

# THE GROVE TENNIS CLUB HISTORY 1956-2017

## PREFACE

Just as the Grove Tennis Club has been built from the ground up through hard work from its volunteers, this book would not have been possible without the memories and input of its dedicated members.

A large amount of gratitude must be extended to Reg and Helen Driver. As pictured on the right, they have collated an extensive history of documents, including minutes of both the E-S&DTA and The Grove Tennis Club dating back to 1956. These are stored at the local City of Playford Library and formed the foundation of this book.

Many of the photos in the book were supplied by Reg & Helen Driver, many of which were taken by the late Valerie Driver, whom we also thank.

We also thank Gloria Dennis for providing various historical information about The Grove Tennis Club and its long time servants.

Many thanks to Thelma Moldenhauer for providing her extensive knowledge of the Elizabeth Tennis Club.

Last, but certainly not least, many thanks to the City of Playford for providing information about building our amazing home, the Playford City Tennis Centre.



Reg Driver collating historical records of the club for storage at the City of Playford Library







# THE GROVE TENNIS CLUB

At the Special General Meeting of The Grove Tennis Club Inc. held on 4 September 2009 the following resolution was passed unanimously.

"That The Grove Tennis Club, the Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association and the Elizabeth Tennis Club (if the Elizabeth Club wish to be part of this) amalgamate into a single entity called 'The Grove Tennis Club'."



#### Elizabeth Methodist Church on Fairfield Road, Elizabeth

### TENNIS IN ELIZABETH: THE EARLY YEARS

On 16 November 1955, at a site on the Adelaide Plains, 17 miles north of Adelaide, a new town was inaugurated by Sir Thomas Playford, GCMG, Premier of South Australia. The township (now suburb) was named Elizabeth after Queen Elizabeth II.

The Methodist Church Mission included tennis courts in its plans when it built the first church building in Elizabeth on Fairfield Road. Construction of the church began in November, 1955, and officially opened in May, 1956. The first tennis club in the area was known as the Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club (now known as the Grove Tennis Club). Three pioneers of tennis for junior players, Dudley Magor (then Salisbury Methodist), Alan Goodall (then Salisbury Congregational) and Cyril Carson (then Elizabeth Methodist) started junior competition between their clubs soon thereafter. The plan was to involve the younger members of the church in activities during the week as well as church on Sundays. As development in the area grew, more tennis courts were built, usually alongside the local church.

The first AGM of the Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club was held at the Elizabeth South Methodist Church on 22 November 1956 at 8pm. The meeting was opened with a prayer. The founding rules of the

tennis club mandated church attendance and female participation on the committee:

"Members of the club shall be members or adherents of the church or Sunday school and shall be required to attend at least 2 services per month."

"At least three members of the committee shall be ladies and one member of the committee shall be a Junior member of the club."

The inaugural cost of a membership was for Adults  $\pounds 1$  and children 10/-. It was later decided that a maximum cost per family would be  $\pounds 2$ . In the first meeting the Secretary reported that 17 members had signed up with the club.

In 1957 the club made an application to the Adelaide Methodist Tennis Association to have senior teams accepted in their competitions. Junior teams played in a local tri-church inter-club competition together with Salisbury Methodist and Salisbury Congregational Church Clubs. Also In 1957 the SA Housing Trust made available land for tennis courts to be built for public use at 44 Philip Highway, Elizabeth. A committee was formed and 6 courts were put down. In 1958 these courts were officially opened and would be the home of The Elizabeth Tennis Club. At the opening an exhibition match was played between Ken McGregor and another ex Davis Cup player, followed by social tennis and afternoon tea.

Other tennis clubs sprouted in the area and before long the local community was looking for healthy tennis competition closer to home.

> Taken at the Elizabeth Tennis Club courts on 3rd October 1959, on the occasion of the first "Advertiser" coaching school held under the auspices of the E-S&DTA



## THE FORMATION OF THE ELIZABETH-SALISBURY & DISTRICTS TENNIS ASSOCIATION (E-S&DTA)

A public meeting was held on 10 July 1959 in the Central Districts Football Hall, Elizabeth South for the purpose of forming a tennis association in the Elizabeth - Salisbury areas.

The following tennis clubs were represented:

Elizabeth	Salisbury North
Elizabeth Presbyterian Church	Salisbury Congregational Church
Elizabeth Methodist Church	Salisbury Methodist Church
Elizabeth Church of Christ	

Other tennis clubs in the area were invited but did not attend the inaugural meeting:

Smithfield	Catholic Church Social Club
Elizabeth East Progress Association Elizabeth Baptist Church	
Elizabeth Grove Progress	St John's Church of England
Association	Salisbury

At the meeting the following guest speakers were present

- Mr W.N. McPherson Vice President S.A.L.T.A
- Mr W Freeman Secretary S.A.H.C.L.
- Mr R McDonald Secretary S.A.L.T.A
- Mr Moarner Secretary Northern Districts Tennis Association

The meeting minutes summarised the events:

"Mr W Turner, Chairman of the Elizabeth Tennis Club who convened the meeting welcomed all those present and declared the meeting open at 8:30PM.

In his remarks he outlined the growth of tennis within the Elizabeth -Salisbury areas. He emphasised the need for action to be taken to bring about some sort of competition for the tennis enthusiasts of the area. He went on to say that there were 15 tennis clubs in the Elizabeth - Salisbury area and even though only half that number were sufficiently interested to attend a public meeting called for the purpose of bringing about some sort of competition it showed that quite a few people realised the value of competitive play. Mr Turner then invited in turn the guest speakers who each advised of the necessity of competitive tennis as the "life-blood" of the game and further advised that the number of clubs represented were sufficient to form a Tennis Association."

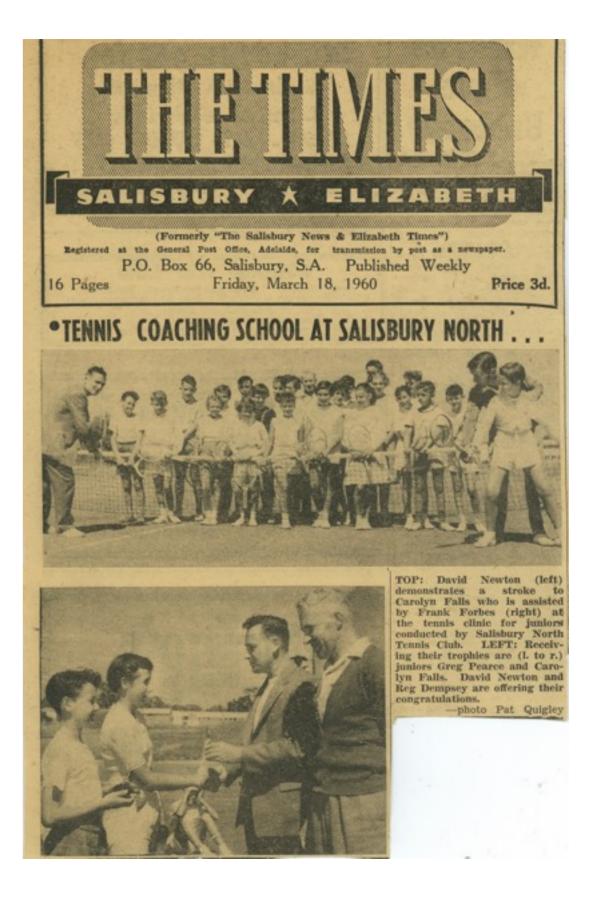
A motion was made to form what was to become the Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association (E-S&DTA):

"It was then moved by Mr Nicholls (Salisbury Nth) and seconded Mrs Penny (Elizabeth) that a Tennis Association be formed in the Elizabeth - Salisbury Areas. Carried."

On the motion of Mr Driver (Elizabeth Methodist) and seconded Mr Croxton (Elizabeth) it was resolved that one delegate from each interested club be appointed to form a sub-committee to draw up a draft constitution.

The Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association was born at that meeting, and would continue for a further 50 years.

With the introduction of a local Association, tennis thrived in the local area, and great emphasis was put into developing tennis skills. Reg Driver arranged for "the showing of films and a lecture on the art of playing tennis" which were very well attended. The Association would also go on to promote Inter-Association and Club tournaments, encouraging a higher level of play for those better players.



# AMALGAMATION OF THE E-S&DTA, ELIZABETH TENNIS CLUB AND THE GROVE TENNIS CLUB

During 2008 two long-term Officers of the E-S&DTA, Reg and Helen Driver, decided it was time to retire from the management of the Association. They subsequently found that nobody was prepared to fill the vacancies.

Reg was Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Bicentennial Tennis Centre Committee, and also oversaw its maintenance. Helen was the Secretary of the E-S&DTA for 34 years and a major contributor to the running of the tennis competitions and annual tournament at the BTC.

As the E-S&DTA had shrunk to just three clubs, Elizabeth, Salisbury and The Grove and replacements for Reg and Helen could not be found, it was obvious that changes would have to be made.

After much consideration by the clubs the following plan suggested by Reg was accepted:

- 1. That the E-S&DTA be dissolved and the assets divided between the three clubs.
- 2. That The Grove Tennis Club take over the lease of the BTC.

- 3. That a management be employed for the BTC and competitions.
- 4. That the management be responsible to The Grove Tennis Club.

This plan was accepted and the E-S&DTA was formally dissolved in 2009. The E-S&DTA assets were divided between each of the three remaining clubs. Transfer of the BTC lease was made to The Grove Tennis Club. Peter Vandeleur, representing the SA Tennis Academy, was appointed as the new management in 2009.

Soon after the E-S&DTA was dissolved the members of the Elizabeth Club decided they could no longer continue at their Philip Highway courts and joined The Grove Club at the BTC. They donated their significant assets and the E-S&DTA, Elizabeth Tennis Club and The Grove Tennis Club amalgamated on 4 September 2009.

The Salisbury Tennis Club decided not to continue playing at the BTC and started separate competitions in Salisbury.





# 2 THE CLUBS

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The Grove Tennis Club and the Elizabeth Tennis Club prior to the merger in 2009 had their own proud histories.

The two clubs were "rivals" and two of the largest clubs that were part of the E-S&DTA.

## THE GROVE TENNIS CLUB

Soon after the Methodist Church and tennis courts were built in Elizabeth South, members of the church started playing social tennis on the courts.

Some members of the group decided they needed more competition and entered teams in the northern section of the Methodist Tennis Association.

However, when the suggestion of a local tennis competition was mooted, the church social group was strongly in favour and in 1956 became a founder member of the Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association under the name of the Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club.

The Grove Tennis Club has had several name changes over the years:



Photo taken during maintenance on Grove Tennis Club courts on Fairfield Rd from left to right Helen Ball, Reg Driver and Graham Crocker







#### Pictured (Left to Right)

Top Left: 1978/79 Div 1 Ladies EGUC - Pam Bartsch, Gloria Dennis, Helen Ball (Driver), Ron White (Mayor of Salisbury) Absent: Janet Rowe

Top Right: 1974 - Back: Gloria Dennis, Myra Milton, Valerie Driver, Bronwyn Ward

Front: Lyn Campbell, Helen Ball, Ann Kennewell, Jill Kennewell

Bottom Right: 1978/79 Div1 Men EGUC - Roger Dennis, David Bartsch, Roger Guerin, Michael Guerin



## THE ELIZABETH TENNIS CLUB INC

The Elizabeth Tennis Club Inc was the first public tennis club in Elizabeth with its home courts at 44 Philip Highway, Elizabeth. The land for these courts was made available by the SA Housing Trust in 1957. A committee to run the club was formed and 6 courts were

put down. The courts were officially opened in October, 1958 with an exhibition match between Ken McGregor and another ex Davis Cup player followed by social tennis and afternoon tea.

Elizabeth Tennis Club fielded men's, ladies' & junior teams in Saturday competition for many years with great success. The club was lucky enough to have good coaches and strong club management which lead to planning and development of better facilities. The club courts were often used by the E-S&DTA until it built its own facility at the Bicentennial Tennis Centre for Association events.

From 1984 -1991 the club held a popular Open Tournament on the January Long Weekend.

With membership numbers dwindling it was decided that the club should amalgamate. In December, 2009 the Elizabeth Tennis Club transferred \$49,163.00 to The Grove Tennis Club. For many this was a sad end for the club after 52 years of faithful service to the Elizabeth tennis community. Facility upgrades included:

1980 Courts were prepared for future colouring

**1983** 6 Courts were colour coated, being the first in the area with



such coating. The club maintained the colour coating every 3 to 4 years as it was deemed important to maintain membership levels.

**1986** The SA Housing Trust transferred the lease to the Elizabeth Council for "land only". The Club remained responsible for all work to courts, buildings, fences and weed control.

**1987** Floodlighting was installed to 3 courts with great success and improved opportunities for tennis to be played

**1987 & 1996** New fencing installed to the perimeter of the property

1992 New Club House built (Atco Building)

1999 New globes installed for improved floodlighting of courts

2000 Toilet upgrades

2004 Major repairs to Courts 1,2 & 3 with colour coating.



1994 Juniors taking instruction at the BTC

## Juniors

Tennis originally started in Elizabeth as a means for the local church community to involve young people in healthy competitive sport. Even as early as 1958, "Mr R.Driver arranged for the showing of films and a lecture on the art of playing tennis". The club over its many years has always maintained that Juniors are the lifeblood of tennis.

With a strong focus on development, the club has attracted quality coaches and occasionally subsidised coaching for its younger members.

This emphasis led to the provision of dedicated "Hot Shots" courts at the Playford City Tennis Centre.



Social Night Tennis at the Playford City Tennis Centre

## Night Tennis

Night Tennis at The Grove as we know it today, actually started in 1981. The Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Association floated the idea of mid-week competitions, including night time tennis and clubs from all over the Association nominated teams to play.

Mid week competition started on Wednesday nights only, and gradually grew to include more nights due to its popularity. Night tennis was quite an innovative idea when it first started. One of the driving factors for its introduction was that a particularly hot spell of weather had made Saturday tennis quite unbearable. The hope was that the cooler evenings would provide more suitable conditions for playing tennis.

The early days had very poor quality lighting until 1988 when the BTC was built.

Night Tennis was extremely competitive until recently when competitions have progressively become more social.



The Bicentennial Tennis Centre (BTC) was the home of the E-S&DTA for 30 years, as well as the home courts of The Grove Tennis Club from 1993 to 2017.

The BTC still holds fond memories for many people at the club. Many volunteers spent countless hours building the facilities.



With the E-S&DTA growing and becoming a very successful Association, the dream grew of a tennis centre for all players to use: a non club-based facility where all could meet on common ground, socialise after matches, re-hash the day's play, hold meetings and play Inter-Association matches.

When the Jubilee 150 Committee of Elizabeth was first formed in 1982, some other areas in Australia had already listed tennis as a suitable commemorative project for Australia's Bicentenary. So the members of the Elizabeth Committee needed little or no convincing that a tennis complex should be the major project for J150 in the Elizabeth Council area.

After rejecting several sites, Oldham Road was selected as the site for the Tennis Centre. Due to the short time frame and no funding from the State Government, the Jubilee 150 target of 1986 could not be met, and so it was that the Centre was targeted for Australia's Bicentennial year in 1988.

**Stage One** of the project consisted of six bitumen courts surrounded by a four metre high fence and lighting of the courts. The Association paid \$25,000 for the erection of first class lighting on the courts and donors supplied the first six nets, saving nearly \$1,000.

Photo of the original Tennis Courts at the BTC. In the foreground, the foundations of the clubrooms can be seen



Photo of the original bitumen courts built at the BTC The completion of Stage One was celebrated on 18 October 1987 with a tennis tournament and a special cutting of the tape to officially open the courts. This was performed by the then Mayor of Elizabeth, Peter Uppington, assisted by Pauline Frost. **Stage Two:** the construction of the clubhouse was a very different story. Terry Brougham, a very active committee member, suggested that the Association purchase a kit, a Pine Log building and erect it. This would not only provide an attractive building, but would be much cheaper. During the construction of the building there were those who probably wished Terry hadn't had that bright idea, including Terry! There were two problems with this pine log building suggestion firstly, a pine log building was a radical departure from the Besser Block building normally constructed for toilets and clubhouses; secondly, there was a gap between the money available and the cost of the kit building.

Fortunately Elizabeth Councillors were convinced of the merits of the Pine Line design and the Council agreed to provide \$74,000 and a 5 year, \$10,000 low interest loan to cover the additional cost.

The kit building was delivered just before Easter, 1988. Val and Reg Driver spent the long weekend in their caravan, parked in what is now the car park, guarding the materials. It was a strange situation for them living in a caravan in the middle of a built up area with no facilities. At least they achieved their aim. No materials were lost.

Construction was a co-operative venture. Pine Line Homes provided 2 tradesmen for two weekends, to assist with the construction of the walls and roof trusses. Members of affiliated clubs provided the bulk of the effort and additional support came from people performing

Members of the Association building the BTC. View is of the rear of the building





community service from the State Government's Correctional Services program.

Roger Dennis further involved the community by arranging for Elizabeth and Gilles Plains TAFE Colleges to accept the Tennis Centre in their projects. The TAFE students did the electrical wiring and laid the carpet and tiles.

During the construction vandals broke nearly every window in the building. \$3,300 was spent to fit shutters on all the windows.

After seven months and many long hours of work, the small group of dedicated players from all walks of life (none of whom were building tradesmen) were delighted to see the clubrooms opened on 20 November, 1988 by Martyn Evans MP.

Guests, including Life Members of the E-S&DTA, began the greening of the surrounding area by planting the first 12 trees. The Opening Ceremony concluded with the unveiling of the clubhouse name, 'The Driver Rooms', which came as a complete surprise to Val and Reg, in whose honour the name was adopted. The recognition was for many years of service



to the Association (both are Life Members), for initiating the project, and long-term involvement in it.

Much of the organisation and coordinating of the work was done by Terry Brougham, whose energy and enthusiasm was a major contributing factor towards the completion of the building. Terry's contribution to the project was later recognised when Council approved the naming of the Committee Room as the Terry Brougham Room.

**Stage Three** provided the remaining six courts and a car park adequate for the players, or for small parties hiring the clubrooms. This was organised, supervised and paid for by Council.

In about October, 1994 Council agreed to the Association's suggestion that in return for relinquishing the lease on the Grove Tennis Courts in Burgate Street, Council would colour coat the BTC courts at no cost to the Association. This made the Centre one of the best facilities of its type in the State, a fact that the controlling body for tennis at the time, Tennis South Australia (TSA), publicly acknowledged.

Bicentennial Tennis Centre courts in 1995 after first colour coating had been applied



Pictures taken in 2006 of the BTC, courts, clubrooms and net sheds





#### View from show courts of the PCTC clubhouse and courts

## PLAYFORD CITY TENNIS CENTRE

The Playford City Tennis Centre (PCTC) became the official home of the Grove Tennis Club in July, 2017. The Centre was many years in the planning, with a few false starts, before eventually being available for the club to move into.

The first documented discussion of an alternative venue to the BTC occurred in November of 2003, when Rob Wackett (ETC Secretary) reported to the E-S&DTA of failed attempts to have their courts resurfaced. David Anderson, Playford Council and Recreation Officer, informed the Elizabeth Tennis Club of a new proposed Megaplex for Elizabeth with 18 courts, and the Council therefore didn't want to resurface the existing courts.

A few meetings occurred between 2004 and 2006, where it became clear that the BTC courts were going to be relocated to facilitate the expansion of the Lyell McEwin Hospital carpark. The first iteration of the megaplex plan was to acquire land from Fremont Elizabeth City High School. However that eventually fell through. In 2007 the hospital decided on building a multi-storey carpark which meant that tennis could continue at the BTC for many more years.

Construction on the PCTC began on Friday, 6 May, 2016, and took a little over a year to complete. The PCTC was eventually built for \$8.9 million, and was completed as part of the Stage 1 works for the \$55 million Playford City Sports Precinct.

Mayor Glenn Docherty turned the sod at the site of the new centre on this day to mark commencement of construction. The Mayor was accompanied by Australian tennis champion Todd Woodbridge and delegates from Tennis Australia, Tennis SA and the local BTC.

Mayor Docherty was quoted as saying:

"The leading edge and high quality Playford City Tennis Centre is designed to deliver a balance between our local "grass roots" community sport and major tournaments that will become a regional centre of excellence for tennis in South Australia".



Left: Photo taken from the turning of the sod on the PCTC site 2016 Right: Photo of the Opening Ceremony PCTC with John Fitzgerald, Glenn Docherty, Steven Baldas (CEO Tennis SA)

On Saturday, 28 October 2017 the Playford City Tennis Centre was officially opened. The City of Playford Mayor, Glenn Docherty,



officially opened the facility along with guest speaker and Australian Tennis Legend John Fitzgerald.

The opening ceremony was attended by many of the clubs' life members, as well as a raft of people involved in the design and construction of the centre and members of the Playford Council.

In conjunction with the opening the first club tournament was held at the facility with the winners in each division being:

Division	Winner
1	Brett Gabell
2	Joshua Gill
3	Steven Arnold



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## **REG DRIVER**

Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club, Elizabeth South Methodist Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Tennis Club, The Grove Tennis Club

Position	Years
Member	Inaugural 1956
Vice President*	Inaugural 1958/59,
	1960/61-1964/65,1978/79-1981/82
Secretary	1959/60
Club Captain	1958/59-1962/63
Life Member	Exact Date Unknown
Other positions	Orach
Other positions held	Coach

\* **Note**: The Vice President was effectively President, as the official President was the Minister of the time in an ex-officio capacity.

#### **Bicentennial Tennis Centre (BTC)**

Position	Years
Committee	1989/90-2009
Chairman	1909/90-2009

#### **Other Accolades**

"The Driver Rooms" at the BTC were named in honour of Reg and Valerie Driver's contribution to the Centre and the Association.

Australia Day 2007 Citizen of the Year (City of Playford)

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years
Secretary	1959/60-1961/62
President	1962/63-1964/65, 1974/75-1981/82
Vie e Dreeiderst	1965/66, 1968/69-1970/71, 1973/74,
Vice President	1985/86-1991/92, 1993/94-2008/09
Life Member	1965
Other positions held	Chairman of Junior Activities Committee,
	Association Delegate for the South Australian
	Lawn Tennis Association, Association Delegate
	to the SAHCTL and Tennis SA merger meetings,
	Secretary & Treasurer of the BTC Committee,
	Committee member for the Elizabeth Sports
	Precinct (Playford Tennis Centre).

Reg moved into Elizabeth South in June, 1956. Reg, a former cricketer, chose to play tennis with his first wife Valerie. Reg, collaborating with like-minded individuals from other churches in the area, wanted to involve young people in healthy competitive sport.

Reg was an inaugural member of the Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club (The Grove Tennis Club) and the E-S&DTA. Reg devoted over 50 years to the Association, Club, and the BTC and held nearly every office available.

## VALERIE DRIVER

Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club, Elizabeth South Methodist Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Tennis Club, The Grove Tennis Club

Position	Years
Member	Inaugural 1956
Treasurer	Inaugural 1958/59-1959/60,
Life Member	Exact Date Unknown

#### **Bicentennial Tennis Centre**

Position	Years
Committee	1989/90-2006
Member	1909/90-2000

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years
Treasurer	Inaugural 1959/60
Vice President	1991/92, 1993/94-2006/07
Life Member	1963

#### **Other Accolades**

"The Driver Rooms" at the BTC were named in honour of Reg and Valerie Driver's contribution to the Centre and the Association.

## **TERRY BROUGHAM**

#### **Elizabeth Tennis Club**

Position	Years
President	1982-1983

#### Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association

Position	Years
Life Member	1988
	Chairman of the Junior Activities Committee,
Other positions	Member of the Doubles & Pairs Night
held	Competitions Committee, Member of the Inter-
	Association/Tournament Committee,

#### **Bicentennial Tennis Centre**

Position	Years
Commitee	1000/00
Member	1989/90

#### **Other Accolades**

R.A.C.I.T.S (Rose and Crown International Tennis Stars) Tennis Club Founder

Committee Room at the BTC named the "Terry Brougham Room" as a permanent reminder of the prodigious effort Terry put into the building's construction

## HELEN DRIVER (BALL)

#### Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Tennis Club, The Grove Tennis Club

Position	Years		
Member	From 1974		
Secretary/ Treasurer	1974/75		

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years			
Secretary	1975/76-2008/2009			
Life Member	1982/83			
	Association Tennis SA Representative, SAHCTL			
	Representative, Member of the Bicentennial			
Other positions Tennis Centre, Doubles & Pairs Night				
held	Competitions, Saturday A'noon Competition and			
Tournament Committees, Inter-Association				
Representative and Public Officer				

#### **Other Accolades**

E-S&DTA Ladies Singles Champion 1982, 1992

Tennis SA Long Service Award, 7th April 1995

Australian Sports Medal and Certificate to commemorate in the Year 2000 Australian Sporting Achievement (Nominated by Tennis SA)

Extract from Gloria Dennis' Nomination for Helen Driver, Tennis SA Volunteer of the Year 2010.

"Helen Driver has been the Secretary of the Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association (E-S&DTA) since the late 1970's, and has diligently carried out all the secretarial duties involved in this."

"Helen has been basically responsible all this time for the organisation involved in preparing and printing score sheets and programmes for the nearly 100 teams which play night tennis each week at the BTC. As well as this she has organised presentations (including trophy selection) 4 times a year, and rosters for servicing the licensed canteen and opening and closing the Centre, as well as keeping up her organisation of the Saturday competitions."

"She was part of the Committee originally formed to set up night tennis in the area."

"When the Bicentennial Tennis Centre was built in 1988 by volunteer labour as the E-S&DTA head-quarters, Helen as Association Secretary became responsible (with others) for the running of the Centre."

"During her many years as Secretary, Helen's dedication to meticulous minute keeping, letter writing and keeping of records has been second to none. A life member of the E-S&DTA, Helen has served under many Association Presidents and has been a constant, consistent force in the management of the Association."

## **GLORIA DENNIS**

Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Tennis Club, The Grove Tennis Club

Position	Years			
Member	1970			
President	1982/83-2015, 2017/18			
Secretary	2017 (3 months)			
Life Member	1991			
Other positions held	Public Officer, Chairperson of the committee finding a Manager for the Bicentennial Tennis Centre			

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years			
President	2008/2009			
Vice President 1988/89-1990/91, 1992/93-2007/08				
Life Member	1997			
Other positions held	Member of the Doubles & Pairs Night Competitions, Saturday A'noon Competition & Tournament Committees, Inter-Association Representative, Association Tennis SA Representative, Presentation Night announcer			

#### **Other Accolades**

Tennis SA Volunteer Achievement Award 2011

Member of Tennis SA Winter Pennant Committee 1999-2017

Extract from Valerie Driver's Nomination for Gloria Dennis' Life Membership 1997:

"One of the first things the Dennis family did when they moved into the Elizabeth area (around 1970) was to "look up" a Tennis Club preferably one that was attached to a church. They found the Elizabeth Grove Methodist Tennis Club, and began a membership"

"Gloria was always a "Club person", giving her best on and off the court, and "filling in" wherever she was needed. (She has a strong sense of responsibility, which has sometimes led to her being "over-committed" :.)

"Gloria has represented the Association (with moderate success) in Inter-Association matches probably for more years that she would care to calculate! I have been her partner sometimes, "way back", and I know the determination she shows when playing, no matter who she represents at the time."

"Gloria has served (no pun intended) faithfully on the Inter-Association and Tournament Committee since 1987, and on the Night Competitions Committee which subsequently became the Doubles and Pairs Competitions Committee. It is for her effective work in these -sub-committees and her contribution to the continuing success of these four areas of competition that I am asking for her recognition tonight.

"It was Gloria who picked up my role of "Announcer" (later Emcee and co-organiser with Helen) at Tennis Presentation Nights - another of her talents much appreciated by the Association."

## THELMA MOLDENHAUER

#### **Elizabeth Tennis Club**

Position	Years			
Member	1972			
Treasurer	1980-2009			
Life Member	1984			
Other positions held	s Committee member 1972-2009			

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years			
Life Member	2002			
Other positions held	Member of the Doubles & Pairs Night Competitions Committee, Recorder Men's Saturday Afternoon Competition			

#### Helen Driver's Nomination for Thelma's Life Membership 2002:

"Many of us here have known Thelma over a great number of years and so would be aware of the enormous loyalty and dedication she has given both to her own club, Elizabeth and to our Association. It is very easy to be totally involved in one's own club (as many of you know, that entails much time and work) and not be part of the 'bigger picture' Thelma has always been part of that 'bigger picture'.

Let me just outline her involvement over the years. Thelma has been a member of the Elizabeth Tennis Club for 30 years, becoming a Committee Member in her first year there - 1972. 30 years later she is still a Committee Member. Add to that 22 years as Treasurer (and she still holds that office) and 24 years as a team selector for all the various Association competitions, and you get an idea of her dedication.

As part of the 'bigger picture', Thelma has been an incredibly faithful representative of the Elizabeth Club at the Association Executive Committee Meetings and Annual General Meetings. I think I can count on one hand the number of meetings she has missed over a period of 22 years. She has also been a member of the Association's Doubles & Pairs Competitions Committee for 20 years, almost since its inception, and was the Association's Recorder for the Men's Summer Saturday Afternoon Competition for 3 consecutive seasons from 1985/86 to 1988/89 when the competition was very much larger than it currently is.

Thelma's love of tennis is obvious. She has played in many Association Tournaments over the years, winning 1 Singles, 7 Ladies Doubles & 10 Mixed Doubles Championships. Thelma has played tennis since primary school days in the country - back then it was rough bitumen courts, nets full of holes, flies and no clubhouse! All these years later, she still likes to have a good game of tennis and she is still no mean player!

In all the work and effort Thelma has put into her club and our Association, she has been supported 100% by her family and friends. Just seeing them here tonight is testament to that."

## **RICK TAYLOR**

#### Parafield Gardens Tennis Club

Position	Years		
Member	1987		
President	?		

#### Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club, Elizabeth Grove Tennis Club, The Grove Tennis Club

Position	Years			
Member	1994			
Vice President	2012/13-2017/18			
Treasurer	2017/2018			
Life Member	2006			
Other positions held	BTC "Maintenance Man"			

#### **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association**

Position	Years			
Other positions	Memorabilia Committee and Social/Fundraising			
held	Committee, Tuesday Night Team Coordinator			

# Extract from Gloria Dennis Nomination for Rick Taylor's Life Membership 2006:

In 1994, The Parafield Gardens Tennis Club folded. You might ask what has that got to do with us. Rick Taylor was a member of that club, and in fact had been one of the leading lights keeping that

club together. When he was unable to keep the club afloat any longer, and it had to close, he chose to come to the Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club as we were then known to continue playing tennis. In true Rick fashion, he guickly settled in and before long was helping with the organisation of teams. Over the past twelve years, Rick has not been just a tennis player - although I could not count the number of times he has filled in to play at short notice. He has always chipped in when work has been required not just for our club but also for the Association. He is a hard, energetic worker and has helped organise many teams and competitions constantly, giving up much of his time, and I for one have appreciated the support and time he has put in to tennis. For many years he has been totally responsible for organising our Tuesday night competition - sorting out teams, finding replacements, taking fees, dealing with complaints and difficult people, opening and closing the Tennis Centre and even finding time to serve on the canteen. At the same time he has found time to help with the overall running of the club. He was a great help when we changed our name to The Grove and became incorporated. He is always thinking of ways to make the job of our committee easier, he is organised, unselfish and is very good at dealing with people not always an easy task. Rick never shies away from a task because it is too hard – he always gives it his best shot. He is very positive to be around and is optimistic. Our club would not be in the fortunate position it is today if it were not for the time and effort that Rick has put into it. To recognise this it gives me great pleasure to award Rick life membership.

# 5 LIFE MEMBERS

No.

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PICTURED (LEFT TO RIGHT): REG DRIVER, TERRY BROUGHAM, VALERIE DRIVER



## Life Members

#### Elizabeth Tennis Club

#### The Grove Tennis Club

- 1980 Brian Nadebaum 1980 - Ron Whitaker 1980 - Judy Whitaker 1984 - Thelma Moldenhauer 1987 - Kevin Moldenhauer 1987 - Patrick Murphy 1992 - Vicki Prosser
- 2000 Jeni Fenn

? - Valerie Driver
? - Reg Driver
1991 - Gloria Dennis
? - Alan Bowra
2006 - Rick Taylor
? - Melva Lloyd

#### Elizabeth - Salisbury and Districts Tennis Association

1962/63 - William Laidlaw 1963/64 - Valerie Driver 1965/66 - Reg Driver 1976/77 - Lorna Baxter 1976/77 - Bryan Kennewell 1977/78 - Dudley Magor 1982/83 - Helen Ball 1984/85 - Paul Cavanagh 1984/85 - Shirley Monaghan 1987/88 - Kevin Reincke 1988/89 - Terry Brougham 1991/92 - Muriel Carter 1993/94 - Margaret Walsh 1997/98 - Gloria Dennis 2002/03 - Thelma Moldenhauer 2006/07 - Roger Dennis 2007/08 - Alan Bowra

# 6 OFFICE BEARERS PICTURED RIGHT: REG DRIVER AND HELEN DRIVER (BALL)

ELIZABETH - SALISBURY & DISTRICTS TENNIS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

STREET, STREET

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## **Elizabeth Tennis Club Office Bearers**

Year	President	President Secretary	
1957	H.L.Williamson Frank Bolton		Norm Russell
1958	H.L.Williamson	Frank Bolton	
1959	Frank Bolton	Brian Nadebaum	
1960	Laurie Draper	Brian Nadebaum	
1961	Laurie Draper	Brian Nadebaum	
1962	Bill Hosie	Marie Grant	
1963		Brian Nadebaum	
1964		Brian Nadebaum	
1965		Brian Nadebaum	
1966		Brian Nadebaum	
1967	Norm Hammersmith	Brian Nadebaum	Ruth Nadebaum
1968	Norm Hammersmith	Dawn Palmer	Peter Nadebaum
1969	Norm Hammersmith	Dawn Palmer	Peter Nadebaum
1970	Norm Hammersmith	Stan Jakubowicz	Heather Grant
1971	Norm Hammersmith	Mary Bywater	Heather Grant
1972	Norm Hammersmith	Josephine Boys	Heather Grant
1973	Norm Hammersmith		
1974	Norm Hammersmith	Kay Mugford	Heather Grant
1975	Norm Hammersmith		
1976	Norm Hammersmith	Judy Whitaker	Bill Henschke
1977	Mick Daly	Judy Whitaker	Bill Henschke
1978	Mick Daly	Judy Whitaker	Phillip Angus
1979	Robert Schultz	Judy Whitaker	Denton Hooper
1980	Robert Schultz	Loretta Hooper	Thelma Moldenhauer
1981	Geoff Nethercott	Anne Campbell	Thelma Moldenhauer
1982	Terry Brougham	Brenda McGrath	Thelma Moldenhauer
1983	Terry Brougham	Yvonne Plane	Thelma Moldenhauer

## **Elizabeth Tennis Club Office Bearers**

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer
1984	Patrick Murphy	Yvonne Plane	Thelma Moldenhauer
1985	Phillip Angus	Yvonne Plane	Thelma Moldenhauer
1986	Tony Rogers	Jacki Consadine	Thelma Moldenhauer
1987	Tony Rogers	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1988	Tony Rogers	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1989	Tony Rogers	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1990	Patrick Murphy	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1991	Patrick Murphy	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1992	Patrick Murphy	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1993	Patrick Murphy	Vicki Prosser	Thelma Moldenhauer
1994	Patrick Murphy	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
1995	Patrick Murphy	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
1996	Patrick Murphy	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
1997	Patrick Murphy	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
1998	Patrick Murphy	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
1999	Malcolm Hards	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
2000	Malcolm Hards	colm Hards Jeni Fenn Thelma Mo	
2001	Malcolm Hards	Jeni Fenn	Thelma Moldenhauer
2002	Kevin Loader	Robert Wackett	Thelma Moldenhauer
2003	Kevin Loader	Robert Wackett	Thelma Moldenhauer
2004	Kevin Loader	Robert Wackett	Thelma Moldenhauer
2005	Jason Arnold	Robert Wackett	Thelma Moldenhauer
2006	Jason Arnold	Robert Wackett	Thelma Moldenhauer
2007	Jason Arnold	Jason Arnold Robert Wackett	
2008	Jason Arnold	Jason Arnold Robert Wackett Thelma Moldenhauer	
2009	Jason Arnold Robert Wackett		Thelma Moldenhauer

## **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association Office Bearers**

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1959/60	W. Laidlaw	R. Driver	V. Driver	
1960/61	W. Laidlaw	R. Driver	D. Hewton	Mr Henschke/Mr Darling
1961/62	W. Laidlaw	R. Driver	D. Hewton	Mr Henschke/Mr Darling
1962/63	R. Driver	V. Hill	M. Young	Mr Henschke/Mr Darling
1963/64	R. Driver	N. Sheppee	G. Adcock	Mr Henschke/Mr Darling
1964/65	R. Driver	T. Oldman	G. Adcock	Mr Henschke/Mr Darling/ Mr Stevens
1965/66	M. Olafsen	L. Creaser	G. Adcock	Mr Darling/ Mr Stevens / Mr Driver
1966/67	S. Burden	M. Blaber	G. Adcock	Mr Darling/ Mr Olafsen/ Mr Stevens
1967/68	S. Burden	M. Blaber	C. Darling	Mr Darling/ Mr Stevens / Mr Hammersmith
1968/69	B. Furby	J. Gibson	C. Roediger	Mr Darling/ Mr Driver / Mr Hammersmith
1969/70	B. Hannaford	S. Lockwood	M. Featherstone	Mr Driver / Mr Hammersmith
1970/71	B. Hannaford	Moore	M. Featherstone	Mr Driver / Mr Hammersmith
1971/72	B. Hannaford	T. Bottrell	M. Featherstone	Mr Magor / Mr Hammersmith
1972/73	B. Hannaford	T. Bottrell	M. Featherstone	Mr Magor / Mr Hammersmith
1973/74	R. Dennis	P. McGorm	M. Featherstone	Mr Magor / Mr Hannaford, Mr Driver, Mr Hammersmith
1974/75	R. Driver	P. McGorm	M. Featherstone	Mr Magor / Mr Hammersmith
1975/76	R. Driver	H. Ball	P. Cavanagh	Mr Magor / Mr Hammersmith
1976/77	R. Driver	H. Ball	P. Cavanagh	Mr Magor / Mr Dennis
1977/78	R. Driver	H. Ball	D. Simpson	Mr Kennewell / Mr Magor / Mr Reincke
1978/79	R. Driver	H. Ball	D. Simpson	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Bailey
1979/80	R. Driver	H. Ball	D. Simpson	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber
1980/81	R. Driver	H. Ball	D. Simpson	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber
1981/82	R. Driver	H. Ball	D. Simpson	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber
1982/83	G. Nethercott	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber
1983/84	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber
1984/85	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan / Mr Graeber

## **Elizabeth-Salisbury & Districts Tennis Association Office Bearers**

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1985/86	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Driver / Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan
1986/87	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Driver / Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan
1987/88	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Driver / Mr Reincke / Mrs Monaghan
1988/89	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	S. Monaghan	Mr Driver / Mr Reincke / Mrs Dennis
1989/90	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	A. Crabb	Mr Driver / Mr Reincke / Mrs Dennis
1990/91	P. Cavanagh	H. Ball	K. Hewton	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mr Reincke
1991/92	K. Reincke	H. Ball	K. Hewton	Mr Cavanagh / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1992/93	K. Reincke	H. Ball	K. Hewton	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis
1993/94	K. Reincke	H. Ball	K. Hewton	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1994/95	K. Reincke	H. Ball	K. Hewton	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1995/96	K. Reincke	H. Ball	C. Clarke	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1996/97	K. Reincke	H. Ball	C. Clarke	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1997/98	K. Reincke	H. Ball/Driver	C. Clarke	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1998/99	K. Reincke	H. Driver	C. Clarke	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
1999/2000	K. Reincke	H. Driver	J. Derrett	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2000/01	K. Reincke	H. Driver	J.Derrett/R.Lobban	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2001/02	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2002/03	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2003/04	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2004/05	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2005/06	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2006/07	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Cavanagh / Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver / Mrs V Driver
2007/08	K. Reincke	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mrs Dennis / Mr Driver
2008/09	G. Dennis	H. Driver	R. Lobban	Mr Driver / Ms Muhleder

## **Elizabeth Methodist Tennis Club Office Bearers**

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1956/57	Rev A Wright	Mr R Mierisch	Mr R Mierisch	Mr P Riedel
1957/58	Rev A Wright	Mr C J Carson	Mr Woods	Mr P Riedel
1958/59	Rev A Wright	Mrs H Bishop	Mrs V Driver	Mr R Driver
1959/60	Rev DJ Gibson	Mr R Driver	Mrs V Driver	Mr P Riedel
1960/61	Rev DJ Gibson	Mr K McPhan	Mrs P Harrison	Mr R Driver
1961/62	Rev DJ Gibson	Mr R Parker	Mrs P Harrison	Mr R Driver
1962/63	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr N Sheppee	Mr CJ Carson	Mr R Driver

## **Elizabeth Grove Methodist Tennis Club Office Bearers**

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1963/64	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr N Sheppee	Mr I Dyster	Mr R Driver
1964/65	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr I Dyster	Mr D Morrison	Mr R Driver
1965/66	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr D Morrison	Mr P Moody	Mr I Dyster
1966/67	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr P Moody	Mr P Moody	Mr I Dyster
1967/68	Rev E Tregilgas	Mr I Charlesworth	Mr I Charlesworth	Mr I Dyster
1968/69	Rev C White	Mr D Cocks	Mr D Cocks	Mr I Dyster
1969/70	Rev C White	Mr P White	Mr P White	Mr D Cocks
1970/71	Rev C White	Mr P White	Mr P White	Mr D Cocks

## Elizabeth Grove United Parish Tennis Club (EGUP) Office Bearers

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1971/72	Mr R Dennis	Mr P White	Mr P White	
1972/73	Mr R Dennis	Mr F Bruce	Mr F Bruce	
1973/74	Mr R Dennis	Mrs M Milton	Mr D Cocks	
1974/75	Mr I Cocks	Mrs H Ball	Mrs H Ball	Miss Lubcke
1975/76	Mr I Cocks	Unfilled	Miss C Cartmel	
1976/77	Unfilled		Miss C Cartmel	
1977/78	Mr T Dawson	Mr K Reincke	Mr P Styles	

## Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club (EGUC) Office Bearers

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1978/79	Mr R Driver	Mr K Reincke	Mr G Ainsworth	
1979/80	Rev J Drake	Mr K Reincke	Mr G Ainsworth	Mr R Driver
1980/81	Rev J Drake	Mr K Reincke	Mr G Ainsworth	Mr R Driver
1981/82	Rev O Edwards	Mr K Reincke	Mr A Bowra	Mr R Driver
1982/83	Rev O Edwards			Mrs G Dennis
1983/84	Rev O Edwards			Mrs G Dennis
1984/85	Mrs G Dennis			
1985/86	Mrs G Dennis			
1986/87	Mrs G Dennis			
1987/88	Mrs G Dennis			
1988/89	Mrs G Dennis			
1989/90	Mrs G Dennis			
1990/91	Mrs G Dennis			
1991/92	Ms M Muhleder			

## **Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club (EGUC) Office Bearers**

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
1992/93	Gloria Dennis		Alan Bowra	
1993/94	Gloria Dennis		Alan Bowra	
1994/95	Gloria Dennis		Alan Bowra	
1995/96	Gloria Dennis		Alan Bowra	
1996/97	Gloria Dennis		Melva Lloyd	
1997/98	Gloria Dennis		Melva Lloyd	
1998/99	Gloria Dennis		Melva Lloyd	
1999/2000	Gloria Dennis		Melva Lloyd	
2000/01	Gloria Dennis		Melva Lloyd	
2001/02	Gloria Dennis	Scott Pridham	Melva Lloyd	
2002/03	Gloria Dennis	Scott Pridham	Melva Lloyd	

## The Grove Uniting Church Tennis Club Office Bearers

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
2003/04	Gloria Dennis	Roger Dennis	Melva Lloyd	
2004/05	Gloria Dennis		Leanne Hislop	
2005/06	Gloria Dennis	Tamra Chapman	Leanne Hislop	Ben Matthews
2006/07	Gloria Dennis	Tamra Chapman	Melva Lloyd	
2007/08	Gloria Dennis	Kristee Matthews	Melva Lloyd	
2008/09	Gloria Dennis	Melissa Muhleder	Kristee Matthews	Russell Lobban

## **The Grove Tennis Club Office Bearers**

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice President
2009/2010	Gloria Dennis	Kristee Matthews	Russell Lobban	Melissa Muhleder
2010/2011	Gloria Dennis	Pauline Fisher	Russell Lobban	Pauline Fisher
2011/2012	Gloria Dennis	Pauline Fisher	Russell Lobban	Shane Adams
2012/2013	Gloria Dennis	Pauline Fisher	Russell Lobban	Rick Taylor
2013/2014	Gloria Dennis	Pauline Fisher	John Versteeg	Rick Taylor
2014/2015	Gloria Dennis	Pauline Fisher	John Versteeg	Rick Taylor
2015/2016	Carolyn Vandeleur	Jessica Clayson	Sue Ryan	Rick Taylor
2016/2017	Carolyn Vandeleur	Harry Dawes	Sue Ryan	Rick Taylor
2017/2018	Gloria Dennis	Ross Millan	Rick Taylor	Chelsey Boomer

#### Footnotes:

For over 60 years members of The Grove Tennis Club have been great supporters of tennis in the Elizabeth and Salisbury areas. They have been major contributors to the planning, organising and running of tennis for both senior and junior players. The Bicentennial Tennis Centre could not have been so successful were it not for the numerous volunteers, including many helpers from The Grove Tennis Club, who contributed to the planning and construction of the building as well as undertaking many tasks such as maintenance, staffing the canteen, security etc. over a period of almost 30 years.

Our deep appreciation goes to the author of this book, Ross Millan, a recent member of The Grove Tennis Club, whose dream it has been to compile and produce this important historical record of tennis in the Elizabeth/Playford area.