



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

October 2017

www.townsvillebridgeclub.asn.au

Temporary clubhouse phone
0428 453 921

PO Box 1053, Aitkenvale, 4814
bridgeclub@westnet.com.au

Bank Details:
BSB: 034 212

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:

Clive Bunnett - 4773 1029

Vice President:

Gloria Macdonald - 0402 010 595

Secretary:

Helen Tapiolas - 0402 285 623

Treasurer:

Geoff Allen - 0407 154 716

Committee Members

Sandra Bunnett - 0439 384 462

Peter Hall - 4779 5464

Lyn Joye - 0402 248 086

Robert Mischlewski - 4779 7637

John Johnson - 4778 2797

Fay Blower - 4403 921

Congress Directors

Geoff Allen - 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister - 0402 761 152

Bill Bishop - 0409 598 214

Active Club Directors

Bruce Bowden - 07 4779 6809

Clive Bunnett - 07 4773 1029

Betty Hobdell - 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann - 07 4778 2914

Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.

Phil Rains - 0417 160 059

Elsie Stubbs - 0451 013 753

Gloria MacDonald - 0402 010 595

Zonal Positions

Geoff Allen - Delegate

John Tredrea - Secretary

COMING EVENTS

Friday Pairs
6, 11, 20 October

QBA Open Pairs, Brisbane
7, 8 October

GNOT Final
14, 15 October

Club Teams
28, 29 October

Cleveland Bay Match Point Pairs
5 November

Melbourne Cup Pairs
7 November

Restricted Convention Teams
8, 15 November

Novice Teams
11 November

Barrier Reef Congress Townsville
14-18 May 2018

Advanced Bridge Lessons with John Johnson

Beginning Tuesday 10 October T 1pm

Attendance limited to 3 tables

If possible come with a regular partner

For details of the techniques to be taught, see
the notice on the Club notice board.

AGM and NEW COMMITTEE

The AGM was held on September 10th and a new committee was elected. Names, positions and phone numbers are shown on page one of this newsletter.



Other business conducted at the AGM consisted of the outgoing President's report, printed on the following pages, and two motions about procedures for dealing with inappropriate behaviour. After some discussion of detail these motions were passed.

President's Report

Annual General Meeting 2017

I would like to thank the members of the Management Committee for the work they have put in over the past 12 months as well as all the other members not on the committee who contribute their time and effort to the functioning of the club.

I would like to say a special thank you to our secretary, Devan Mitchell, and to Helen Tapiolas and Peter Housden who took over the role of secretary when Devan was unfortunately not available. I would also like to acknowledge the fine work of Fred Cole in maintaining our financial records.

I would also like to pay a special tribute to Peter Housden for his wise counsel and the time and effort he put into trying to resolve the club's issues with the NBN.

Under the rules of the club, the job of the Management Committee is:

- a. To manage the assets, the finances and the affairs of the club
- b. To provide a comfortable, clean, well lit, friendly environment in which our members can meet to play competitive bridge, and
- c. To promote and foster bridge

I believe the committee has fulfilled this obligation to the club's members.

I relinquish the position in the knowledge that the club is in a sound financial position, that the membership is relatively stable and that the club has moved on from the divisive issue of the Bidding Boxes.

Over the course of the year:

• We celebrated the club's 50th Anniversary in style

• We also celebrated Betty and Rosemary's achievements as part of the Queensland Women's Team

Clive Bunnett has successfully taken on the role of teaching the beginners, is developing a vision for on-going player development, and has encouraged Fay Blower, Judy Hunt and Betty Hobdell to become involved in player development

Ched Twyman and Robert Mischelewski have offered to take on the time demanding task of dealing the cards.

A new security system for the club house has been installed and is functioning well, but the club is still waiting for the proposed connection to the NBN, and consequently lacks a land line phone connection.

The venue, the directors, the program and celebrity speakers have been organized for next year's Barrier Reef Congress to be conducted in Townsville in May by the club.

Following the special general meeting to consider the proposed extension of the club house, Wilf Tapiolas has had a new plan developed for the proposed extension to include a teaching area. Wilf informs that the advice he has received from the Council staff indicates that the club's intention to apply for a permit to extend the club house has been viewed favourably by the Departments responsible for Buildings / extensions and Facilities on Council owned land. Consequently, applying for a building permit should proceed smoothly as the Council will regard this application as part of the previous original application to extend the building. All paperwork / records regarding applications to the Council have been assembled and collated by the council staff on to a CD which Wilf will pass on to the Committee for future reference. Once Wilf has received a final OK from the Department responsible for leased land, the Bridge Club will be in a position to proceed to the next step – i.e. Pursuing financial assistance.

Ray Ellaway (QBA) advised that the Gambling Community benefit fund seems to be the only grant bridge clubs are eligible for these days as we aren't classed as a sport. The maximum grant is \$35,000, and QBA Loans up to \$40,000 are currently available on a principal & interest basis over a period of 10 years at an interest rate of 4%. A similar enquiry was made to the ABF, but no reply has been forthcoming.

It is of concern that the number of tables at each of our sessions has decreased. Perhaps, the committee could have done more to foster and promote our wonderful game.

Tuesday night's session has not operated all year. Consequently, I recommend that the club ceases to offer a Tuesday night session and that it be removed from the club's forthcoming calendar.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the sad loss of some of our members, in particular – Keith Ramsbotham, Denise Bayliss, Murli Rani, Dudley Hone.

Sometimes people forget, or do not realise, how labour intensive a bridge club is compared to other clubs. The hours of work that happen behind the scenes so that members can enjoy a session of bridge is substantial. The amount of work that goes into providing the club's program over a full year is staggering, especially with the obligations our affiliation with both the QBA and ABF places upon us.

I would like pay a special tribute to some of the people who beaver away making their valuable contribution behind the scenes.

Peter Hall – the masterpoints secretary – who maintains our register of members and every month collates and submits the masterpoints return.

Jean Dartnall who produces the Club's newsletter and has gradually become the club's collator of our history.

Elaine Brown who prepares and allocates the Prize Tickets

Robyn Green who makes sure that copies of all our proformas are always available

Lyn Joye, Marie Stabler and Joan Elliott who every week count, balance and bank all monies collected
Beth Whebell, Del Ward and Elsie Stubbs who conscientiously provide support and encouragement to our newer members through Supervised Play

The Monday afternoon ladies who unpack the cards in preparation for the dealers

Geoff Allen and Bill Bishop who are regularly called upon to solve technological problems

Pat Allen who organises the Prize Monies for all of the Club's competitions.

It is important to remember that we are a community club. How successful we are as a club is determined not only by the work of the committee but also by the work and effort each one of our members is prepared to contribute.

It is imperative that as one chapter in the club's history finishes and another begins the club moves forward in a positive manner. I wish the incoming committee all the best for the next 12 months and for the future.

John Tredrea

9 September 2017

NO TRUMP OPENINGS

By Ian Patterson

It was suggested to me that I could put together some thoughts on the strength of the 1NT openings that are commonly played at our Club. I've discovered that this could be quite lengthy, so it may appear over 2 or 3 Newsletters.

There are two aspects to consider when opening No Trumps at any level: the point range and the shape. So I will try to give you a personal view of the modern thinking on these aspects of NT openings.

POINT RANGE

1. **THE STRONG NT:** As long as I've been here our Bridge Teachers have usually taught that a 1NT opening shows a balanced hand (no singleton and not 2 doubletons) with a 3 point range of 15 to 17 High Card Points. This is referred to as a "Strong No Trump" and used to have a 16 to 18 HCP range. Why the change? Well, it closes the "gap". What gap am I referring to?

Well consider the traditional relative strengths of your No Trump choices:

- 1 Minor opening, followed by a 1NT rebid conventionally showed 12 - 14 HCP.
- 1NT openings showed 16 - 18 HCP.
- 2NT openings showed 20 - 22 HCP.
- 2C opening followed by a 2NT rebid showed 23 - 24 HCP
- 2C followed by a 3NT rebid showed 25+ HCP.

This raised the question of what to do with 15 HCP and with 19 HCP.

By reducing the strength of the 1NT opening to 15 - 17, we remove the 1st (the 15 HCP) problem and allow a solution to the 2nd: 1 Minor, followed by a 2NT rebid is used to show 18 - 19 HCP (although most players rebid 3NT with 19 HCP). It creates a neat structure for opening balanced hands:

- 1 Minor rebid 1NT = 12-14,
- 1NT = 15-17,
- 1 Minor rebid 2NT = 18-19,
- 2NT = 20-22, 2C rebid
- 2NT = 23-24, 2C rebid
- 3NT = 25+.

There are no gaps!

There are of course variations to this structure. "Multi" players (who like to open at the 2 level to show weak 2-suited hands) prefer to open 2NT to show both Minors (weak), and so need a different sequence to show 20-22 HCP. This is usually 2D rebid 2NT - 2D, being the "multi" because it may also show a Weak (6-card) Major suit.

Another reason for choosing a 15 - 17 NT opening is that hands with 15 HCP occur more frequently than hands with 18 HCP (so a 15-17 point range will occur slightly more often than a 16-18 point range). But if this is an argument that justifies a 15-17 point range then it applies even more so to a 12-14 point range.

2. **THE WEAK NT:** Hands with 12-14 HCP occur more frequently than hands with 15-17 HCP (I don't have the probabilities but I'm sure someone can confirm this). Opening 1NT with a balanced hand saves bidding space and conceals information about the strengths or weaknesses of the hand from the opposition (and your partner).

With 12-14 HCP this may be more critical than with 15-17 HCP when your partner is also weak. Partner still has the options of Stayman and Transfers with weak hands, but requires more HCP to make invitational bids. Opposite 15-17, partner may invite Game with 8/9 HCP but opposite 12-14 they require 11/12 HCP to invite Game.

This is only the beginning. There will be more in the next newsletter.

CLEVELAND BAY CLUB ANNOIUNCEMENT

Our new home is with the Holy Spirit Parish Centre, Mooney St Entrance, Gulliver.

Our contact details remain the same
PO Box 7421 Garbutt, 4814
0422 473 144 (Jan Smith)
sue.reilly@jcu.edu.au

And our session times have not changed.
Tuesday from 7pm
Thursday from 1pm
Sunday from 1pm

**SEPTEMBER RANING
PROMOTIONS**

Ken Manders – National
Betty Burke – State *

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Geoff Allen
Bruce Bowden
Shirley Pruden
Robyn Nolan
Maureen Tracey
Pat Fittler

Happy birthday too to anyone with a birthday this month who has been missed, If you would like your birth month added to the list, please contact the editor

**WELCOME TO NEW
MEMBERS**

Jeanette Humphries
Moreen Arundel

TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB 50TH YEAR

History of TBC Bridge Lessons

Everyone agrees that bridge lessons are a vital part of the Club. They attract new members and help more experienced players develop and improve their game.

The earliest bridge lessons we know about in Townsville were given by Mrs Breinl, daughter -in-law of the pioneering medial health specialist Anton Breinl.



Pat Back, wife of Ken Back who was the first warden of the University College of Townsville, precursor to James Cook University, gave lessons for a number of years. Elsie Stubbs learned from Mrs Back. Mrs Back is shown here (third from left) at the 1984 Townsville Congress. Second from left is Del Ward another long term teacher and mentor.

Many current players in the Club remember lessons from Clarice Suthers (always known as Clarrie), although it is not clear if she took over directly from Mrs Back.

Elsie Stubbs began giving lessons in 1990 when the Cleveland Bay Bridge Club was formed taking with it the previous teachers. Elsie stopped giving lessons in 2016, meaning that her experience in this endeavour spanned almost half of the life of the Club.



Many other senior members of the Club have also given hours of work and patience to this task. This photo captures five of them (from left to right) Lee Owens, Elsie Stubbs, Betty Hobbell, Clarice Suthers, Keith Ramsbothom

Beth Whebell, also a long time tutor, is shown here in a 1989 shot with Matt Mulamphy



Editor's Note: I plan to have something about the Club's history in each issue of this year's newsletter. If you would like to submit an article or offer material or suggest a topic, I would be very pleased to hear from you. Jean

SOME RECENT RESULTS

Handicap Pairs

- 1st Andrea Galeano and Felicity Horne
- 2nd Trudy Low and Louise Connell
- 3rd Cara Bragg and Maureen Treacey

Magnetic Teams

Section A

- 1st Elsie Stubbs, John Johnson, Ian Patterson, Bill Bishop
- 2nd Betty Hobdell, Rosemary Glastonbury, Hugh McAllister, Di McAlister

Section B

- 1st Joan Elliott, Marie Stabler, John Larkin, Peter Hall
- 2nd Felicity Horne, Dusk Care, Trudy Low, Andre Galeano

50th Anniversary Teams

Section A

- 1st Di McAlister, Rosemary Glastonbury, John Johnson, Phil Rains
- 2nd Geoff Allen, Pat Allen Lee Owens, Jan Smith

Section B

- 1st Cathy Crawford, Jennelle Dalton, Barbara Hospers, Gladys Tulloch
- 2nd Joan Elliott, Marie Stabler, John Larkin, Peter Hall

Section C

- 1st Andre Galeano, Robyn Green, Robert Mischlewski, Fred Cole
- 2nd Jennifer Mullen, Lina Diquer, Jillanne Dillon, Albert Beric

Monday Teams

Section A

- 1st Betty Hobdell, Ken Manders, Elsie Stubbs, Ched Twyman
- 2nd Sandra Bunnnett, Clive Bunnnett, Vivienne Otto, Delma Ward

Section B

- 1st Gwen Gray, Monica Quilty, Shirley Strike, Shirley Stone
- 2nd Marie Stabler, Tony Byrrne, Joan Elliott, Peter Hall

Major Sponsor



We have established a major partnership with **Escape Travel Townsville**, who is willing to offer sponsorship in the form of a "Kickback" to the club of travel rewards. This is available on bookings made and paid for by our members, their family, friends and associates from other clubs. This means that at the end of each quarter the Club will receive travel vouchers that can be raffled for prizes to assist with our fundraising efforts.

All you have to do is contact **Escape Travel Townsville** on **07 4722 5000** mention that you are a member of the Townsville Bridge Cub (or an associate of the Club) when making the booking, for the club to receive the "Kickback" rewards. This will apply to ALL bookings for club business and your leisure travel booked through **Escape Travel Townsville** even if you live in other parts of the country we can still receive the benefits if you just follow the steps above.

