



NOVEMBER 2022

NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Beside our usual playing sessions October saw the club hold a number of competitions including the Keith Ramsbotham Memorial Pairs and the last of our honour board events the Club Teams Championship. Keith's son Brett was able to present the shield to the winners Betty Hobdell and Rosemary Glastonbury on behalf of the family. Congratulations to the Hobdell team, Betty Hobdell, Ian Patterson, Rosemary Glastonbury and Ken Manders for taking out the teams championship for 2022.

At the end of October, the Australia Wide Restricted Pairs event was held and I would like to mention that our local winning pair, Tony Byrne and Joyce Mcarthur finished nineteenth out of almost one thousand pairs Australia wide and will have their names in next year's book.

The Club's defibrillator has now arrived and has been installed beside the Directors desk. A training session was conducted by Peta Petersen from The Job Shop on Wednesday 9 November and was well supported by over thirty members.

The Melbourne Cup function was well attended again this year with some spectacular costumes on display. I would like to thank Devan Mitchell, who once again organised the event and Charlie Georgees for ensuring our TVs were connected to the race broadcast. This newsletter contains a report and selection of photos and prize winners from the day.

As you know Geoff Allen stepped down as Treasurer at the last AGM after many years of service to our club. On behalf of the committee, I was pleased to make a presentation in appreciation of his service to the club.

The final Learn to Play Bridge lessons for this year commenced in October and we have fifteen new learners which is great for the club's future. I would like to remind everyone that the three week Festive Teams event is starting soon, and the club's Christmas party is on Monday 20 December. At this function the club makes a donation to the Women's Shelter which is one of the main charities that we support. I would like to thank Adarina Bawden, who has spent so much time organising two carton of gift bags containing personal care items and all who have made cash donations.

In October one of our long time members and Grand Master Gayleen Brown unexpectedly passed away. Gayleen was a wonderful person who took great pleasure in encouraging our newer and inexperienced players. She will be greatly missed by the bridge community and I would like to pass on to her family and friends the club's condolences.

Wilfred Tapiolas



Vale Gayleen Brown

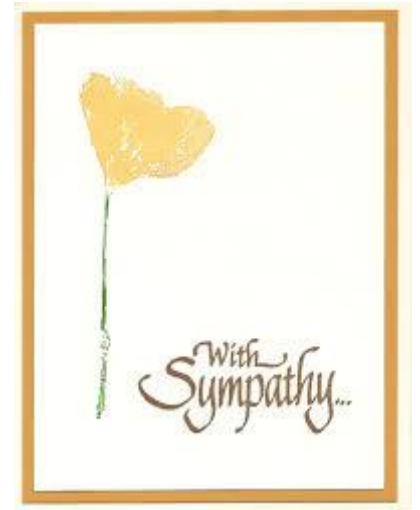
Gayleen was a long standing and loved bridge player at both the Townsville and Cleveland Bay Bridge clubs.

She learnt to play bridge at the Townsville Bridge Club in 1984 with Mrs Clarice Suthers as her teacher.

She was very active at both clubs. For example, at Cleveland Bay, she was a committee member and Providore for over 20 years and was a Life Member of Cleveland Bay.

Gayleen competed regularly for many years throughout North Queensland and further south, especially at the Gold Coast. Last year, Gayleen gained the status of Grand Master.

On behalf of both clubs, with offer our sincere condolences to Gayleen's family and friends.



CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP (An HONOUR BOARD Event)

1st Place - Betty HOBDELL, Ian PATTERSON,

Rosemary GLASTONBURY and Ken MANDERS



TOWNSVILLE NOVICE TEAMS – 1st Place

Anto WILSON, Fred COLE, Robert MISCHLEWSKI and Reg BURTON



Courtesy – Adrian Raeside

Recent Grand Slams

CHED TWYMAN and CHARLIE GEORGEES

HEATHER COLBERT and SAM BISHOP

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Charlie Georgees

Bronze LIFE

Maxine Virgo

Club

BILL Bishop GRAND Master



A few of our members catching up with Di and Hugh McAlister in New Zealand



2022 MELBOURNE CUP CELEBRATIONS

The fun time of the year has arrived and with it the Melbourne Cup celebrations, starting at 9.30am on the first day of November.

44 players and 8 beginners arrived to enjoy the day. We played 28 boards and finished play at about 12.40pm.

That is when we sat down to enjoy the delicious spread of food brought along by the players. It was such a variety of food. Townsville Bridge club provided champagne, wine and soft drinks to complement the luncheon.

Most club members came dressed in their finery for the celebration of the cup.

During the play spot prizes were given out for each direction. North was won by Charlie Georgees, South-Helen Lovegrove, East – A lucky unknown member and West was Iris Rutherford.

People eagerly sort out which horse they drew in the nine sweeps created. Cheering was heard as the race was run encouraging their horse along.

The Winner, Gold Trip, was an upset win, brilliantly ridden by jockey Mark Zahria.

During the wait for declaration of correct weight, prizes were awarded to:

Best dressed female **Dusk Care**

Best dressed male Myles Clarkson - (resplendent in jockey colours, boots and a whip)

Best colour match with the cup winner - **Luthile Arlett**

Once correct weight was given, money for the 9 sweeps was presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Also, money was returned for those horses that were scratched.

Much work went into the success of this event – planned attractive outfits from attendees, provision of food, exciting surprises, sweeps and overall event organisation from Devan.

Thanks Devan from us all. Then all the food and drinks distributors and the clean-up crew moved smoothly into action. Thanks to a great event on a wonderful Australian institution.



Unexpected Visitor
Melbourne Cup Function









Helpful Tips

Bridge for Beginners and Beyond

keeping things in perspective

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".

You

Don't criticise yourself at the table, because even a little self-condemnation can get out of hand. First, we think that we simply made an unlucky lead, next we consider that it helped declarer make the contract. Then we reflect that we never seem to make a good lead. In fact, we don't really understand the game at all...perhaps we just don't have the ability to play a good hand of bridge....


Timothy Gallwey, who wrote "The Inner Game of Tennis", puts it like this:

"First the mind judges the event, then groups events, then identifies with the combined event, and finally, judges itself. As a result, what happens is that these self- judgements become self-fulfilling prophecies" We should take a non-judgemental approach at the bridge table, both of our partner and ourselves!

Source ABF



OSCAR
WILDE



"One should always play fairly
when one has the winning cards."



B



THE PAIRS WITH AN EXPERT- SABF January 2022 Barbara Travis

40 eager players turned up for a session with their expert partner. Everybody had some hands to discuss afterwards. Here are a couple.

My first offering was mentioned by my husband, Howard Melbourne, who won with Jeremy Randell. You hold:

♠ A 9 6 4
♥ Q 10 8 7 6
♦ K 9 2
♣ K

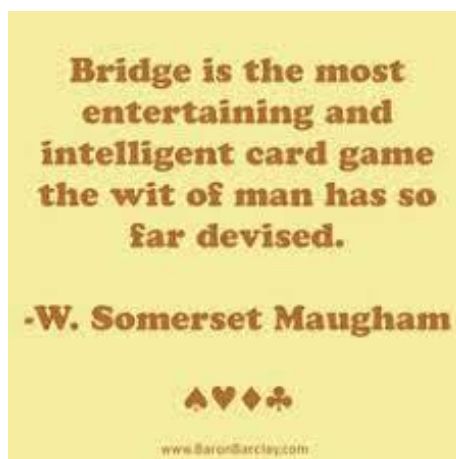
<i>Partner</i>	<i>You</i>
1 ♦	1 ♥
2NT (18-19 HCP)	?

As Howard wisely commented, on this hand you should simply plan to play in 3NT rather than looking for 4♥. When you have about 29-30 HCP, most of the time 3NT will play as well as 4-Major, even with a 5-3 fit.

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

As you can see, 6♥ and 6NT will make – if you can pick the heart position. Since you can make the same number of tricks in your contract, the same scenario occurs with your game contracts – 3NT and 4H. Since you are playing Pairs (matchpoints), the 10 point score difference becomes very significant.

Bear in mind, with only 25 points between two hands, most of the time you will be better off playing in 4-Major rather than 3NT.





The next hand had a few 'lessons' for all:

♠ A K J 8 4
 ♥ 5
 ♦ K 9 2
 ♣ 9 8 7 3

♠ 9 5
 ♥ K Q 6 2
 ♦ A 6
 ♣ A K Q 6 5

♠ 3 2
 ♥ J 10 9 7 4
 ♦ J 4 3
 ♣ 10 4 2

♠ Q 10 7 6
 ♥ A 8 3
 ♦ Q 10 8 7 5
 ♣ J

Here is the auction at my table:

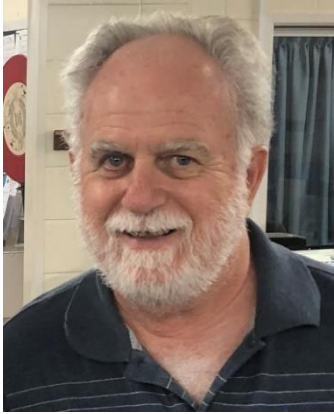
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♣	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
3 ♥	All Pass		

North cashed his ♠ A-K, then found the good switch of a diamond to South's 10 and my Ace. When South won his ♥ A, he tried the ♣ J, meaning that I now had 10 tricks instead of 9. This actually made little difference to the outcome of the hand, since most people played in spade contracts North-South.

I had a rebid problem after South's 2 ♠ bid, feeling my hand was not suited to a double with the diamond doubleton. My 'reverse' showed a strong hand with 4 hearts and longer clubs so, whilst it was a mild overbid, I felt comfortable enough.

After the hand, South said he hadn't bid enough. If he'd bid 3 ♠, I would have had a real problem. However, his correct bid should be 2 ♣ – a cue raise, showing 10+ TP and spade support (or 3 ♣ if you play 4-card raises with the 3-level cue raise). I think that a cue raise, followed by a bid of 3 ♠ would show the hand well, and North should then head to game with their singleton heart. 4 ♠ makes 11 tricks if you pick the ♦ J correctly.

Don't downgrade hands after partner overcalls, in case they are weaker. Make sure you add the cue raise to your arsenal, so you can show your good raises whilst not getting too high in the auction.



Member Profile: Ian Patterson

When and where did you first play Bridge?

The BEGINNING.

I first "played" Bridge at Ravenshoe in 1974. Ravenshoe was my first teaching appointment and one of my fellow teachers was an American named Herrold Reinstra. He introduced me to Bridge one evening, teaching me the basics, though we did get as far as Blackwood. If you were at Mission Beach this year you may have met Herrold (tall, lean, grey-haired etc.) - he was doing a trip down memory lane, visiting old haunts on the Tablelands and took in the Congress along the way.

A few years later I was visiting my brother (Geoff) in Gympie when the topic of Bridge came up. The next day while checking out the books in a local Newsagent I found a book titled: "How to win at Contract Bridge in 10 easy lessons" which helped launch my Bridge obsession. When, in 1978, I was transferred to Brisbane I used the book to "learn" to play Bridge with my eldest brother. Unfortunately, we were too impatient to actually start playing to finish the book - the first of the many Bridge books begun but never finished. So I "learnt" to play bridge at QCBC which was then based in a 2 storey building in Manning St., South Brisbane.

QCBC was only club which had a game on a Friday night, so we set off to play in a field of mainly men (who worked during weekdays) at a time when scoring was done on "Travellers" and you didn't leave until you had finalised the results on the boards at the end of play. In 1978 there were no restrictions on smoking so you could arrive at a table with cigarettes smouldering in ashtrays, and in one case an Asthma puffer on the other side.

The good thing about not having lessons is that our defence in particular was unorthodox (to say the least). We delighted in taking down contracts when other correct defence allowed them to make. Our proudest boast was that we never came last.

I finally "learnt" to play Bridge when, in 2001, I started playing with Elsie Stubbs (22 years later).

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

As the 4th of 5 children my family nickname was Moe (eenie, meanie etc.) chosen by Doug (the eldest brother). Between the 1st and last child is 18 years (and 2 wars). My parents were both Teachers and when I was 7 months old, they took up positions on Palm Island, where we remained for the next 11 years. As my mother continued to Teach, 3 different aboriginal women were involved in my upbringing. Mary was the one



I remember best as she was there when I arrived home from school. Mary taught me how to iron (just handkerchiefs). Hannah took us down to the beach on the evening when Mum and Dad entertained the visiting School Inspector. We also had a gardener named Joe (who favoured couch grass over buffalo). Joe taught us how to make fishing spears from straight sticks and fencing wire. I never knew if Mum had learnt that he once used the laundry tubs to dye some material.

Did you have a school nickname?

At boarding school, where I was in the same year as Phil Rains, my nickname was "little goat" (being the younger of two brothers). I never really knew where it came from, blaming Geoff, but I was handy at scampering up and down the banks above the main oval. You can guess what my father was called when he subsequently ended up teaching at the school.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

I hate cleaning, that's why I was happy for my sister to take on the cleaning (by which she meant pay a cleaner). Gardening is also a chore I try to do as little of as I can, so we pay to have the tough stuff done.

Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?

While living in Brisbane (1990 to 2000) and subsequently in Townsville I enjoyed singing in a choir. Since moving to the Towers (7 years ago), my main interest (when not writing bridge articles) is trying to read some of the 1000 or so books in my Library.

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

I studied Geology at university and at the end of my 1st year spent 6 weeks working for a field geologist, collecting sand samples from creek beds. It was as exciting as it sounds so I became a teacher almost by default, and when I realised how big a mistake that was, I tried to "escape" the classroom by training as a Teacher/Librarian. Unfortunately, not every Deputy Principal saw that as a valued occupation so I continued to front classrooms and tried to dispense knowledge to mainly disinterested students.

If you could be an animal, what would it be and why? Koala - an uneventful life? or an Eagle - soaring through the skies.

What is your favourite song? Charlie Chaplin's "Smile"

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

I'm good at covering books? Actually, I enjoy baking and can do a baked cheesecake to die for (that will kill you)



What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

Stubbornness - I don't always know when to call it quits; and Honesty - sometimes it's better to dissemble and let sleeping dogs lie.

Who is the most famous person you have met?

I nearly met Wally Lewis once. The conductress (Lawrie Gaffney) of the choir I sang with in Brisbane (Imogen Community) was a big fan of Wally's. One year one of the ladies organised for Wally to call in at a rehearsal on the occasion of Lawrie's birthday. Wally turned up at the break room when I was there, so I went to round up the reception committee.

Famous people Would scare me silly!

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

My father's advice on starting my first teaching job was to get out and meet the townspeople even if you have to go to church. I went along to tennis instead.

Best advice for your bridge partner?

For my Bridge Partner: Do as I say, not as I do? If not, read as much as you can (particularly from Bridge magazines and newsletters) and discuss what you learn with all and sundry.

Do you have a joke?

I don't remember jokes

"There was a point when I became too keen. It was obsessive. I would play all the tournaments. I would not make certain films if they interfered with my bridge schedule. I dreamt about cards. I was driven by the competition. I was good at it and I wanted to be perfect. But bridge is like golf; you can never achieve perfection. You get better, but because it is a game of partnership there is no way you can get there. You need to perfect a system between you and your partner."

[Omar Shariff](#)

LIKE TO SHARE ANYTHING?

If anyone has any photos, jokes, birthday wishes or ideas for the newsletter, then please contact Albert Beric on 0403 153 211 or email me - aberich@tpg.com.au



Memories.....



Dot Shannon, Matt Mullamphy, Gayleen Brown and Pat Allen



Aileen Keogh,
Gayleen Brown,
Claire Moloney
and Lesleigh
Rooney



? Gayleen Brown
Aileen Keogh



Gayleen Brown, Barbara
Hospers, Pat Leighton
and Gladys Tullock



Helen Lovegrove and Gayleen Brown

