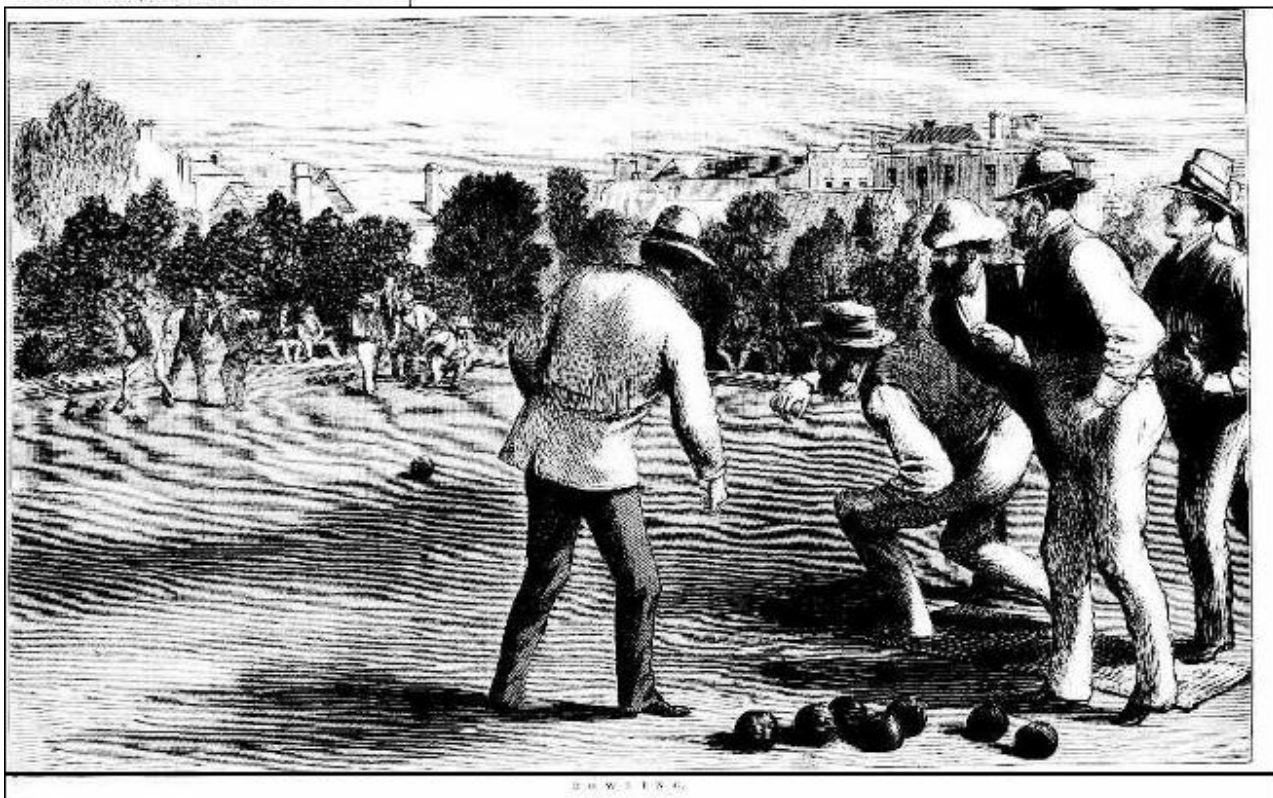


Illustrated Sydney News (NSW : 1853 - 1872), Saturday 3 February 1877, page 11, 17

THE MELBOURNE BOWLING CLUBS GREEN.

The old English game of bowls is patronised in and around Melbourne to an extent which, perhaps, very few persons are aware, who are not members of one or other of the numerous metropolitan or suburban bowling clubs. The game is essentially quiet and unobtrusive in its character, and although healthful, it makes no great demand upon the physical strength of the players. It is thus peculiarly adapted to the requirements of men of business, even of matured, if not old age, who find in the pursuit of this outdoor pastime a recreation that calls for the exercise of very considerable skill and calculation in the manipulation of their bowls, with just sufficient muscular exertion to be beneficial to the players without unduly fatiguing them. The members of the various clubs form little coteries of men, differing in religion, politics, and in other respects very materially, but these distinctions are unknown on the greens, and all unite in good fellowship when pursuing their invigorating recreation. Our illustration of the game gives a good idea of one of the greens belonging to the Melbourne Bowling Club, which is the oldest established club in the colony, having been founded in 1804 by the late John Campbell. The two greens are on trochoid ground belonging to this association, and have a frontage to Dandenong-street, Windsor, near the railway station. One green is used for summer play, and is 160 ft. long by 120 ft. broad; the other, or smaller green, is 134 feet long by 120 feet broad, and being more thoroughly drained than the larger, it is used for play in winter. A commodious pavilion, with larder, &c., has been erected by the club, and an adjacent ground belonging to the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company, permissive occupancy of which has been granted by the directors, a capital sporting ground has been formed, and a skittle pavilion erected and fitted, both of which are much used in the winter. The Melbourne Bowling Club averages eighty-five members, and is managed by a committee consisting of president, vice-president, hon. treasurer, hon. secretary, and five members. The club gives a champion medal for annual competition, and the following have been the winners from the commencement: - Mauger, G. Y. Finley, R. Greig, G. Young, G. W. Keaton, T. Smith, W. H. Lacey, J. Halley, W. T. Moffitt (twice), J. Macdonald (twice), and E. Hunt. There is play on the ground daily, and the public are allowed admission at three p.m.



J. W. B. S. G.