



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

October 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



September started with the Magnetic Teams Congress which was held in good spirit with numbers up from previous years. The results were posted in our last newsletter. Following that the Monday teams event held over three weeks was won by the Tredrea team (John, Geoff Allen, Ched Twyman and Charlie Georgees).

In early October three teams represented the northern zone at the Queensland Festival of Bridge where 52 teams and 94 pairs competed. Congratulations to Leigh Owens and Jan Smith who finished ninth in the Moore Australian Queensland Open Pairs event in an extremely strong field. The recent Wednesday teams event held over two weeks was won by the Doyle team. Well done to Nina, Ian, Donna and Myles.

This year's Melbourne Cup is coming up on November 7 and the usual games day on Tuesday afternoon will be cancelled and regular participants will be invited to attend our cup function.

In relation to club catering, I would like to thank Jessica Snelson, Ann Smith's niece, who manages Dominos at Kirwan. Jessica supplies all pizzas that the club gets for catering at half price. Please support Dominos when you next have pizza.

On Wednesday November 29 well known bridge teacher Ron Klinger will be in Townsville for a short visit and will conduct two bridge workshops. The first workshop runs from 10 am to 12.30 and is aimed at newer players. The second runs from 1.30 to 4pm for more experienced players. Details are displayed in the foyer. Please note that the attendance fee is set by Ron Klinger. Trevor has recently sent an email to all members and the committee would like to have numbers by the end of October. Ron Klinger charges a set fee per session and the club will pick up the difference between nomination fees collected and his charge.

It has been mentioned before but I will remind you again to please turn your mobile phones off or to silent mode before sessions start. Our directors have requested that, at the end of each session you please tidy up the table and surrounding floor, empty bins and return boards and bridgemates to their boxes. Directors have other duties and should not be expected to clean the clubhouse after sessions. Please help.

In closing I would like to offer condolences on behalf of all club members to Maria for her recent loss.

Wilfred Tapiolas



Recent Grand Slams

ALBERT BERIC / ROSEMARY
GLASTONBURY
IAN LEACH / NINA DOYLE
ANNE MURPHY / BYRON MACKENZIE-ROSS

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Margaret Dousset	LIFE
Terry Hughes	BRONZE LOCAL
Byron Mackenzie-Ross	BRONZE LOCAL
Mary Overell	LOCAL
Kevin Barker	GRADUATE



Newsletter Item: Table Fees - change to Cashless from 1 January 2024

To reduce the burden on the Collection Team TBC decided sometime ago to go Cashless by introducing Tokens and eftpos for purchase of tokens.

But to allow Members time to adjust to the new Table Fees system it was decided to also accept cash for a period.

Most Members now have changed to using tokens with only a small amount of Table Fees being paid in Cash.

So from 1 January 2024 TBC plans to go Cashless for Table Fees. If this is a problem for anyone, then please contact Joan Elliott or Ken Davies to discuss further.

Eftpos will be available for Visitors \$9 Table fees.

Note: At this stage this change only applies to Table Fees.

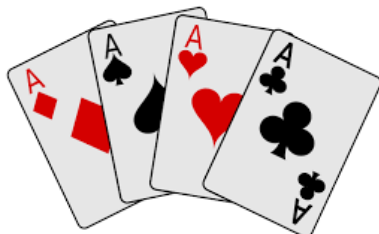


Courtesy Adrian Raeside

FUN TIMES AT THE RECENT INGHAM CONGRESS



Ken Manders and Betty Hobdell receiving their pens from the ABF for coming first at the Australian Bridge Magazine Australia Wide Open Pairs, competing in a field of 1477 pairs.





CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP



1st Place

Betty Hobdell - Ian Patterson - Rosemary Glastonbury - Robyn Nolan

2nd Place

Pat Leighton - Barbara Hospers - Pat Larsen - Gladys Tulloch - Cathy Crawford

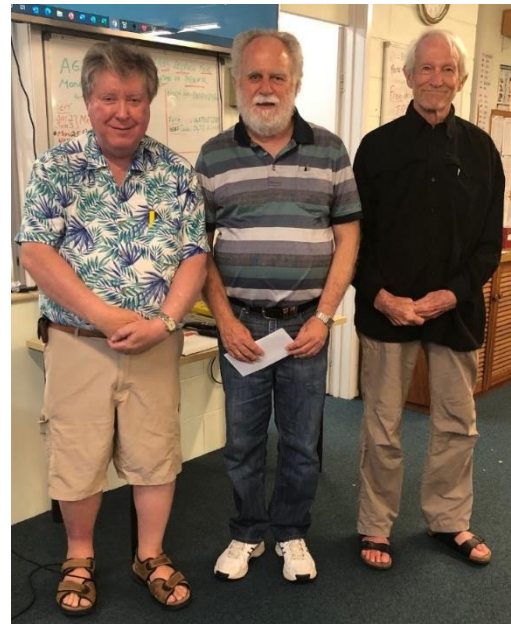
3rd Place

Russell Woolley - Charlie Georgees - Albert Beric - Ched Twyman

Mackay Congress 2023

Ian Patterson, Noel Bugeia, Pat Leighton, Ched Twyman, and Robin Nolan

2nd Teams Open



Noel Bugeia, Ian Patterson and Ched Twyman – **3rd Pairs Open**



Noel Bugeia, Dusk Care and Mary Overell - **2nd Pairs B Grade**



Qld Festival of Bridge

Moore Australia Qld Open Pairs (October 2023)

Congratulations to Leigh Owens and Jan Smith for coming **9th out of 94 pairs.**



Keith Ramsbottom Pairs

1st Place PAT LARSEN – PHIL RAINS

2nd Place BETTY HOBDELL - ROSEMARY GLASTONBURY

3rd Place CHARLIE GEORGEES - CHED TWYMAN

Wednesday night teams (October)

1st Place DONNA CLARKSON - MYLES CLARKSON - NINA DOYLE - IAN LEACH

2nd Place RUSSELL WOOLLEY - CHARLIE GEORGEES - VIVIENNE OTTO - REG BURTON

3rd Place JUDY HUNT - TONI BARRELL - GARRY BOLTON - GREG LAWLER

MONDAY SEPTEMBER TEAMS (September)

1st Place John Tredrea - Geoff Allen - Ched Twyman - Charlie Georgees

2nd Place Betty Hobdell - Ken Manders - Rosemary Glastonbury - Robyn Nolan

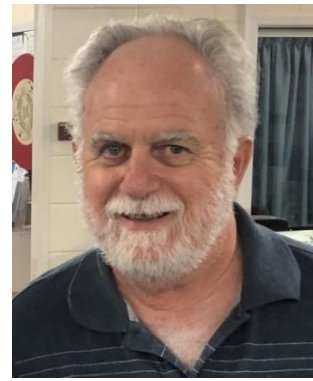
3rd Place Kay Goodwin - Audrey Ledbrook - Helen Tapiolas - Wilfred Tapiolas

LIKE TO SHARE ANYTHING?

If anyone has any photos, ideas or feedback for the newsletter, then please contact Albert Beric or email them to me - aberic@tpg.com.au



FORCING BIDS (Yet again) by Ian Patterson



During the Magnetic Teams Congress a deal came up in which both tables missed the COLD No Trump Grand Slam.

At my table, North/South bid (without interference): 1H / 1S / 2D / 3C / 3Nt / 4C* / 4Nt** / Pass!

* By agreement, 4C after a 3Nt bid is always Gerber (actually alerted).

** Showing 3 Aces, but S thought it was just showing a desire to play in NT so passed.

At our Home Table, N/S bid (again without interference): 1H / 2C* / 3Nt** / 4S*** / Pass!

* 2C is FORCING if not bid by a passed hand. It shows 1 of 3 things:

1. A Club suit with 10+ HCP (I prefer 11+ in an otherwise balanced hand) forcing Opener to bid a 2nd suit or 2Nt with a minimum of 12HCP.
2. A 3-card limit raise in the Opening Major showing 10 or 11 HCP with 8 losers in an otherwise balanced hand. It may be bid with just 3 Clubs.
3. An unbalanced hand with 6 or 7 Clubs and 8/9 HCP, not suitable for a Nt Contract, but stronger than a weak 3C response. The intention is to bid 3C over Openers change of suit rebid.

** 3Nt bid here shows "points for Game", presumably 16/17 HCP (not enough for a Jump Shift showing 18/19 HCP) and (also presumably) 2 or 3 Clubs. How else do you use the Dummy's Club suit (given hand 3 above) in a NT contract? Alternatively, do you want your partner to rebid 5C?

*** 4S bid here shows 5-Card Spade suit (and hence a 6-Card Club suit) in an extremely unbalanced hand. But is it forcing? Opener interpreted the bid as a preference of games and passed.

Responder (South) held: S: KQJ65 H: 9 D: 4 C: AKQ875

If 4S is not forcing, then the only alternative is to bid 4Nt (Keycard for Clubs!). If the response is 5D (0 or 3 Aces), then the Grand is a possibility (assuming 3, given the jump to 3Nt). How do you proceed from there? If the response is 5H (2 Aces), then only a Small Slam is likely. But which one? Your partner doesn't know about the 5-Card Spade suit. Do you settle for 6C, or introduce the Spades with 6S? 6Nt doesn't seem to be an option unless partner holds 3 Spades along with the 2/3 Clubs needed to ensure entry to your hand and a favourable break in either suit (or both suits).

♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦ ♠♥♣♦

What would have happened if South had been the one to jump? The bidding might have gone:

1H / 2C/ 2D/ 3S* / 3Nt / 4S / 4Nt** / 5S*** / 5Nt / 6D**** / 6S / 7Nt!

* If 2S (responder's reverse showing 6 losers) is Game Force, the 3S is "better than Game Force (4/5 losers?)" but does it promise a 5-card suit? Rebidding 4S guarantees it.

** Roman Key Card for Spades, otherwise bid 5C.

*** 2 Key Cards plus the Q Spades.

**** 1 King. Does it matter which one?

! The 5NT guarantees all the Key Cards. With the KC and a solid 6-Card Club suit bid 7Nt (expecting partner to have at least 2 Clubs?).

Opener (North) held: S: AT8 H: AQ873 D:AJ76 C: J.

Why did they not bid 2D? Well, it comes down to a question of what is FORCING. Can a 2D rebid be dropped? I would argue NOT! What does 2D promise? I would describe it as a hand with 5Hs and 3+Ds, LESS THAN 18 HCP, and not suitable for a 12-14 HCP 2Nt rebid. So with any of the 2C responses shown above, Responder should bid again. The choices would be:

1. 2H showing 2+ Hs with a 5,3,2,3 hand, 10HCP (or 11 and no or a poor Spade stopper);
2. 3H with a poor (3-card) limit raise in Hs;
3. 2Nt with 11 HCP, no H fit and a Spade stopper;
4. 3C with the 3rd (weak) Club holding described above;
5. 3D with a 4-card (or longer) Diamond suit.

Once Responder has described their hand (as above), Opener is better positioned to decide what the final contract should be.

It is a different scenario if Responders bid had been 1NT showing less than 10 (11?) HCP, when pass with a weak (6-7 HCP) 5,4,1,3 or 4,4,2,3 holding is justified. With a 5,3,2,3 shape Responder would show preference with 2H, remembering Opener will have to ruff Ss and/ or Cs in their hand.

P.S. Did I mention I loathe the 3NT rebid because it uses up so much bidding space. I realise introducing a second suit gives away the nature of the hand and may help the opponents with finding the lead that sets the contract, but they may find it anyway (without your help). This deal is an example of going slowly paying off.

An interesting Hand - **bittersweet**

Recently, Bruce Bowden brought to my attention a hand which he played with Elsie Stubbs at the 2010 Barrier Reef congress. It was such an interesting hand, David Bridge, an English Bridge Journalist, featured it in a London paper.

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

West	North	East	South
Gill	Stubbs	Gill	Bowden
3S	Dble	Pass	4H
All Pass			

West opened with a pre-emptive Spade bid. Elsie bids a take-out double and Bruce responds with four hearts. Elsie, surprisingly, passes 4 hearts with a **4-1 Heart Fit**.

West leads a low spade which was one with the Ace in Dummy. Bruce then plays the dummy's ace of Hearts and then ruffed a spade in his hand. This play allowed him to win a trick with his five of trumps.

Bruce then proceeded to play the king and queen of trumps and then switched to diamonds. East wins two trump tricks and the ace of clubs. So incredibly Bruce found a game contract with 5 trumps against opponents that had an 8 card fit in the Declares bid suit.

Bruce fondly recalls ***"At the other table, The Gills's bid and made 6D, but I was rather proud of actually making 10 tricks playing with only a 4-1 trump suit and making 5 trump tricks from it."***



Bridge for Beginners

Finessing for a Queen

Lacking any further information from the bidding, the best strategy is to finesse when holding a total of eight cards in the suit, and don't finesse but play the two top cards to cause the queen to be "dropped" if nine cards are held.

When holding a suit combination headed by the AKJ, it's best to finesse when holding 8 cards or less in the suit. If holding 9 or more cards, then it's best to play for the drop.

This is where the phrase "Eight Ever, Nine Never" comes from.

Quick Tips for Improving Your Bridge Game

Courtesy of Karen Walker Bridge professional.

When you're a defender:

Lead attacking combinations -- suits with touching honors such as QJ10x, KQx, AKxx, J109x. Lead the top of an honor sequence.

Don't lead unsupported aces (Ax, Axx, Axxx) **unless** it's the suit partner has bid.

When in doubt about what to lead, lead the fourth-best card in your longest suit. Leading from length is the "standard" lead to a notrump contract, and it's often the safest lead to a suit contract.

Count cards and points as you play. Use clues from the bidding, the opening lead and the play to try to come up with a mental picture of partner's or declarer's hand.

Think ahead, and be ready for critical plays. Indecision will often tell declarer what you hold in a suit, so try to decide in advance which card you'll play when declarer leads a suit toward or from dummy.



Member Profile: **TONY BYRNE**

When and where did you first play Bridge?

Rockhampton. Learnt 5 card majors and played for 5 months before being transferred to Townsville.

Who introduced you to bridge?

Ad in the paper.

Who taught you to play bridge?

Dr Malcolm Allan.



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

Grew up in Childers Qld, one of 6 children. We lived across the road from my grandparents. I lost my grandmother before I was born. I went to the catholic primary school and lucky for us Mr Pizzey, a Childers MP, had been Premier and got us a high school at Childers.

Did you have a nickname at school? If so, why did the name arise.

No, I had a brother Terrance and he used to list me as A. Byrne for athletics, etc. I went to the state championships for the 100m but didn't go past the heats.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Emptying grease traps. The 4 boys in my family had chores and that was the worst. Dad used to buy a hundred Baby chickens each year and have lights in their cage to fatten them up for Christmas. We had to kill, pluck, and clean them, so you can imagine how bad the grease traps were.

Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?

I play pool and all types of board games. I love reading the paper with a coffee. I travel to Brisbane and Melbourne during summer to visit grandchildren, oh and children.

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

I was a barista as a teenager. My grandfather was Sicilian and had imported a coffee machine from Italy for his café (also had a cane farm). I could make 4 cappuccinos at a time. Quicker than today as there was only one choice and some with milk.

My best job was assistant on the locos. Three of us got caught riding on the back of the cane train. We had to write a letter of apology to the mill manager, a family friend. 3 months later I applied for a holiday job and got it as an assistant on a loco.



I repeated senior to get into teaching. Finally got to Kelvin Grove and first time away from home. Got a degree in 6 months; for drinking. That bank job offered previously looked good, so I got into 30 years of banking. I got a redundancy as relieving manger, Townsville.

I played golf for my long service, which I had accrued. Then I went to James Cook and got my B. Ed to teach business and maths. I mainly did contract and relief to be able to drop and go if dad got sick.

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

Probably a jaguar for the thrill of speed.

What is your favourite song?

If I could turn back Time.

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

I won the Willows open golf Championship one year. Unfortunately I missed the presentation of a Car Detail \$650 as I thought it was a gross comp and not a nett.

I did the Camino across Spain with a backpack after my 35 day bus trip to most top spots in Europe. I also did a 7 day UK bus tour. Then I did Sicily in a hire car by myself and the Peru's Machu Pichu.

What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

My *Justice* trait, particularly with my siblings growing up.

Who is the most famous person you have met?

A Miss Australia who came to present awards at a concert dad put on.

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

My Motto is 'only dead fish flow with the current? (Probably influences my bidding)

If you could invite three famous people for dinner (dead or alive) who would it be?

Nelson Mandela, Jorge Mario Bergoglio and Sheridan Wilson (Daughter)

Best advice for your bridge partner

Don't let them play in two. In teams: Any sniff bid game or slam.

Do you have a joke?

The police siren was chasing me down the highway recently – so I went faster. Finally they pulled me over.

‘What have you got to say for yourself’ “ Well a couple of months ago my wife ran off with a policeman; I thought you might be bringing her back!



bridging the past.....



Bruce Chalker



Clarice Suthers and Joan Robertson

Jean Bowker



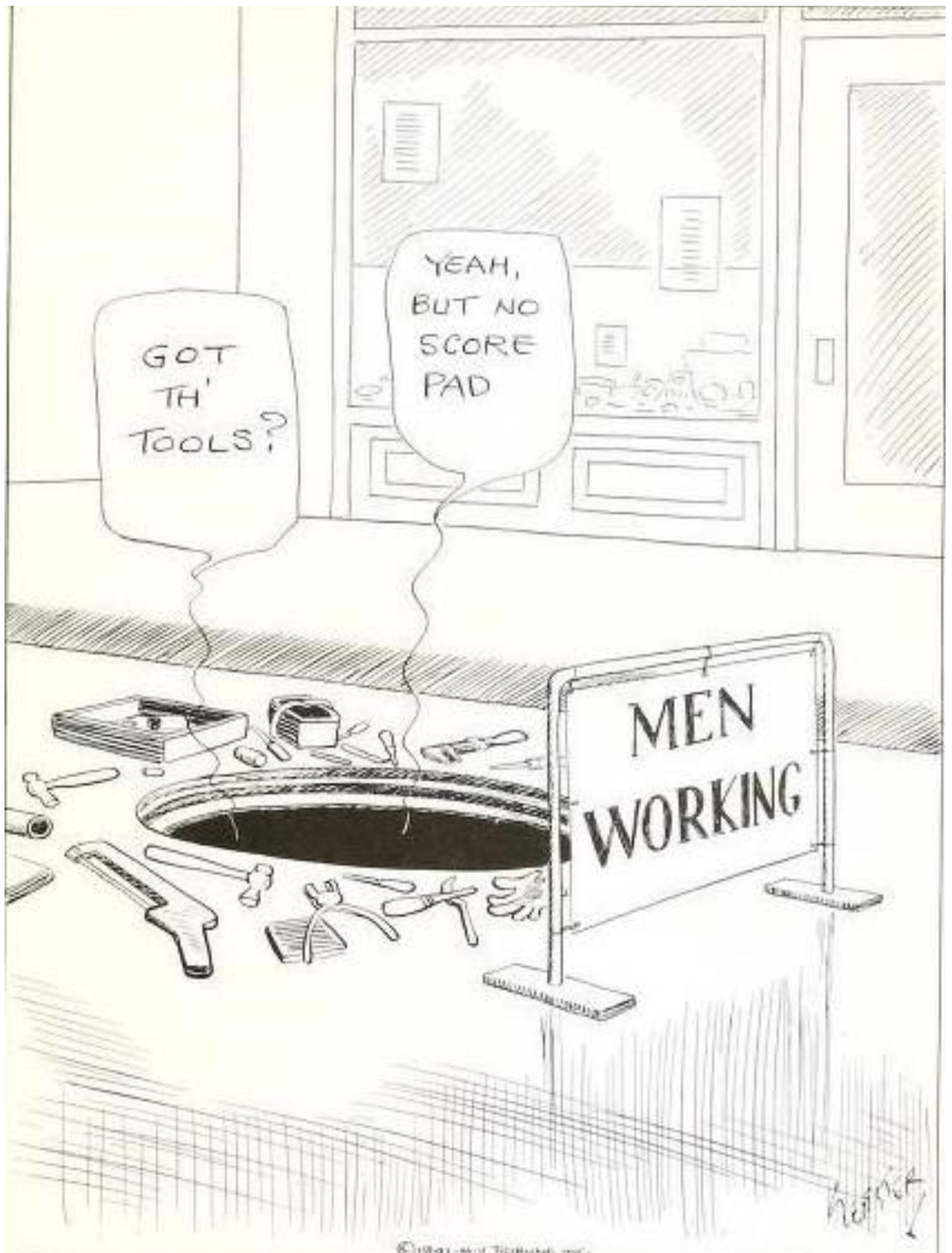
Grace Cable



Daphne Crimston and Matt Mullaugh



Beryl Parker



GOT TH' TOOLS?

YEAH, BUT NO SCORE PAD

MEN WORKING

Handwritten signature