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**Papers of the Pretoria Club 1885 -
&
Pretoria Country Club 1921-**



Papers of the Pretoria Club & the Pretoria Country Club MSS 149

Pretoria Club

The Pretoria Club dates back to February 1885 when the Club was founded by Richard Kelsey Loveday and 54 other signatories. The Club was established *to promote social intercourse amongst Gentlemen resident in the Transvaal*. Many leading citizens of Pretoria such as TW and TC Beckett, Edmund Bourke, Carl Jeppe, CJ Juta, Piet Marais, EPA Meintjies, AH Nellmapius, Carl Uekermann, Gen. JC Smuts, Justice JS Curlewis, HC Jorrisen, G Rissik and HL Abrahamse were members of the Club. Over the years many distinguished guests visited the Club including the Prince of Wales, Prince George (later the Duke of Kent), Earl Haig and Baron Haig of Bermersyde and Charles Roberts Swart (first State President of the RSA). In 1935 TCW Dod said in his **Notes on the earlier history of the Club** - *Two features remain, and we trust always will remain unchanged, the club's reputation for hospitality to visitors, and that neither politics nor racialism has ever entered into its cosmos*. These words were also quoted by AKW Atkinson in his history of the Pretoria Club called **Old ivory and roses** which was published in 1969.

Pretoria Country Club

On 12 April 1910 a general meeting was held in the Pretoria Town Hall of "gentlemen interested in the formation of a Country Club". Prospective members were advised that some of the advantages offered by the Club would be:

- the use of a clubhouse with billiard room
- the use of a lake
- tennis courts and croquet lawns
- an eighteen-hole golf course

The Pretoria Country Club opened on 8 October 1910. Since its inception many dedicated members of the Club have given much of their time and energy to the development of the Club. Thanks to the endeavours of chairmen, committee members, organisers and team members of the various sporting sections, managers, catering and bar staff, golf professionals, gardeners, groundsman and others, the Pretoria Country Club has become one of the most attractive and progressive clubs in the country. The **History of the Pretoria Country Club 1909 - 1975** by CF Odell and Ivor Sander's **Pretoria Country Club 1910-2010 Centenary of the Jewel of the Jacaranda City** give an interesting overview of the development and growth of the Club over many years. Unfortunately some of the earlier archival records of the club are missing. The minutes of the general committee meetings date from 1921 onwards, whereas the Executive Committee minutes date from 1966.

The Papers of the Pretoria Club (1885 -) and the Pretoria Country Club (1921-) 66 boxes; 6,6 lin metres

The Papers of the Pretoria Club (1885 -) and the Pretoria Country Club (1921-) comprise 6,6 linear metres of minutes, letter books and photographs which were donated to the Archives by Mr Looock van Zyl and the executive committees of the Clubs to the Archives of the Unisa Library in 2002. The archival materials of the two Clubs have interesting information on prominent members of society who were active in the social and economic development of the region over many decades. The history of the Clubs is also about the history of Pretoria, its people and the sporting events that took place in the capital city.

The Papers of the two Clubs contain information on the social, cultural and economic history and development of the city and its people and one is grateful that the materials have been preserved for future research purposes.

The Pretoria Club 1885 -

(3,9 linear metres)

1 Committee minutes

- 1.1 March 1885 - July 1889
- 1.2 August 1889 - June 1896
- 1.3 July 1896 - January 1902
- 1.4 January 1902 - May 1904
- 1.5 May 1904 - June 1907
- 1.6 June 1907 - February 1913
- 1.7 February 1913 - November 1917
- 1.8 December 1917 - February 1925
- 1.9 March 1925 - March 1936
- 1.10 May 1936 - September 1944
- 1.11 October 1944 - September 1949
- 1.12 October 1949 - December 1954
- 1.13 January 1955 - November 1956
- 1.14 December 1956 - August 1961 (missing)
- 1.15 September 1961 - June 1964
- 1.16 July 1964 - September 1980 (missing)
- 1.17 October 1980 - September 1983
- 1.18 October 1983 - October 1991
- 1.19 January 1992 - November 1992
- 1.20 January 1993 - October 1994

2 Minutes of Annual General Meetings

- 2.1 1885 - 1908
- 2.2 1909 - 1957
- 2.3 1958 - 1986

3 Letter-books

- 3.1 March 1885 - May 1888
- 3.2 May 1888 - June 1891
- 3.3 May 1891 - August 1894
- 3.4 August 1894 - June 1901
- 3.5 July 1901 - May 1902
- 3.6 May 1902 - September 1904
- 3.7 July 1902 - March 1903
- 3.8 March 1903 - June 1904
- 3.9 June 1904 - November 1905
- 3.10 November 1905 - August 1909
- 3.11 September 1909 - June 1913
- 3.12 June 1913 - January 1915
- 3.13 January 1915 - May 1918
- 3.14 May 1918 - October 1920

4 Ballot / Election Books

- 4.1 1885 - 1902 (3 volumes)
- 4.2 1954 - 1989 (1 volume)

5 Visitors' Books

- 5.1 1885 - 1929 (3 volumes)
- 5.2 1902 - 1954 (1 volume)
- 5.3 1902 - 1967 (honorary visiting members)
- 5.4 1905 - 1987 (2 volumes)

- 6 Constitution 1987

- 7 Certificate of Life Membership 1894

- 8 Certificate of registration Pretoria Club Pension Fund 1970

- 9 Chairmen: photograph album 1885 - 1987

- 10 Debenture records 1893 -1894

- 11 History of Club on the 50th anniversary of its foundation 1885 - 1935

- 12 Menus 1925; 1935

- 13 Mortgage Bonds / Deed of Lease 1893 -1916

- 14 Photographs of buildings, people and documents 1877 - 1935

- 15 Reciprocal club information 1956 -1997

- 16 Reports of the Pretoria Club Committee 1896 -1936

- 17 Suggestions and complaints 1888 - 1895; 1896 -1969

The Pretoria Country Club 1921-

(2,7 linear metres)

18 Executive Committee minutes

- 18.1 March 1966 - March 1972
- 18.2 April 1972 - November 1974
- 18.3 January 1975 - October 1980

19 General Committee minutes

- 19.1 October 1921 - January 1926
- 19.2 February 1926 - March 1933
- 19.3 April 1933 - August 1937
- 19.4 September 1937 - December 1941 (missing)
- 19.5 January 1942 - March 1947
- 19.6 April 1947 - October 1952
- 19.7 September 1952 - May 1955
- 19.8 May 1955 - August 1958
- 19.9 August 1958 - October 1961
- 19.10 November 1961 - July 1963

- 19.11 July 1963 - February 1967
- 19.12 February 1967 - February 1971
- 19.13 March 1971 - November 1972
- 19.14 January 1973 - November 1974
- 19.15 January 1975 - November 1977
- 19.16 November 1977 - November 1981
- 19.17 December 1981 - January 1984
- 19.18 February 1984 - November 1986
- 19.19 January 1987 - November 1987
- 19.20 January 1988 - October 1988
- 19.21 October 1988 - September 1989
- 19.22 December 1989 - December 1990
- 19.23 January 1991 - July 1992
- 19.24 August 1992 - August 1994

- 20 Constitution and By-Laws 2004-2006 -

- 21 Annual reports 1975 -2009 -

- 22 Newsletters 1986-2009 -

- 23 Publications
- 23.1 Odell, CF: ***History of the Pretoria Country Club 1909 - 1975***
- 23.2 Sander, Ivor: ***Pretoria Country Club 1910-2010 Centenary of the Jewel of the Jacaranda City***