Bristol
1968	F.R. Pope, President Gloucestershire
1977	H.S. Maynard, President C & C Bristol
1978	A.R. Wells, Gloucestershire Singles – Runner Up
1979	A.R. Wells, C & C Bristol Singles Champion **(Herbert Hayes Cup)**
1979	A.R. Wells, Bristol Champion of Champions Competition

ARROW TOURS

CLUBS

DATES		
1928	May 28 - June 1	Southsea, Sandown, Shanklin, Ryde, Ventnor (Plate 7)
1930	June 8 - June 14	Teignmouth, Paignton, Tavistock, Plymouth, Torbay Country Club, Torquay, Taunton Deane
1934	May 22 - May 25	Shanklin, Ventnor, Newport, Sandown
1947	June 2 - June 6	Sir Francis Drake Plymouth, Torbay Country Club, Budleigh Salterton, Torquay, City of Exeter
1976	May 16 - May 21	Uffculme, Madeira, Exmouth, City of Exeter, Budleigh Salterton, Tiverton Borough, Seaton
1977	June 19 - June 24	Uffculme, Exonia Exeter, Sidmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Dawlish, Seaton
1978	June 18 - June 23	Honiton, Lyme Regis, Teignmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Tiverton Borough, Sidmouth
1979	June 17 - June 22	Honiton, Paignton & Torbay, Torbay Country Club, Plymstock, Kingsbridge, Torquay (Plate 11)
1980	June 22 - June 27	Honiton, Brixham, Topsham, City of Exeter, Torbay Country Club, Tiverton Bowling Association

APPRECIATIONS

On behalf of the Committee, I offer my sincere gratitude to the Club Members and friends for their sponsorship which made publication of 'A Century of Arrows' possible.

The Club will benefit from sales of the illustrated booklets in the future.

My own personal thanks are due to those who so kindly contributed with old photographs, fixture books and personal memories. Only lack of space has prevented use of some of the 'copy'.

Last, but not least, my grateful thanks to John Lawes for the cover design, Joan Dovey for her invaluable typing and my wife, Brenda, for her patience and assistance in the project.

G.T. Allen

"A CENTURY OF ARROWS" 1981 ADDENDUM

PAGE 21 The Club recorded its highest number of successful matches in one season by winning 54 and tying 1.

In the second season of the Club's entry into the South West Bowling League, George Brown's team had a good run in the Lloyd Cup, beating National Smelting, Cabot, Newbridge and Courage (Western) before losing to Frys in the final by 6 shots.

On the 17th September the Club lost its longest serving member in H.C.H. (Cecil) Punchard who had been a staunch Arrow man since he joined the club on the 1st July 1929. Cecil had served as Hon. Secretary in the years 1954-61 and as Chairman in 1967.

He became President of the City and County of Bristol Bowling Association in 1965 and his generous support of the "Harry Priday" and "Tydeman - over 80s" matches will be long remembered.

PAGE 24 Captain L.D. DANDO. Vice Captain B. Hunt
Wednesday Captain G.T. ALLEN

PAGE 27 G.B. Brittons, Cadbury, Cope Chat, Morris Motors. Willmott Park.

PAGE 28 1981 South West League - Runners up (Lloyd Cup)

PAGE 29 1981 June 21 - June 26 Honiton, Brixham, Teignmouth, City of Exeter, Torbay Country Club. Tiverton and District.