

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



THE THISTLE CLUB OF LONDON LIMITED FONDS

AFC 75

Inventory prepared by Alison Mitchell-Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfilment of archives course requirements - November 2009

WESTERN ARCHIVES
AFC 78
THE THISTLE CLUB OF LONDON LIMITED FONDS

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THE THISTLE CLUB OF LONDON LIMITED FONDS
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FONDS DESCRIPTION

Dates

1903-1935, 1937, 1939-2000, 2003

Extent

52 cm of textual records
3 folders of textual records
7 volumes of textual records
1 map

Administrative History

The Thistle Lawn Bowling Club was established in 1879 and was incorporated as the Thistle Club of London, Limited on April 21, 1903. Currently still in operation, the Thistle Club is the oldest lawn bowling club in London. The mandate of the Thistle Lawn Bowling Club is to encourage, promote, and provide facilities for the game of lawn bowling, as well as other activities that are considered desirable by the Board of Directors. In addition to lawn bowling, the club offered tennis (until 1906), curling (until 1929), and a five-pin bowling alley (until the mid 1940s).

The administrative structure of the club has changed since its inception, but it has generally consisted of a Board of Directors, Executive Officers, and various committees. Committees included (but were not limited to) the tournament committee, the membership committee and the grounds committee.

When the club began, its primary constituents were men. In the late 1920s, the Thistle Ladies Lawn Bowling Club was created, with its own by-laws, executive, and committees. The ladies club reported to the general (men's) Board of Directors. The men's and women's executives and committees merged on November 7, 1979.

Between 1975 and 1991, the club received several grants from the New Horizons Program for seniors, allowing for significant equipment and infrastructure upgrades. The Thistle Club of London was originally situated on Piccadilly Street, near Richmond Street. The club moved to its present location at 25 Beaufort Street in 1983.

Scope and Content

This fonds contains the administrative and tournament documents of the Thistle Club of London, Limited. Membership lists, meeting minutes, correspondence, tournament information, financial records, newspaper clippings, rules and etiquette, and documents relating to the upkeep of the greens and the relocation of the club are included.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

- Series 1: Minutes of meetings
- Series 2: Financial records
- Series 3: Tournament and trophy records
- Series 4: Grounds, facilities, and property records
- Series 5: General operations documents
- Series 6: New Horizons Program grant documents
- Series 7: Correspondence

Finding Aids

File and item lists are available.

Custodial History

Items in this fonds were collected from previous past-presidents, beginning in 2002, and stored at the home of past-president Bev Johnston. The documents remained in Johnston's custody until their donation in 2004.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by the Thistle Club of London, Limited, in 2004.

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 1 Minutes of meetings

Dates

1903-1929, 1939-1988

Extent

18 cm of textual records

4 volumes of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains minutes of meetings of the Thistle Club of London throughout its various membership stages. Minutes from men's and ladies' meetings, as well as minutes from the post-1979 gender-integrated club, are included.

Arrangement

This series is arranged into the following sub-series:

Sub-series 1: Thistle Ladies Lawn Bowling Club minutes

Sub-series 2: Thistle Club of London, Limited [men's] minutes

Sub-series 3: Thistle Club of London, Limited [integrated] minutes

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Sub-series 1.1 Thistle Ladies Lawn Bowling Club minutes

Dates

1939-1979

Extent

10 cm of textual records

2 volumes of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains the minutes of quarterly and special meetings of the board of directors of the Thistle Ladies Lawn Bowling Club. Financial and administrative matters are discussed. One book of minutes from the Games Committee, discussing tournament planning, is also included.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Ladies Club general minutes	1939-1941	B1966-1
Ladies Club general minutes	1942-1949	B1966-2
Ladies Club general minutes	1949-1954	B1966-3
Ladies Club general minutes	1954-1958	B1966-4
Ladies Club general minutes [vol.]	1959-1968	B1966-5
Ladies Club general minutes [vol.]	1969-1976	B1966-6
Ladies Club general minutes	1977-1979	B1966-8
Ladies Club Games Committee minutes	1957-1964	B1966-7

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Sub-series 1.2 Thistle Club of London, Limited [Men's] minutes

Dates

1903-1929, 1971-1979

Extent

5 cm of textual records
1 volume of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains the minutes of quarterly and special meetings of the board of directors of the men's section of the Thistle Club of London, Limited. Financial and administrative matters are discussed.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Minutes	1903-1926	B1967-7
Thistle Club directors' minutes [vol.]	1903-1905	B1967-8
Minutes	1922-1929	B1966-15
Thistle Club (men's) minutes	1971-1979	B1966-9

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Sub-series 1.3 Thistle Club of London, Limited [integrated] minutes

Dates

1979-1998

Extent

3 cm of textual records

1 volume of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains the minutes of quarterly and special meetings of the board of directors of the integrated (men's and ladies') Thistle Club of London, Limited. Financial and administrative matters are discussed.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Thistle Club of London minutes	1979-1983	B1966-10
Thistle Club of London minutes	1984-1988	B1966-11
Thistle Lawn Bowling minutes [vol.]	1988-1998	B1966-28

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Series 2 Financial records

Dates

1925-1935, 1977-1994

Extent

5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains tax, financial, and share-holder documents. Budgets, receipts, tax returns, and share certificates are included.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Shares [in Thistle Club of London, Ltd.]	1925-1935	B1966-14
Financial records	1977-1986	B1967-2
Income tax records	1981-1987	B1966-12
Income tax records	1988-1994	B1966-13

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Series 3 Tournament and trophy records

Dates

1915, 1930-1931, 1937, 1957-1999

Extent

12 cm of textual records
1 volume of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains books, flyers, and correspondence relating to Thistle Club trophies and tournaments. Notes of winners and scores, medal design specifications, and advertising materials are included.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Tournament programmes	1915, 1930-1931, 1937	B1967-15
Ladies Club tournaments	1957-1978	B1966-26
Tournaments	1957-1970, 1994	B1966-18
Trophy records [vol.]	1973-1979	B1967-1
Tournament record books	1979-1991	B1967-4
Over 65 tournament – Men D	1982-1987	B1967-11
Tournaments	1989-1999	B1966-27

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Series 4 Grounds, facilities, and property records

Dates

1906, 1921, 1953, 1976-1984

Extent

5 cm of textual records

1 volume of textual records

1 map ; 22 x 28 cm

Scope and Content

This series includes information about the physical properties owned by the Thistle Club of London, Ltd. Financial documents, newspaper clippings, and historical sketches relating to the former location on Piccadilly Street, as well as the new location at 25 Beaufort Street, are included. A map of the old Piccadilly Street location, notes and a reference publication from the Grounds Committee, as well as a publicity book from the bowl manufacturer, are also included.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Piccadilly Street mortgage papers	1906, 1921, 1953, 1977	B1966-17
“Romance of Bowl Manufacture” book	1961	B1967-17
The Construction of the Lawn Bowling Green [vol.]	1976	B1967-9
Newspaper clippings – the Selby and new club	1978-1984	B1966-16
Historical sketches and other documents re opening of new location [includes map]	1979-1984	B1967-5
Grounds Committee notes	1982	B1966-24

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Series 5 General operations documents

Dates

1910-1911, 1940-[ca. 1950], 1951-1991, 2003

Extent

8 cm of textual records
1 volume of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains items that relate to the daily operation of the club as a whole. The club's constitution, membership cards, guide books, a guest book, and newspaper clippings relating to the facility are included.

Arrangement

This series is arranged into the following sub-series:

- Sub-series 1: Membership documents
- Sub-series 2: Club rules and legal documents
- Sub-series 3: Social events and media documents

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Sub-series 5.1 Membership documents

Dates

1910-1911, [ca. 1950]

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains membership lists and cards for the Thistle Club of London, Limited.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Membership cards	1910-1911, [ca. 1950]	B1967-13

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Sub-series 5.2 Club rules and legal documents

Dates

1940-1997

Extent

2 folders of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains the in-house legal documents of the Thistle Club of London, Limited. The club's constitution and by-laws are included, as are general rule books for the game of lawn bowling.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Constitution and by-laws, men's and ladies', rule books	1940-1949, 1984-1987	B1967-14
Constitution with revisions	1940-1997	B1967-3

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Sub-series 5.3 Social events and media documents

Dates

1951-1991, 2003

Extent

3 folders of textual records
1 volume of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains promotional and souvenir items of Thistle Club of London, Limited's social events. Planning documents, guide books explaining the club, and newspaper clippings promoting club events are included. A souvenir guest-book is also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Our guests [vol.]	1951-1960	B1967-6
Annual guide books	1954-1955, 1957-1987	B1967-12
Social events	1976-1991	B1966-25
Newspaper clippings	1989, 2003	B1967-16

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Series 6 New Horizon Program grant documents

Dates

1975, 1977-1978, 1987-1991

Extent

5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains receipts, correspondence, and other documents relating to grants made to the Thistle Club of London by the New Horizons Program for seniors. New Horizons targets funds towards groups that can help benefit seniors' quality of life.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
New Horizons Program grant	1975	B1966-22
New Horizons Program documents	1977-1978	B1966-20
New Horizons Program re card tables and chairs	1987-1988	B1966-21
New Horizons Program grant	1989-1991	B1966-19

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Series 7 Correspondence

Dates

1982-1987, 1989, 2000

Extent

2 folders of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains correspondence of the Thistle Club of London, Ltd. Correspondence from Ontario Lawn Bowls and the Professional Lawn Bowlers Association, as well as governmental correspondence regarding the club's taxation, are included.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Ontario Lawn Bowls and Professional Lawn Bowlers Association correspondence	1982-1987	B1967-10
General correspondence	1989, 2000	B1967-18