

## **FAREWELL DEAR OLD CLUBHOUSE**

Farewell to the Clubhouse and its venerable airs,  
And to the lovely balcony and its mountainous stairs.  
Farewell to the rooms that have served us so well,  
Our home away from home with many tales to tell.

The special meetings and functions, all the dancers and more,  
In this room where many a character has taken the floor.  
We have seen it all happen, some grand a few small,  
But be it engagements or weddings, they've all had a ball.

The club meetings that went on 'till we were mostly all bored,  
Or sometimes in silence we would be totally awed.  
By the debates and the arguments, the language and the fire,  
Over little round disks and the new coloured attire.

Those long nights in winter, when the carpets were out,  
With the bowls in full flight just to settle a shout.  
Then the troubles to be had when confronting the wife,  
Playing on until late could have been a dangerous life.

But we mostly persisted until common sense prevailed,  
For the rules of the road decreed this fun be curtailed.  
And this bar will no more hear the stories and laughter,  
No bragging or jokes, or shots replayed on a coaster.

A new clubhouse now beckons; it's a reality at last,

The hopes and missed promises are a thing of the past.  
Our Council has come good and the State has chipped in,  
The plans are now finished, let the construction begin.

But we can't all be moved with the tables and chairs,  
There are some that must stay on the top of those stairs.  
The fine people we knew and whose destiny would decide,  
They no longer share the joys that this clubhouse does provide.

The spirit of the dear departed shall remain for eternity,  
At the bar and the tables, looking down from the balcony.  
In these rooms that were part of their earthly domain,  
The memories will move with us but they must remain.

But they will never be lonely for we are not far away,  
They can watch from the balcony, we are not far away.  
Just look up from the greens, you will see them all there,  
Appreciative of shots and the friendship we share.

So farewell our old friend, we are forever in your debt,  
With the start that you allowed us, our Club is now set.  
We can see a bright future; your work has been done,  
Farewell dear old clubhouse, we all salute you as one.

*Frank Camera*

*6<sup>th</sup> March 2004*