

Club History

Dundee Bridge Club was formed in 1945 by a group of businessmen and friends who used to meet in a cafe to play bridge. After a great deal of discussion it was decided to purchase its own premises.

A steering committee was formed and the capital was raised by debenture shares. The leading lights at that time were:

John Imrie, Angus Cameron, Jimmy Reoch and Harry Robb.

Suitable premises were found in Airlie Place near Queens College and so Dundee Bridge Club Ltd was duly formed.

About 1955 Queens College which later became Dundee University was starting to expand. Dundee Bridge Club was approached to see if the College could acquire its premises. After an initial offer was refused, the College asked the Bridge Club to exchange if suitable premises could be found.

The club was then offered a house on Clarendon Terrace which was found to be suitable. The property was acquired for £850 and the College then bought the club's Airlie Place premises for £2500 and £500 compensation!

After adapting the building to meet the needs of the Bridge Club and redecoration, the purchase of furniture and the installation of central heating, there was a surplus of £300 which was used to repay some of the remaining debenture shares.

The opening ceremony was on 16th June 1956 and the SBU President, Jack Watson, and his wife were the invited guests.

The building was originally a Manse and retains some of the original features. The staircase and the stained glass window are particularly impressive.

Clarendon Terrace was part of Rockfield St and the club premises are at this street's junction with Perth Rd. As a result, the club has had three addresses at different times in the past, sometimes more than one at the same time, viz:

1 Rockfield Street

1 Clarendon Terrace;

297 Perth Road.

When postcodes came into effect, Clarendon Terrace disappeared and the club address is now 297 Perth Rd.

Links are still kept with the old addresses by means of the Clarendon Trophy, which is an invitation competition for clubs throughout Scotland, and the Airlie and Rockfield trophies which are team events for club members.