

Hinterland *Heritage*

Witta Sportsground and Rec Club 1920s-2020

With Sonia Clark



In 1926 a generous donation of five acres of land was given to the Witta community by Mrs Otto Bergan to be used as a sporting ground. A trusteeship was set up and named the Witta Welfare Club.

The land was cleared and a cricket pitch established along with a pavilion style clubhouse. A tennis club was formed soon after, followed by the laying of an 'ant bed' (clay) tennis court. With the booming interest in tennis at the time, three courts were eventually constructed to cater for the popularity of the sport.

enclosing underneath to provide an ideal area for canteen facilities. A further extension of the building followed with a storage area for mowers and related maintenance items, and a new shower/change room extension to cater for both female and male playing teams.

The site continued to evolve over the years, including the construction of three new tennis courts with modern surfaces and the old courts turned into a carpark.

During the past six months the building has had further enhancements with the installation of a new bar



Witta Sportsground and Recreational Club

As time passed, the grounds were further developed and the community called for the establishment of a football field and goal posts, which were well utilised for many years. The area became a thriving hub of the Witta community, used not only for sport but also for numerous community recreational purposes such as dancing, card tournaments and social gatherings. In later years the previously named Witta Welfare Club became an incorporated body known as the Witta Recreational Club Inc. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s a number of changes to the clubhouse building were made, including revamping the old building and

and canteen/kitchen area and floor recoating. The entry to the grounds has also received a revamp with new post and rail fencing installed and more informative signage, and a new path leading from the carpark.

Currently the grounds enjoy a full year of field events including touch football, junior and senior rugby union clubs and a strong independent tennis club operating successfully.

With 100 years of community engagement coming up, the club is still run solely by volunteers and is available for community hire by community groups and locals for private functions.



Witta Sportsground and Recreational circa 1920

Glasshouse Country & Maleny News

Thanks to GM&CN