

In the late sixties I heard about plans to develop the Belmont Common as a Sports area. As we stood to lose our training ground opposite Ford due to the widening of the Highway I first put it to the meeting on the 4.3.1969, that we should move there. Some opposition was raised and it took until the 16.2.1970. for a Special Meeting to decide to apply for 4 acres, which was granted on 3.5.1970. A working bee was called for to prepare the still virgin ground for the first training session there on the 3.5.70 and the first TRIAL on our new ground on the 21.5.70. The official opening took place on the 28.2.1971.----- The first suggestion for a CLUBHOUSE was raised at the April 1971 meeting. Again lots of discussions were needed; if or not and in what form, if big steel garage or brick building? We already missed out on a 2 for 1 grant through all the delays and as a new grant was coming from the State Government the General meeting on the 4.5.70; accepted a recommendation from the Committee for a brick building and to apply for \$800 on a 1 for 1 basis. Plans were drawn up between the Pres. C. Kitchenmaster, the Sec. [me] and M. Breiberg, who agreed to be the builder as he had the experience being a bricklayer. The Council agreed to this and assured us of the grant. The project got underway and we had committed ourselves for a long haul!! Foundation were dug and poured. Meinhard donated about 12000 bricks, which had to be carted from Bell-Park on to the site, most of these went into the foundation walls. Sand and cement he also supplied. We only had to buy the brown Besser bricks. Filling for the base was hard to come by, which caused a delay but this was handy as on 4.3.72. the grant came through but not \$800, no, \$1318,!. which we could not match but accepted on proviso that we would be given an extension of time. Frantic fund raising was organised by means of bottle-drives, Car-Rallies, Silver-Circles ect. to raise the extra \$500 needed. In the meantime a small group worked 2 weekends at a time and then 1 weekend off for nearly 2 years!! It was a tremendous commitment, especially on Meinhard's part as he was a self-employed bricklayer, building homes. He also supplied the timber for the roof and as we reached the highest point we hoisted the traditional European Good-luck coloured wreath. The roof was covered on the 15.3.73. and the Roller doors ordered, the windows, which I made, were glazed and after the Roller and external toilet doors installed the lockup stage was completed for only \$2800!! After the internal finishing was done we celebrated with a "SWITCH-ON-NIGHT" Social at which the Club was presented with 64 chairs and 8 tables by Mr Lehrmann, so that he made. The "Official Opening" ceremony was later held on the 23rd of November 1973

I feel that without Meinhard's generosity and total commitment we would not have been able to build so big and therefore I dedicate this album to him

Presented to the Club on the 2nd of October 2007

F. Lehrmann



HISTORIC MOMENT! MEINHARD BREIBERG LIFTS THE FIRST SOD FOR THE FOUNDATION. PROPERLY CHRISTIANED BY KEITH SCOTT AND FRED LEHRMANN



"THOU SHALT NOT WASTE"! MEINHARD OUR "VOLUNTEERED" BUILDER/BRICKLAYER HAS A DRINK TO THE GOOD FUTURE OF THE CLUBHOUSE.



DIGGING THE FOUNDATION IN PROGRESS.
 L-R = F. LEHRMAN, GORDON TILLEY, K. SCOTT, M. BREIBERG
 AND JOHN MUSIAL.



WALL FOUNDATION TRENCHES ARE DONE,
 STUMPHOLES TO GO



BASE WALLS ARE LAID, LAST OF PIERS TO FINISH
L-R=MEINHARD, GEORGE GRAY, PAUL HEYNE, KEITH SCOTT
GORDEN TILLEY, JOHN MUSIAL, FRED.



FOUNDATION COMPLETED, READY FOR THE CONCRETE!



THE FIRST SLAB BEING POURED.
 L-R= GEORGE, HAYDEN SHINNERS, GORDON, PAUL,
 MEINHARD, KEITH, CHARLY BARTOLO.



GEORGE + FRED ARE LEVELING FOR THE TOP FINISH



THINGS ARE STARTING TO TAKE SHAPE. VW. ACTING AS
CONSTRUCTION OFFICE.



3 OF THE MAIN STAYERS
L-R. FRED = "BUILDERS LABOURER"
MEINHARD = "BOSS BRICKY"
KEITH = "BUILDERS LABOURER"
GROSSENSEER BENGY = "SUPERVISOR"



MEINHARD PLACES LAST BRICK FOR THE DAY



BRICKS WERE DROPPED OFF AT WRONG SIDE AND HAD TO BE
MOVED ACROSS. ALL HANDS ON DECK BEFORE TRAINING.



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK



A DAY'S WORK IS DONE! A COOL "HOME BREW" IS ENJOYED IN FRONT OF MEINHARD'S SPECIAL FEATURE WALL.

L-R FRED - MEINHARD, MR LEHRMANN SEN. AND SCOTTY



ANOTHER STEP FORWARD.
POWER HAS BEEN CONNECTED
TO THE SITE.
MEINHARD + FRED TEST IF IT
WORKS.



THE HIGHEST POINT HAS
BEEN REACHED AND
THE "WORKERS" CELEBRATE



MEINHARD "THE BUILDER"
STANDS HIGH ABOVE
HIS WORKERS





TROPHY PRESENTATION AFTER A TRIAL!
 A WELCOME BREAK AFTER MANY WEEKENDS
 WORKING. THE GOOD LUCK WREATH STANDS PROUDLY
 ABOVE THE CLUB HOUSE BUILDING.





SOME VISITORS ENJOYING THE WIND BREAK





ANOTHER "DEAD MARINE" FOR THE BUILDING FUND. (10c a Dozen)
 L-R = ? , "TRAMPAS", TERE LEHRMAN (NOW GORDON)



BACK TO WORK! THE ROOF GOES ON IN 35 Km WIND.
 IT MADE WORK VERY HARD + DANGEROUS AS ONE NEARLY
 FLEW AWAY. LUCKY SOMEONE HUNG ONTO IT. (40' LENGTH)



HARD WORK. NEARLY DONE.





ROOF COMPLETED! L-R-(TOP PHOTO) GORDON TILLEY, PAUL
 HEYNE, GEORGE GRAY, ? MEIN HART, JOHN MUSIAL,
 FRED LEHRMANN, KEITH SCOTT. EXTRA ON LOWER PHOTO
 IS ELIZABETH TREBLECOCK.





AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING ON 23rd NOV. 1973.

L-R

L- L-R= KARL HEYNE, FRED LEHRMANN, STAN BUCHANAN (NEAR MIC,
 ? DOT TILLEY, MR. LEHRMANN SEN.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS IS THE ONLY PHOTO I HAVE
 FROM THAT DAY. SO IF ANYBODY KNOWS
 OF ANY OTHERS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.