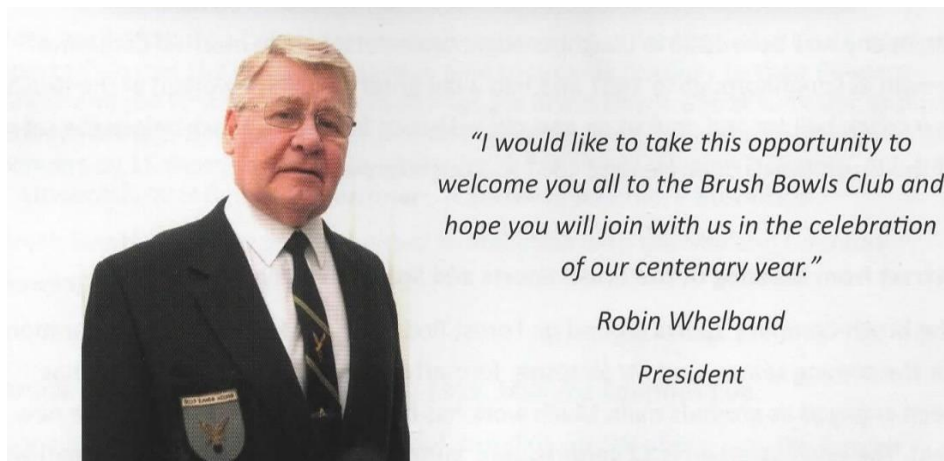


Brush Bowls and Sports Club

1916-2016 Centenary Year



Brush Bowls & Sports Club - Nanpantan Sports Ground
Watermead Lane - Nanpantan Road
Loughborough - Leicestershire LE11 3TN

Affiliated To Leicestershire Bowls & Bowls England



T. Unsworth 1872-1952 W. H. Beeby 1868-1937

In the year 1916, bowlers who worked at the Brush Works and who played for other clubs in the town decided to form their own bowling club within the Brush Sports and Social Club. The Brush Sports and Social Club at the time had various sporting sections. First President of the Brush Bowling club in the year 1918 was Mr William H Beeby and was followed the next year 1919 by Mr T Unsworth.

Mr Beeby was born 1868 in Loughborough, Leicestershire. He married Catherine Brewin at Loughborough in 1891 and had a daughter Sarah. He worked at the Brush as a coach Builder and draftsman and played bowls for Queens Park before the set up of the Brush Bowls Club. He died 1937 in Loughborough.

Extract from Meeting of the Brush Sports and Social Club May 1919.

The Brush Company sports ground on Forest Road is in active course of preparation for the coming season and Mr Simpson, formerly keeper of the Queens Park, has been engaged as grounds man. Much work has been necessary in levelling the new field. The bowling green is 12 yards square, surrounded by a raised bank and pathway which have already been completed. The foundation of ashes is now nearly laid and the green will be made of Cumberland turf. Given weather, not too hot, and with a fair sprinkling of rain, the green should be in fairly good order next month and playing might begin in July. At the top end of the bowling green is a spare piece of ground, which would provide an excellent site for a pavilion.

Extract from Meeting of the Brush Sports and Social Club April 1919.

Two fields have been secured on the Forest Road, and H. Simpson, late park-keeper to the Corporation, has been engaged to look after the four tennis courts, the cricket pitch, and the bowling green.

The bowling green is to be one of the finest in the county. The turf from Cumberland has been obtained, and this will be laid on six inches of ashes the method which I am told is the finest possible to secure a good green. Only two Cumberland greens are to be found in Leicestershire today, one in the county town, and other in Hinckley. So it would seem that the Brush directors have decided to secure the best playing turf as they have secured one of the best playing fields.

B.E.E Co Minute Book No 6. Monday 8th September 1919 at a meeting of the Board held at the Manchester Hotel. Mr Garcke in the Chair. Lease of 21 years from January 20th 1919 from Messrs Whyman, Sutton and Raynehem of Bowling Green and Tennis Court at Forest Road, Loughborough for use of Brush Sports and Recreation Club at a yearly rental of £15.

Minutes of meeting. Loughborough Corporation Water Committee.

24th April 1919. The Committee considered an application from the Brush Works Sports Club that the laying of a service pipe to provide a supply to their Bowling Green and the first Competitive match for the Brush Bowls was at Leicester against Abbey Park B.C, June 1919. After a most enjoyable game the home team proved the winners by 15 shots. Brush team, A Ganley, B Priestley, C Swann, R Swann, A Cutler, T Unsworth, W H Beeby, H Merriman, R Surtees, A Fisher, P Stevenson.

Brush Bowls Club have been admitted to affiliation with the Midland Counties Bowling Association in June 1919.

Article in Local Newspaper 11th July 1919. Midland Counties Cup.

None of the local clubs were successful in pulling off the above cup, the honour being carried off by Victoria Park. One of the local clubs the Brush were 6th on the list, Queens Park 13th, and Granby 23rd. By being in the first 12, the Brush have the privilege of selecting a rink of four players to represent the Midland Counties Bowling Association against the London and Southern Counties Bowling Association at Leicester on Saturday, August 23rd. The Brush are to be congratulated on doing so remarkably well in their first season.

**Article Local Newspaper 29th August 1919.
Midland Counties v London and Southern Counties.**

Played on Saturday. Half was played on the Westcotes Green, Leicester, and half on the Brownswood Green, London. The midland team were 32 up at Leicester, and the London were 32 up at London a remarkable game ending in a tie. Two local cubs took part, each sending a rink of four, both teams were successful, the Park winning 22-16 and the Brush 28-11. Brush Team A Cutler, T Unsworth, E Thornton and W H Beeby.



**Forest Road, Bowls Pavilion and Green. Photo Taken
1993 just before it got demolished for building of
flats. Now Kingfisher Court.**



Brush Sports and Social Club Playing Field, Forest Road, Loughborough.



Secretary's report for the program of the opening of the Brush sports ground, Nanpantan Road, Loughborough.

Brush Bowls section formed over 50 years ago, is one of the oldest member of the Leicestershire Bowling Association. Brush have won all major County competitions and have represented Leicestershire in the English Bowling Championships in London. Members of the club are also included in the present county team.

W. E. Smellie.
Secretary Brush Bowls Club

Brush Sports Ground, Nanpantan Road, Loughborough.

Official Opening by Jimmy Hill, Head of Sport, London Weekend Television. Saturday 12 June 1971.

Mr F.H. Wood, Chairman and Managing Director, Brush Electrical Engineering Co. Ltd. thanked his guests, Mr Jimmy Hill, Head of Sport, London Weekend Television and formerly the very successful manager of Coventry City Football Club, Mr Tony Green, Secretary of Chelsea Football Club, the Mayor of Loughborough, Councillor V.B. Wilson, and the Town Clerk Mr. A. Usher for joining us on this occasion.

Competitions held on the day. **Bowls** a four Bowls 6 rink Tournament. **Cricket** match between Brush 1st Team versus Swarkestone Cricket Club 1st XL and Brush Casuals Versus Thornton St Peters Cricket Club. **Football** a Seven-a-side Tournament. **Ladies Hockey** match against a Local Invitation Team, Mixed Hockey XI versus Leicestershire Mixed Hockey Association. **Tennis** Open Mixed Doubles Tournament. **Children's Sports**, Egg and Spoon, Sack Race, 100, 50, metre races, Mums Obstacle Races and Toddlers Race and a Cage bird and Pigeon Display.

