

Diggers club goes under cover

CENTRAL Queensland lawn bowlers welcomed a new shade development at the Diggers Memorial Bowls Club on Saturday.

About 20 mixed teams became the first bowlers to play on Diggers' new outdoor grass green under the Greengauge retractable shade covers.

Shade cover engineer Barry Taylor said he was pleased with the response he received from visiting teams inquiring about shades for their own greens.

The new-look facility was officially opened on Sunday morning by Pauline Bailey, wife of Diggers Memorial's late president Col Bailey who died last December.

Pauline was also presented with a plaque by President Des Davis in memory of her husband.

Minister for Public Works and Housing and Member for Rock-

hampton Robert Swarten and Rockhampton Mayor Margaret Strelow were among the invited guests.

The shades were installed with the support of a \$50,000 State Government grant. The sun shades cost more than \$153,000 and use electric motors to retract and extend shade cloth over two existing lawn greens.

Mr Swarten said the project was funded last year under the minor facilities program administered by Sport and Recreation Queensland.

"The program enables community groups to build, extend, upgrade or develop facilities used for sport and outdoor recreation activities," Mr Swarten said.

"Funding such as that provided to the Diggers Memorial Bowls Club helps increase opportunities for people to take part in sport and recreation close to home."



□ The new electronic shade is spread out for the first time at the official opening at Diggers Bowls Club. Picture by PHIL WILEY pw10/7/402.