



---

# TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2023

---

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Following the Townsville Congress last month the club held the Monday Pairs event for both open and under national players. The Open Pairs was won Ched Twyman and Geoff Allen, and the Under National, which is an honour board event was won by Peter Elliott and Griffio Bancroft. Congratulations to both pairs.

Annual subscriptions are due by 31 August and must be paid by 30 September. By now you will all have received a renewal notice prepared by the treasurer showing the club subscription plus QBA and ABF capitation fees.

This year's AGM will be held on Monday, 11 September at 11am and the outgoing committee has placed a number of items for discussion on the agenda. As the yearly subscriptions are set at the AGM, which is after the due date for payment, it means fees are set twelve months in advance. The committee proposes to change the due date to 30 September, which is after the AGM, so that fees set will be for the current year. This change will effectively give members one month free membership in the coming year. This change is necessary because the AGM cannot be brought forward because the Auditor cannot complete the financial report by the August date.

With the relaxation of Covid- safe procedures, the committee proposes to change Playing Rule 3 to read – "Players without permission to sit can resolve seating by mutual agreement or by toss of a coin or similar method. Winners choose their preference."

I remind everyone that the Northern Zone GNOT Regional final is being held at the club on August 26 and 27, and there will be no club play on Saturday 26 August.

Sometime in the past the club had a Facebook page which has now been closed. The committee has decided that there is no need for a presence on Facebook at this stage.

**Wilfred Tapiolas**

**RECENT GRAND SLAMS**

FAY BLOWER / JACKIE  
SEGANFREDDO

JAN SMITH / LEIGH OWENS

GEORGE DEL PAPA / TONY BYRNE

HEATHER COLBERT / JOYCE  
MCARTHUR

JO-ANNE GILLIS / KELLY WALKER

HELEN TAPIOLAS / DUSK CARE

BERNARD KIRWAN / CAROLYN ALLIS

LYN GADSBY / MARGARET  
WILKINSON

**RECENT PROMOTIONS**

Ken Manders **LIFE**

Devan Mitchell **STATE**

Ann Smith **BRONZE NATIONAL**

Fred Cole **BRONZE STATE**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Monday (11.00 am)**

**11<sup>TH</sup> September 2023**

Please consider nominating for an executive position or as a general committee member. All members are encouraged and welcome to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**COMING  
UP**



Courtesy Adrian Raeside

Open Pairs won by **CHED TWYMAN and GEOFF ALLEN**

Under National, an honour board event was won by **PETER ELLIOTT and GRIFFO BANCROFT**



### CASSOWARY COAST WALK-IN PAIRS

1<sup>st</sup> Place (NS) **PAT LEIGHTON - BILL REDHEAD**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place (EW) **HEATHER COLBERT- ANN SMITH**

### CASSOWARY COAST MATCHPOINT PAIRS

1<sup>st</sup> Place (NS) **PAT LEIGHTON - BILL REDHEAD**



**Subscriptions Due 30 September 2023**

## ARTBEAT

by Bill Buttle



*Source: Bill Buttle. We also acknowledge the kind consent given from Linda Buttle to publish.*

**"... and this deluxe model comes with an 8-year-old kid to show you how to run it!"**



## Bridge for Beginners and Beyond

### HOW TO FINESSE PROPERLY – Part 1

**Finessing comes down to a few simple questions:**

**Q1:** Where do you want the missing honour to be?

**Q2:** Which hand do you need to lead the suit from?

**Q3:** Are you in the right hand? (If not, defer leading the suit until you reach the correct hand.)

#### **EXAMPLE**

You hold **A 6 2**

opposite

**K J 7**

People think that they need to lead the Jack with this holding. If West plays the Queen, though, you have a loser in this suit. If East has the Queen, he will win the trick.

Finesses are not about just leading a bare honour. If you lead the Jack you should have the 10 as its back-up card. Leading bare honours (as we will see in further examples) just helps to create additional losers.

*In this instance, the critical missing honour is obviously the Queen, but you want the Queen to be 'before' the KJ holding (which is called a 'tenace'). You should lead to the Ace (if you are not in the North hand) then lead back towards the KJ tenace, hoping the Queen is with East. If East plays low you finesse the Jack; if East plays the Queen you win your three tricks.*

#### **EXAMPLE**

You hold **Q 5 4**

opposite

**A 6 2**

You want two tricks in this suit, so how should you play? Many players lead the Q, hoping that East has the King and doesn't cover, in which case you will win your two tricks.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

If East has the King you are also on a losing plan.

*However, if West has the King, you can generate your two tricks. You actually have to hope that LHO (West) has the King. Then you can lead the Ace, and back towards the Queen, making your two tricks.*

## EXAMPLE

You hold **J 4 3 2**

opposite

**A Q 6 5**

Going back to the finessing questions, you want the King to be with East and you want to lead from North towards the AQ in South. Having done that groundwork, don't get this combination wrong. I constantly see people lead the Jack in this position. That's wrong.

If East has the King, they will cover and that will make the 10 or 9 into a winner no matter who has it (since the opponents have 5 cards in the suit). You will definitely lose one card in this suit.

*If you want to play this suit for no losers, you must rely on East to hold the King, and specifically the King-doubleton. Therefore you need to lead a low card from North towards your AQ, finessing the Queen if East plays low. Assuming the finesse works, you just need to cash the Ace next, hoping the King falls. If it doesn't then you were destined to lose a trick regardless, but at least you played it correctly.*

**Source:** [Barbara Travis \( Barbara`s Tips\)](#)

**Sound words of Advice** – *Source Australian Bridge Federation Website*

## Your Partner

To be successful at the bridge table, you have to work with your partner. There's no way to reach the best contracts by yourself, or to defend a hand without help from partner. Bridge is a combination of luck, skill, and your relationship with your partner. No matter how much you have of the first two, you won't get far without the third ingredient. Audrey Grant suggests that you "Look at the person sitting opposite you and think of something you love about the way they play".

## Member Profile: **NINI PERKINS**

### **When and where did you first play Bridge?**

In preparation of taking early retirement at age 55, I started lessons at the Townsville Bridge Club together with Gloria MacDonald, Margaret Darley, and my sister Yvonne Houbolt. Our mother, Lia Neve, who was by then in her late 70's, also started lessons. It might have been around 1998?

### **Who introduced you to bridge?**

I can blame my bridge addiction wholeheartedly to Gloria MacDonald, whose idea it was in the first place.

### **Who taught you to play bridge?**

We were very fortunate to have Keith Ramsbotham as our teacher. He made the lessons full of fun. He'd frequently ask: "which card would you play?" and no matter what you answered he'd exclaim: "That's the LAST card you should play".

It took us quite a while before we were willing to join the normal bridge sessions, since the first time we tried, we were bombarded with nasty comments. We told Keith we would only come to his supervised play on the Saturday mornings. So, it was well over a year before we ventured into the club situation again.

### **Tell us some of your family background, for example where did you grow up, what is your favourite childhood memory?**

Born in The Netherlands, I am the third child of eight in our family. There were six girls and two boys.

If it was your birthday, you could choose dinner! We always ended up asking for hot chips with applesauce, or pancakes with golden syrup. You can imagine how many potatoes our mum would have to peel to make hot chips for such a large family. Moeke (pronounce: Mooka), as we called our mum, also organised the best birthday parties. My birthday fell in the Dutch school summer holidays and I have fond memories of having egg (in our case potato) and spoon races and many other games in our back yard.



♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦

When it was Christmas we would walk, sometimes through the snow, to church to attend midnight mass. Once back home it would be nice and warm in the living area, the table would be set, complete with a sparkling wine glass, and we would eat eye-fillet on white bread and have a little red wine, thinned down with water. This would be the ONLY day in the year we would be eating steak or white bread!

### **What chore do you absolutely hate doing?**

I'm a basic cook and when I still cooked for our family, I found it hard to think of new things to eat, particularly since we were on quite a tight budget. On the other hand, I don't mind doing the washing and ironing, while I enjoy taking care of our finances and paperwork.

### **Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?**

Well, where do I start? I enjoy travel, the beach, swimming, cruises, reading, listening to music, jigsaw puzzles, Scrabble, Words with Friends, Sudoku, the daily NYT Wordle, cross-stitching, and lately a couple of my Dutch cousins have enticed me to play a Dutch scrabble game on-line, which is the most challenging of all. When I see the letters, all I can come up with are English words! This surprised me a lot, since I was 27 years old when I moved from Holland to Australia.

### **What type of Jobs (employment) have you done? What was your first job? Did you have a favourite job?**

I've always been in administration. My first job was with a company that hired out large cranes. Later I worked in the office of C&A in the Netherlands, where I was doing the pays for all employees. There were 30 different deductions between gross and nett to be calculated for each person! Then, with another person, I put the cash in envelopes. If we were only 1 cent short, or had 1 cent left over, we had to go through all 150 or more pay envelopes to find out where we had made the mistake!

Once in Australia I worked a very short time for Coles' head office in Brisbane, then worked as pay mistress for a Tyre company. I have also worked in a school library, which was possibly the nicest job. I enjoyed seeing the new books that were bought and then prepared them for lending. This was also when I first worked with computers... it was 1988! My last job was at JCU, it ended up to be the most stressful environment I have ever worked in. I am sure the stress caused an awful dose of shingles on my face which left me with permanent nerve damage. I retired very shortly after.

### **If you could be an animal, what would it be and why?**

I would like to fly like an eagle! But any flying bird would be super cool.



### **What is your favourite song?**

There are so many songs I like! I love French songs. And although I like most kinds of music, from country to classical, I prefer songs that tell a great story.

Modern Jazz and Rap don't do it for me.

### **Do you have any "hidden talents" or achievements that might surprise us?**

In my younger days, I used to be a singer in a band.

### **What personality trait has got you in most trouble?**

Oh, that's an easy one to answer. There are two: I'm SUPER impatient and my mouth talks before my brain has time to put the brakes on! Both traits get me in trouble ALL the time.

### **What the best advice you ever had given to you or your Motto is?**

My mother used to say: "Whatever you do, do it well".

Our house motto is: "Do it now." (so you won't forget later on)

### **Best advice for your bridge partner**

Hahaha. That's a funny question. I think it's something Keith told us and many times it has been the right advice: "To double your opponents when they are in a suit contract, make sure you have at least ONE trick in their suit".

### **Do you have a joke?**

I had to use Mr Google.... and came up with these:

**Joe:** I hate my Partner

**Sam:** Why don't you find another one?

**Joe:** No use. Changing partners is like changing cabins on the Titanic!



## HOW WOULD YOU BID?

I subbed on a recent Thursday night and this hand arose. You, East, hold:

♠ A K 8 7 3

♥ K 6 4 3

♦ K Q

♣ K 10

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	?	

Your options should be either rebidding 2♥ (non-forcing) or 3♥ (game forcing). This hand, with its ♦K-Q, is not worth forcing to game, therefore 2♥ is better than 3♥.

		2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	?	

What does partner's 3♣ bid mean?

You have bid spades and hearts, showing at least 9 cards in those two suits. Partner is expected to 'choose' between your suits when holding 6-9 HCP. Yet they've bid a new suit. Bidding a new suit shows their own long suit – so a 6+ card club suit in a weak hand. Now your options should be to bid 3NT or pass or support clubs.

Your decision should be based on your degree of fit for clubs. You pass with a poor fit for clubs. You can bid 4♣ or 5♣ with a 5-4-1-3 and a good hand. With your doubleton King, you now have to assess your hand in terms of partner's hand. Is it good or bad? Whilst the club fit is good, you only have 9 tricks (3NT) if partner's clubs are A-Q-x-x-x-x (or the A-J with the Queen onside) and the suit breaking. I think that this is against the odds, so I think that passing is correct.



What happened on the hand? Only one pair out of 24 tables played in a club part-score – scoring very well for their disciplined auction. Well done! The remainder overbid, and most contracts failed (or should have):

♠ 9	♠ A K 8 7 3
♥ 9 5	♥ K 6 4 3
♦ A 9 3 2	♦ K Q
♣ J 9 8 6 4 3	♣ K 10

Source: Barbara Travis – November 2022 SA Bridge Federation Newsletter



## ***DID YOU KNOW?*** The Buenos Aires Incident

The Bermuda Bowl world championship was held in 1965 in Buenos Aires, site of the infamous finger-signaling scandal. British experts Terence Reese and Boris Schapiro were accused by American players B. Jay Becker and Dorothy Hayden (now Truscott) of holding their cards with different numbers of fingers in accordance with the number of hearts they held. When the allegations leaked out during the event, British captain Ralph Swimer forfeited all his team's matches and withdrew Great Britain from the competition. The degree of correlation between fingers and hearts was very high; however, it is debatable whether or not Reese-Schapiro benefited from the alleged exchange of information. Those who sided with the players argued the latter, suggesting that it was improbable the British pair was cheating if it never gained points on the deals in question.

The British Bridge League eventually found Reese and Schapiro innocent of cheating; however, the World Bridge Federation found them guilty and banned them from WBF events for three years. Bridge writer Alan Truscott wrote a book about the affair entitled *The Great Bridge Scandal*, while Terence Reese wrote his own account, *Story of an Accusation*.

**Article** - courtesy Jeff Tang (Bridgebum.com)

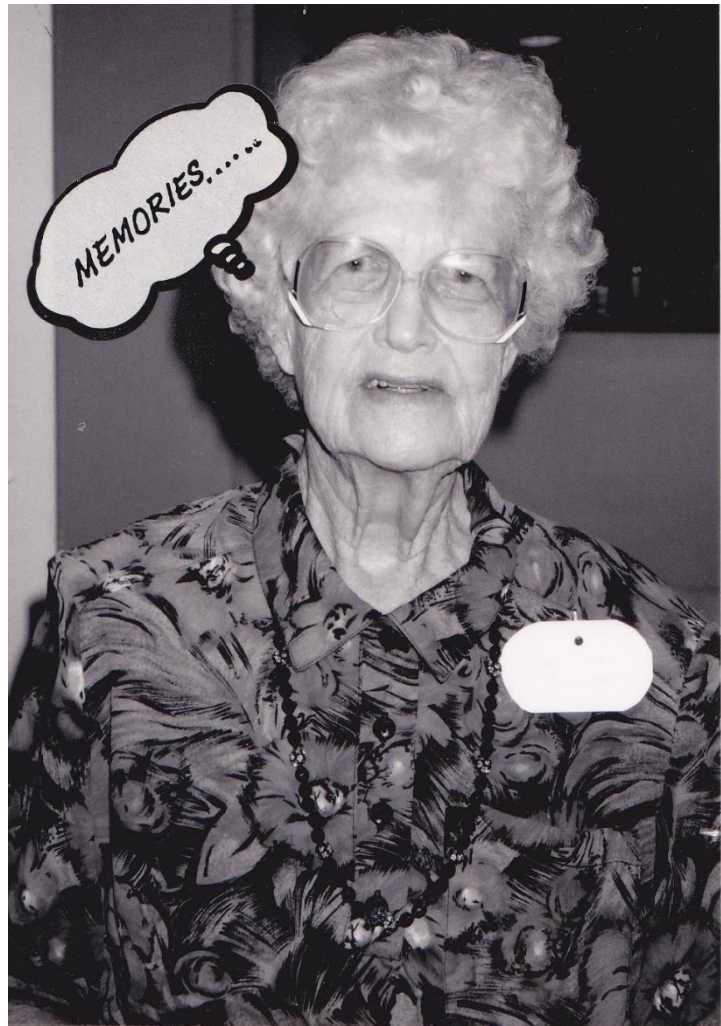


bridging the past.....



John Gray,  
Beth Whebell ?  
Lindy Back

Laurie Kelso and Sue Laing



Beryl Parker



Dorthea Stewart, Daphne Crimston, Sheila Hodihan, ?, Norma Heatley



Del Ward, Pam Andrews, Joan Bussey and Denise Bayliss



ESS 'OU TAN!  
AN' 'OU CATCH  
MY DREAT BIG  
KING, 'OU TUNNIN'  
ICKLE CRACKPOT!

OOH! NOW I  
TIN PLAY MY  
DREAT BIG  
ACE, TANT I ?



HESTER  
© 1960 BY HESTER