

**St Vincent Contract
Bridge Club Inc**



Foundation Members

Alice Bankes	Ricki Kerr
Reg Bankes	Melva Kerrison
Keith Berry	Doug Kerrison
Kathleen Bessel	Edna Knowles
Bill Blunden	Keith Knowles
Vici Bowman	Ann Linden
Malcolm Brumaly	Conte Martin
Garry Burrige	Dugald Morrison
Joe Calder	Addie Oswald
Lily Cockerham	Joan Parsons
Doug Cockerham	Rick Parsons
Edie Cannon	Joyce Parnham
Alf Easley	Jean Pope
Warren Easley	Arthur Porter
Marie Engel	Barbara Rogers
Dr Albert Engel	Theo Rogers
Lorna Hayward	Yvonne Schilling
Eric Hayward	Thelma Smart
Gary Hollis	Frank Smith
Lorna Hunt	Margaret White

Honorary Life Members

William Blunden	Eric Hayward
Lily Cockerham	Conte Martin
Doug Cockerham	Henk Van Den Heuval
Alf Easley	Ria Willems
Dulcie Easley	Joy Zanker
Lorna Hayward	



St. Vincent Contract Bridge Club 1978 – 2008



Three couples from Glenelg Bridge Club decided to try to start a southern club. They were Rick and Joan Parsons, Reg and Alice Bankes, Eric and Lorna Haywood. They commenced playing at St Vincent Recreation Centre at Christie Downs on a Wednesday evening. Advertising each week in the Southern Times.

The inaugural meeting was held on the 19th of **June** 1978. Among the founder members were present members, Bill Blunden, Addie Oswald and Lorna Hayward. Rick E Parsons became the first club president. Even then they were looking towards the future with Bill raising the question of affiliation with the South Australian Bridge Association. He also proposed classes for people wishing to learn bridge and persuaded the Dept for Further Education to insert a full page advertisement in the local paper.

Those were the days, table fees 50c and rental for the venue \$3 per week.

In 1979 the Monday afternoon sessions were started and the club competed in the Australia Wide Pairs Competition. Mr Keith Berry and Mr Bill Mather were announced as the State winners and 27th overall Australia. They received a cheque each for \$10 and a certificate of 38 master points.

In 1981 the club moved to Rotary Hall in Christies Beach. The rent went up to \$15 per week.

The Christmas party in 1982 must have been a happy affair, the following are the drinks that were provided for a membership less than half of what it is now.

Three Flagon of Riesling

One Flagon of Moselle

Two flagon of Medium Sherry

One Flagon of Sweet Sherry

Five dozen beers. (The full size long necks)

and also an unspecified number of bottles of bubbly.

These were the days before random breath testing of course!! It might be worth noting that Bill Blunden was president that year.

In 1983 there were discussions of running a Congress but the Pleasant Sundays that commenced in 1979 continued, running 2 each year.

Calculation of scores was computerised and a program for the production of master points was available for use to start in 1984.

In 1985 silent bidding pads and convention cards were made available to members for the first time, although they were not compulsory. No one was allowed to refuse to use the silent bidding pad if requested but could still speak their bids.

Table fees were increased to \$1. It was also decided that the table fees would be collected at the table rather than at the door.

It was in this year that refreshment expenditure increased due to a decision that better quality biscuits be provided. Those of you who today enjoy your tea time Tim Tams can thank the committee of 1985.

1987 brought heated discussion on silent bidding pads. Member Alf Easley said this had to come whereas Malcolm Brumaley said that he considered that silent bidding held up the play. One member asked what to do with the pad after it had been used for the first time and was told to turn the page over. Eric Hayward was president.

On the 23rd of March 1988 the then president, Alf Easley, said that he had investigated a hall at Moana. He said that it would take twenty five tables and would allow the unlimited expansion of the club. This was the beginning of what was to be the most divisive period in the club's history. At the same meeting a proposal was put forward to change the name of the club but the proposal was not carried.

By the 20th of April it was agreed to move from Christies Beach to Moana. This split the club in two with approximately two thirds of the club moving to Moana and the other third staying at Christies and forming a separate club. Malcolm Brumaley, one of the founder members and treasurer for a number of years resigned from St.Vincent's over the matter to become president of the new club. This club lasted less than two years but with only some of its members rejoining St.Vincent's.

The beginner's class started ten years before, had waxed and waned but in 1988 had seven people wishing to learn and it was considered a valuable method of recruiting new members.

In July of that year the club had eleven electric bar fires, of which one was broken, however on Wednesday the 21st of September Eric Hayward reported that he had replaced the element.

In December 1988, to mark the tenth anniversary of the club seven of the foundation members were granted Honorary Life Membership, Eric and Lorna Hayward, Lily and Doug Cockerham, Bill Blunden, Alf Easley and Conte Martin. Conte was an unforgettable character who would probably have been in her nineties at that time. Regretfully she passed away the following year.

At the same meeting silent bidding was finally approved by a vote of all members with thirty seven in favour and two against.

In 1988 the rental of the hall was \$2128, quite a difference from the \$3 a week paid in 1978.

On the 29th of May 1990 the secretary, Dulcie Easley, said that she had bought a computer and would be willing to use this for scoring. The offer was accepted.

1990. For the previous ten years St. Vincent's and Glenelg had held a team's match for the Rick Parson's Cup. However in September it was noted that interest in this had declined. It was agreed that the cup 'be held in abeyance until such time, if ever, there is a renewed interest.'

In 1990 table fees were increased to \$2. Eighteen years later and they are still only three dollars!!!

Smoking was starting to become an issue in 1991 and the committee requested the members to restrict their smoking to the foyer although members were asked for their opinion.

With attendance on Wednesday evenings usually around 11 – 13 tables it was noted by Alf Easley that the Wednesday sessions were the heart of the club. A Friday night social session was started. The rent for the hall had now risen to over \$4000 per annum.

The 1991 State wide Knockout Teams was won by our team of John Knapton, Eddie Dambergs, Keith and Edna Knowles and Alf Easley going on to represent the State in Sydney co-sponsor Noarlunga Carpets.

In 1994 Ann Clarke was in the winning team for the Spring National Women's Teams Event. Ann has gone on to win 6 times in Women's National Teams events. She has represented Australia in the Australian Women's Olympiad Team in 1996 and in 2001 was in the team that won the international event Australian Pacific-Asia Women's Team. Ann is also a Grand Master.

After four years, due to low attendance the Friday night social sessions were discontinued in 1995. Dulcie, Alf, and Rudi made the State Senior's team event in Melbourne and came 3rd

On the 21st of October 1997 Helen Mander told the committee that the move from Christies Beach had not been as effective as hoped since membership was declining. She suggested that St. Vincent's approach the Reynella Club with a view to merging and moving to a central location. Although this was seriously considered nothing came of it.

In October 1999 a team from St. Vincent's won the state regional final in the GNOT. They went to Sydney for the national event. Alf Easley, Rudi Lupini, George Trzesinski, David Johns and Dulcie Easley were in the team. Pat Fry joined at short notice and nearly put her off playing bridge. Alf and Rudi came 2nd in the Seniors Pairs in Brisbane.

In 2000 long standing treasurer and biscuit buyer Frank Guy passed away.

Attempts to attract new members via bridge lessons were discontinued due to lack of interest in 2001. The Pleasant Sunday returned.

The AGMs for 2002 and 2003 were both attended by David Smythe and Phil Gue from SABF to award in 2002 Alf Easley and 2003 Rudi Lupini their Grand Masters both received a silver plate trophy.

2004 The Inaugural St. Vincent Congress was held. The club used pre-dealt boards for the first time in the GNOT heats. A grant was received from the local council for proposed beginner lessons not enough applied so intermediate lessons were run by Peter Williams and the web site was setup by Bev Bannister. Syd Monkhouse was president.

By 2005 Monday afternoon had well and truly taken over as the premier session with Wednesday night struggling to continue. It was suggested that a change to Wednesday afternoon could replace it.

And so to 2008. Thirty years on and how things have changed!!! No smoking, (not even in the foyer), silent bidding, pre-dealt boards, computer scoring and a web site to check your scores and even look again at the hands you played. And certainly in 1978 no-one would have been told to remember to switch their mobile telephone off.

Fortunately however some things have not changed. St. Vincent's Bridge Club is still a competitive affiliated club yet a happy and social one, with its members enthusiastically playing that frustrating game that we all love.

President

E Parsons	78-80
W Blunden	81
E Hayward	82
W Blunden	83
V Yates	84
A Easley	85-86
E Hayward	87
A Easley	88
H Van Den Heuval	89-90
J Gray	91
R Willems	92
E Hayward	93
H Van Den Heuval	94
P Fry	95-96
G Trzesinski	97-01
P Fry	02-03
S Monkhouse	04
S News	05
E Aufderheide	05-08

Vice President

R Bankes	78-79
W Blunden	80
M Brumaley	81
A Easley	81
A Linden	82
V Yates	83
A Easley	84
L Bushby	85
D McKenzie	86
B Baddeley	87
R Willems	88
R Smith	89
E Hayward	90-92
H Van Den Heuval	93
P Fry	94

R Willems	95
D Johns	96
P Fry	97
R Lupini	98-99
Joy Zanker	00-01
J North	02
W Blunden	03
J North	04
E Aufderheide	05
W Holder	06
W Blunden	07
W Holder	08

Secretary

J Prarham	78
M Kerrison	79
V Yates	80-81
L Bushby	82-83
A Clarke	84-85
M Engel	86
J Zanker	87
D Easley	88-01
D Johns	02
B Stutchbury	03-08

Treasurer

M Brumaley	78-80
P Vanderlinden	81-82
D Mckenzie	83-85
M Brumaley	86
R MacMillan	87-92
G Connolly	93-95
F Guy	96-00
M Bradley	01-02
J North	03-04
A Holder	05-06
J Porter	07-08

Committee Members

W Blunden 78,79, 02
L Hayward 78,79
M Kerrison 78
K Knowles 79, 83, 84
A Monghan 80
P Wilson 80, 81, 82
A Linden 80
M Engel 81
F Smith 81
V Yates 82
A Porter 82
E Knowles 82
A Easley 83, 87
A Clarke 83, 86
L Bushby 84
M Brumaley 84, 85, 88
J Hunt 86
B Baddeley 86
H Van Den Heuval 86, 87, 91, 92
R Willems 86, 91, 97
J Zanker 88, 96, 97, 98, 99
E Hayward 88
R Armstrong 89
S Armstrong 89
K Van Den Heuval 89, 90, 93, 94, 96
B Scott 90, 91
B Van Daal
M Gribble 92, 95, 98, 99
S McLaren 92
S Monkhouse 93
P Fry 93, 01
R Lupini 94, 95
M McDonald 94, 00
B Maxwell 95, 96, 97, 98, 01, 02, 03
M Bradley 00
D Johns 00
J North 01, 06
K Scicluna 02, 03, 04
R Winfield 03
B Bannister 04, 05
S Newns 04
W Holder 05, 07
J Crawford 05, 06
K Atkinson 06
S Atkinson 06
P Porter 07, 08
P Postlewaite 07, 08
B Mcdonald 08
C Danton 08