



# TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

April 2019

<http://townsville.fnqbridge.com/>  
Clubhouse phone 4779 4043  
PO Box 1053, Aitkenvale, 4814  
[townsvillebridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:townsvillebridgeclub@gmail.com)  
Bank Details:  
BSB: 034 212  
ACC #: 913659

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### President:

Clive Bunnett - 4773 1029

### Vice President:

Gloria Macdonald - 0402 010 595

### Secretary:

Rosemary Glastonbury  
0422 222 191

### Treasurer:

Geoff Allen - 0407 154 716

### Committee Members

Peter Hall - 4779 5464

Lyn Joye - 0402 248 086

Robert Mischlewski - 4779 7637

John Johnson - 4778 2797

Fay Blower - 4403 9421

Devan Mitchell - 0407 691 563

### Congress Directors

Geoff Allen - 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister - 0402 761 152

Bill Bishop - 0409 598 214

### Active Club Directors

Clive Bunnett - 07 4773 1029

Maria Chippendale - 0407 640 949

Betty Hobdell - 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann - 07 4778 2914

Gloria MacDonald - 0402 010 595

Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.

Phil Rains - 0417 160 059

Bill Redhead - 0427 753 167

Elsie Stubbs - 0451 013 753

### Zonal Positions

Geoff Allen - Delegate

John Tredrea - Secretary

## COMING EVENTS

One Day Matchpoint Pairs  
April 6

Easter Congress (Cairns)  
18 - 22 April

Diggers Congress (Cleveland Bay)  
Pairs  
25 April  
Teams  
27 - 28 April

Bridge for Brains  
May 2

Barrier Reef Congress (Cairns)  
3 - 6 May

Novice Pairs  
11 May

## PLEASE DON'T BRING YOUR GERMS TO THE BRIDGE CLUB

The committee would like to remind you that if you have a respiratory infection, please stay at home. If you absolutely must come into the Club, please wear a mask and be ultra-careful about hand washing.

Some of our members are elderly and more susceptible to infection than younger people. Some of our members have immunological problems due to illnesses and their treatments.

Let's all, please, look after each other.

## **WELL, WE WANTED TO BE A SPORT !**

According to a number of news reports, Geir Helgemo, one of the world's top bridge players, was suspended by the World Bridge Federation after a drug test found the presence of two banned substances. There is no suggestion that these were enhancing his play but they are banned for all sportspeople.

The New York Times reported on March 2, 2019.

The World Bridge Federation suspended Mr. Helgemo after a random test found the presence of synthetic testosterone and Clomifene, a medication typically used to treat infertility in women that can also increase testosterone levels in men.

Mr. Helgemo, a professional player who represents Monaco at tournaments, will not be allowed to participate in a bridge competition until November, the Federation said.

Mr. Helgemo asked for the lab to recheck his results after they came back from a test taken at a championship competition in Orlando, Florida, in September. They came back unchanged.

Eventually, he settled on the most likely explanation: Mr. Helgemo told the federation that he had been trying to control his weight and had been taking supplements — with unknown ingredients — given to him by a friend who was a body builder.

Mr. Helgemo, who is serving a prison sentence in Norway for tax fraud unrelated to his suspension, could not be reached on Saturday.

What an interesting life some bridge players seem to have!

## **BEGINNERS CLASS MARCH 2019**

Clive's beginner's class is going strong and the participants look as if they are enjoying themselves. Di Garside is assisting and took the photo.



Arthur Johnson, Mary Overell, Wendy Schwerin, Helen King, Toni Lamphier, Matthew, Maxine Virgo.  
Not appearing (they came later) Wendy Collard and Jo Lord.

## MENTORING PROGRAM 2019.

Nine novices have just completed a formal mentor program running over four weeks. Volunteers from the Wednesday night group helped designated partners experience their first duplicate games.

This program aims to give novices the confidence to play in club sessions regularly. Those who completed the course have indicated that they will be joining us at the tables in future.

The success of this experience was due largely to the encouragement and guidance shown by the mentors and the wonderful welcome from the whole Wednesday Night Group.

Many thanks also to the organizers \_ Devan and Sam.

WATCH OUR CLUB PROSPER !

Fay Blower.



### Novices

Carolyn Allis, Debbie Glenwright , Theresea Jarrett , Bernie Kirwan , Beverly Middlendorp , Lily Morris , Peter Patchell , Jean Perry and Ruth Bradshaw.

### Mentors

Sam Bishop, Felicity Horne, Peter Houseden, Gloria MacDonald, Devan Mitchell, Robyn Nolan, Bill Redhead, Wilfred Tapiolas and Fay Blower.

## **ONGOING BRIDGE EDUCATION**

A subcommittee meeting was held last month to discuss bridge teaching strategies. The group consisted of Clive Bunnett, Del Ward, Gloria McDonald, Di McAlister, and Geoff Allen. This is a summary of the discussions.

- Beginners' and Improvers' lessons are quite well catered for with Clive doing the 6 (often 8 with consolidation) week introductory lessons and then Fay doing the improvers
- Fay also helps Del do the supervised play on a Tuesday morning and they will use some weeks to offer more structured revision of the improver's topics
- There are now many sets of hands in the dealing machine for topics but some gaps still (penalty doubles, unusual 2NT, Michaels' cue bids and all the advanced topics)
- Elsie continues to run sessions on Saturday mornings for improvers
- The big hiatus in lessons is from improvers to intermediate and advanced and several options for these lessons were discussed:
  - Short discussion of hand(s) after play, mainly on Mondays – Di has done a pilot of this which had about 10 people and went well
  - Short talks on Monday
  - Talks/ lessons on Saturday morning (or Tuesday?)
  - Geoff has prepared a power point talk on the unassuming cue bid which looks like a good vehicle for teaching
  - Gloria suggested having a calendar of future talks, but the group decided to start first with 2 talks - Di on RCKB this Saturday 30/03 and Geoff on Jakoby 2NT on Saturday 13/04 and then assess the level of interest
  - There is quite a long list of potential topics which could be taught
  - There is a shortage of people willing to commit to regular teaching at this level

The work has already started. Di made a presentation with practice hands of the Roman Key Card convention on Saturday morning 30 March which was attended by at least 24 people and was very well received. There will be presentations in the future on various conventions by those with an interest in doing so.

Our education process is gradually developing but it needs more personnel to conduct the sessions.

Comments on this and suggestions for topics of interest are welcome.

Clive Bunnett

## **RANKING PROMOTIONS FOR MARCH**

Dusk Care – National\*  
Pat Fittler – Local \*\*  
Joyce McArthur – Local  
Frances Summerhayes – Club  
Reg Burton – Graduate  
Ruth Bradshaw - Graduate

### **SOME RECENT RESULTS**

#### GNOT Qualifying

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Betty Hobdell, Ian Patterson, Rosemary Glastonbury, Bill Bishop  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Hugh McAlister, Di McAlister, Geoff Allen, John Johnson  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Janelle Dalton, Cathy Crawford, Barbara Hospers, Bernice Morton

#### Three Saturdays' event

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Vivienne Otto and Del Ward  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Ian Patterson and Betty Hobdell  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Geoff Allen and Rosemary Glastonbury

#### Ingham Anniversary Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pat Leighton and Ched Twyman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Redhead and Gayleen Brown  
3<sup>rd</sup> Lyn Joye and Sam Bishop

### **HAPPY BRITHDAY IN MAY**

Albert Beric  
Jacquelyn Bliss  
Phil Rains  
Heather Colbert  
Margaret Dousset  
Delma Johnson  
Margaret McSweeney  
Jane Seawright  
Kelly Walker  
Judy Hunt

Happy Birthday too to anyone  
not on my spreadsheet. If you  
would like to be added, please  
contact the Editor at  
[jeandartnall@hotmail.com](mailto:jeandartnall@hotmail.com)