

New Grass Courts At Applecross

SOME three years ago members of the Applecross Tennis Club felt that it was necessary to add to the two shell courts they had available. The Melville Road Board made the land available, and three new grass courts were opened last Sunday.

These courts are situated on the banks of the Swan River, and have a frontage to the Strand, Applecross.

The present committee of the club comprises Mr. A. E. Walker (chairman), Misses B. Bateman and A. Shaw, Messrs. H. Hicks (treasurer), J. Patterson (secretary), L. Robbins, L. Wild and R. Spence. Mr. H. Hicks, who rendered splendid service as club captain for some considerable time, recently resigned and has been succeeded by Mr. L. Robbins.

From records available it appears that the original tennis court at Applecross, which was made of asphalt, was opened by the late Sir Walter Kingsmill in 1906. This court was laid down by voluntary labor by the members at the small cost of £25. Included in the foundation members of that time were the late Hon. James Gardiner, Messrs. Bussacott, Avery, Roley Kelsey, Barclay, Swan and V. Harris.

The original club appeared to languish for a year or so, from approximately 1913 until 1915, when Mrs. Leonard (a sister-in-law of the late Hugh Davey), suggested to A. E. Walker that the activities of this club be renewed. The suggestion was greatly welcomed by residents of Applecross, and the old original asphalt court was covered with shell (from the Swan River), and an additional shell court was also completed in the late months of 1917.

These improvements were also done by voluntary labor, at an approximate cost of £50.

From 1915 until the present date the Applecross Tennis Club has been most fortunate in the help it has received from members and friends, especially from the following: Messrs. Edwards (then school teacher, Applecross State School), John Ewers (who followed Mr. Edwards' term at the Applecross State School), Stanley Davis, Tom Gardiner, Ben. Southern, S. V. Eaton, D. Brown, W. E. Shelton, Rice Gemmel, C. A. R. Hill, and many other prominent players who have helped to build up the club.

The total membership at present consists of 46 members, but it is reasonable to assume that with five tennis courts now available the club's membership will rapidly increase.