



CLUB PRESIDENT

It was good to see such a large turnout for our first Clive Bunnett Memorial Pairs competition held in March. There were seventeen tables in use, eleven in the open section and six for novices. Sandra and her family donated a shield trophy, which will be displayed in the clubhouse. Competition was so close in both sections that the winners were not determined until the final round.

Congratulations to Pat Larsen and Bill Bishop who took out the open section and to Nina Doyle and Ian Leach for winning the novice section. I would like to thank Sandra for presenting the prizes and for her speech in memory of Clive.

There were two other competitions of note in March. Congratulations to Heather Colbert and Ann Smith who won the Ingham Bridge Club Anniversary Pairs and Reg Burton and Vivienne Otto who won the three week Wednesday Restricted Conventions competition.

Preparations for the Barrier Reef Congress are well in hand with dealing of the boards taking place each Tuesday morning. The club's three dealing machines are running flat out. With over one thousand boards to be dealt, a total of fifty-two thousand individual cards pass through the machines. Thanks to all members of the dealing team for giving up their Tuesdays.

If anyone would like to help at the congress, or can lend the club a card table, please add your name to the notice board.

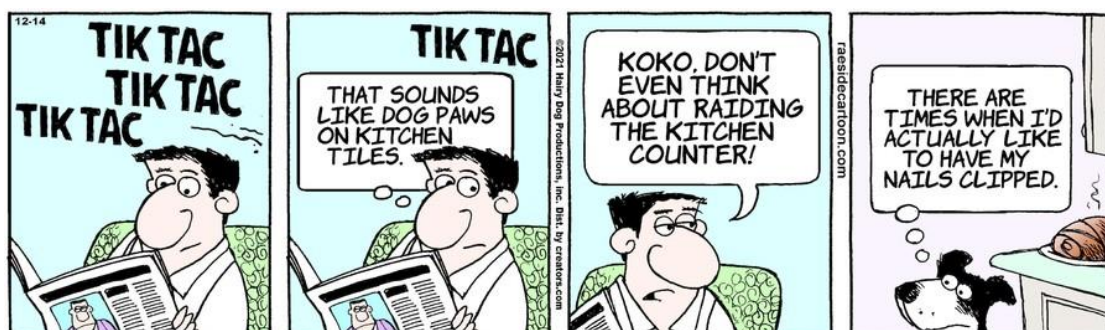
Finally, the table fees from our Anniversary Pairs event last Monday were donated to the Red Cross flood relief appeal – thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Wilfred Tapiolas

Donations needed for our Barrier Reef Congress HAMPER RAFFLES – *can you help?*



We are seeking donation of items for our hamper raffles, such as bottles of wine, spirits, chocolates, biscuits, candles, etc. Please don't gift clothing, perishables or used items. Please leave the items at the dedicated area at the club house.



Courtesy
Adrian
Raeside



UPCOMING EVENTS.....

APRIL 2022

Player promotions

Congratulations to:

- Bernard Kirwan – Club
- Arthur Johnson - Graduate

Recent Grand Slams

- GLORIA MACDONALD / PETER HOUSDEN
- IAN PATTERSON / BETTY HOBDELL
- CHED TWYMAN / HELEN LOVEGROVE
- JEANETTE MCKENZIE / DUSK CARE
- BETTY HOBDELL / JOHN JOHNSON

- 9th TBC (QBA) - One Day Matchpoint Pairs (Red)
- 15th CAIRNS EASTER CONGRESS (4 days) 23-Apr-22
CBBC Diggers Congress - Pairs (Red)
- 24th CBBC Diggers Congress - Teams (Red)
- 25th CBBC Diggers Congress - Teams (Red)
- 30th TBC (QBA) Novice Matchpoint Pairs - (Red)



Showing respect to our Directors

Our directors are volunteers who provide a great service to the club and without them we could not run bridge sessions.

Please show our directors the appropriate courtesy and respect when they are giving instructions, such as promptly taking your seats when asked.

Also, when the director is addressing the room, players should stop their private conversations as this is disrespectful to the director as well as to the other players. Thankyou





CALLING ON ...



FOR THE BARRIER REEF CONGRESS

Can you assist with the following?

Sell Raffle Tickets

Take Lunch Orders

Caddy (1 or more sessions – training given)

Welcome visitors at bus stop in front of stadium – approx. 9:10am, 2 days only

Pick up Directors each morning & return at night

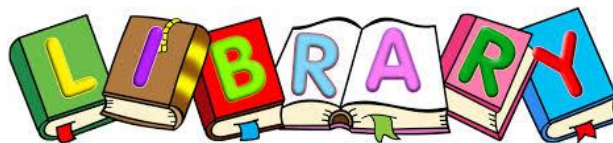
If you can help, please put your name on the list at the clubhouse or let Margaret or Devan know

SAVE THE DATE!

- We need 10 volunteers at 3pm on Sunday 8 May at the club house to organise equipment, boards, supplies etc for loading on the truck the following day.
- We need 10 volunteers at 7am on Monday 9 May at the club house to load the truck and follow it to the stadium.
- We need 10+ volunteers from 8am at the stadium to help unload the truck and set up the playing area, the foyer (raffle & lunch tables).

WE'D LIKE TO BORROW

- Card tables
- 2 cash tins (for Raffle & Lunch Orders)



THERE IS NO BETTER PARTNER THAN A BOOK (Ched TWYMAN)

The Library has welcomed numerous new additions to its family and offers many thanks to the donors. I suspect that there are more lonely and neglected bridge books collecting dust wishing to be adopted by a home that gives them new life. Please consider.

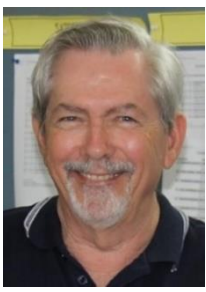
Bridge literature is so vast it's difficult to be a discerning consumer. In that regard I believe the club wealth of communal expertise can lend a guiding hand. I'd like to ask experienced members to consider writing a brief review of one or more books they'd recommend to be included in this column. In addition bridge literature has a rich store of entertaining anecdotes as well as cleverly written bridge spoofs, witness Victor Mollo's, "Bridge in the Menagerie" which the library has a copy of but would dearly love copies of the other titles in the Menagerie series.

One of my favourite anecdotes, which I vaguely remember coming across in one of Eddie Kantar's book, involved Charles Goren and Dorothy Hayden. Goren sold over 10 million books on bridge and was the most famous bridge writer of his time. Dorothy Hayden won numerous international championships and was a contemporary of Goren. After winning a major championship together a reporter came up to Hayden and asked, "what's it like playing with an international champion?". Hayden paused, somberly thought, and replied, " I don't know, you'll have to ask my partner!".



If these keys belong to you, then please contact Margaret Dousett





CLIVE BUNNETT - MEMORIAL PAIRS

Pat Larsen and Bill Bishop – Winning the open section

Nina Doyle and Ian Leach - Winning the novice section



2nd Open – Betty Hobdell and Ian Patterson



Sandra Bunnett presenting the prizes



3rd Open – Geoff Allen and Sandra Elliott



DID YOU KNOW?



Omar Sharif - "Acting may be my business, but bridge is my passion."

Omar Sharif enjoyed a phenomenal career as an actor and bridge player. Sharif was born in Egypt in 1932, and played cricket and football as a teenager. He did not learn bridge until his acting career began at age 21. According to Sharif, he was idle on a movie set when he noticed a bridge book lying around. After reading it, he became fascinated by the game and began playing both rubber and duplicate bridge in Cairo.

Having developed into an expert player, he formed the "Omar Sharif Bridge Circus" in 1967 to showcase bridge. The Circus was a traveling tour of bridge players that promoted the game via exhibition matches. Team members included Leon Yallouze, an Egyptian bridge pro, and Claude Delmouly, a French expert, as well as Benito Garozzo, Pietro Forquet and Giorgio Belladonna of the Italian Blue Team.

Wheeling through Europe, the Circus attracted thousands of spectators who watched the matches via BRIDGE-O-RAMA, a new technology (and predecessor to the modern-day VuGraph) that displayed bidding and cardplay on television monitors. With Sharif playing the Blue Team Club bidding system with his expert teammates, the Circus won multiple matches against local experts in multiple cities. After their European tour, the Circus barnstormed through Canada and the United States in 1968. They were accompanied by the Dallas Aces, the top American pro team of the era, and played friendly matches with local teams in several North American cities. During that year, Sharif also found time to serve as Egypt's captain in the World Team Olympiad.

In 1970, Sharif led his Circus to London's famous Piccadilly Hotel for an 80-rubber match against British experts Jeremy Flint and Jonathan Cansino. The stakes were £1 per point - huge stakes even by today's standards. The purpose of the event, according to British expert and writer Tony Forrester, was "to present bridge as a rich, exciting spectacle; to break through into television and so bring the game within the reach of millions who were still denied its joys." 3 The Circus ultimately won the match by 5,470 points, but Sharif still incurred a net loss after paying all related expenses.

It was also during the 1970s that Sharif began writing a bridge column with the Chicago Tribune. Co-authored with Tannah Hirsch, the column has since been widely syndicated. Sharif also penned two bridge books in the '80s and '90s: "Omar Sharif's Life in Bridge" (1983), and "Play More Bridge With Omar Sharif" (1994). During this time, he continued playing bridge in London and Paris with top experts like Paul Chemla of France.

By 2000, regrettably, Sharif quit bridge entirely. Having once proudly declared the game his passion, he now considered it an addiction: "I didn't want to be a slave to any passion anymore. I gave up card playing altogether, even bridge and gambling." Sharif, however, continued to license his name to bridge software games, and even co-authored a book with bridge writer David Bird, "Omar Sharif Talks Bridge". Written in 2004, it includes some of his most famous deals and bridge stories.

"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."

Sharif passed away July 10, 2015. In retrospect, he will be remembered as one of the most famous and charismatic celebrities who ever played, promoted, and wrote about bridge. [Article Courtesy of Jeff Tang \(Bridgebum.com.au\)](#)



Bridge for Beginners and Beyond



Helpful Tips

Judgement: What's My Hand Worth?

High card points are but one indicator of the quality of a hand.

- Length is a big factor, especially two-suited hands, which play well with one of the suits as trumps, and the other a potential source of side suit tricks
- Honours in long suits work a lot better than honours in short suits
- Don't underestimate the middle cards, the 9's and 10's, which go well with long suit honours

Two suited hands:

The Guideline of 20 takes long suits into account when deciding whether to open borderline hands (ie with fewer than 12 or 13 high card points) in first or second position.

Here's how it works:

Add all your high card points to the length of your two longest suits. If the total is 20 or more, open.

In the hand below, you have 10 high card points plus five for the number of spades and five for the number of hearts = 20. Go for it, and open 1 ♠.

♠ A K 10 6 5 (7 high card points) length of suit = five cards (= 12)

♥ Q J 10 9 5 (3 high card points) length of suit = five cards (= 8)

♦ 8 6

♣ 3

(12 + 8 = 20)

There nothing wrong with using other factors to value a hand - those factors are just as good as high card points, often better.

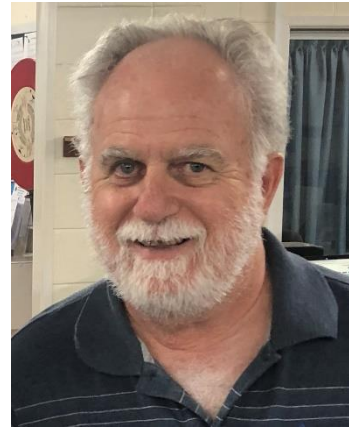
Courtesy Australian Bridge Federation





OVERCALL OR TAKEOUT DOUBLE

(Equal/Same Level Conversion)



How "good" are your partners' overcalls.

Do you regard them as simply "lead-directing", "competitive" or just interference? For instance would you overcall 1H with a suit holding A10972 in a hand holding just 9 HCP? I'm sure no teacher would suggest it to novices.

The other side of the coin is what do you bid with this hand after your right-hand opponent opens 1D: S: KJ92 H: AKQJ6 D: 5 C: 874? And when the bidding continues: 1D / 1H / 1Nt / ALL PASS, what do you lead from: S: 864 H: 72 D: J83 C: AK953?

Let us address the lead first.

Partner is known to make light "lead-direct" overcalls. The 1Nt bidder is an experienced player of long standing. You have a weak doubleton in Hearts. It looks like declarer has 2 H stoppers and enough time to set up the D suit for tricks. So, hoping to set up my C suit which partner can return once in with the AH, I lead a small C. Wrong! This time partner had the hand shown above, 5 Hs, 4 Ss and 14 HCP. Declarer had 4 Hs to the 10 (and not 4Ss). So a H lead would have given us the first 7 tricks, taking 1Nt off at least 1. How was I to know that partner was so strong?

Now for the bidding.

Very early in my Bridge life I learnt that holding both Majors, I should only overcall 1 suit if it had 2 (or more) more cards than the other. On that basis, holding 5/4 in the Majors I would always double for takeout (or as negative double). The problem with doubling with the hand above is that partner will "probably" bid Cs and you won't be able to show the H suit because you don't have 16 HCP. the solution is a convention I've read about recently called "Equal Level Conversion" (or is that Same level ...).

The principle behind EQL is that if (as in this case) you partner bids Cs, you can bid Hs to show a holding of 5/4 in Hs and Ss without showing extra HCPs, just an extra card in the suit bid. So the bidding could have gone: 1D / X / P / 2C / 2D / 2H / All Pass. Given partner's S holding (sitting behind the Opener) and 2 entries to dummy to lead Ss, 2H should make comfortably. Perhaps Equal Level Conversion is something we should all discuss with our favourite partners.

By Ian PATTERSON

Courtesy - www.oliverpreston.com



"Well, I can't be playing Bridge eight days this week."



Ex Member Profile:

Vilma LAWS

Who introduced you to bridge?

I learned to play Bridge in about 1979. It was the best thing I ever did. Del Ward (a current or past member) talked me into learning with her. I still ring her and thank her. If I hadn't bought the book and paid for the course of lessons I would never have gone to the second lesson. Ettie Fell was our teacher. Her daughter Carol Blackman was her daughter. She (Ettie) died a few years later. I still say 'if everyone learned to play Bridge there'd be nobody in the doctors' surgeries'!



When did you leave Townsville?

My husband John and I left Townsville in 2006. We came to the Sunshine Coast to be nearer to our daughter. I wouldn't have left Townsville and all my friends, but I knew I would be able to join another Bridge Club down here. I actually joined two – the Sunshine Coast Bridge Club and the Caloundra Bridge Club.

The best bridge advice given to you and/or best advice you have given to players?

The best advice I would give anyone about Bridge are these:

- (1) Always tell partner the truth and stick to the rules.
- (2) Don't overcall unless you have a good suit.

What's your link to Townsville and what you have been doing since you left Townsville?

Townsville Bridge Club and Townsville will always be special to me. Was born in Cairns and the lived in Ayr after 1949. Went to live in Townsville around 1955.

Margaret Ward taught me a lot. She was one of the original members in Townsville but went to live in Bribie Island near her daughter, Lindy Vincent (also a very good Bridge Player). Her son Richard Ward is a very good player in Brisbane. Margaret died quite a few years ago. I think she taught Richard and Lindy when they were little children. They still play regularly and used to be members of Townsville.

John (my husband) was the treasurer for a short while and was on the Committee. He banked the money for years right up until the time we left. He died in 2020. We had a lovely unit at Alexandra Headland called Seaforth Resort. After John died I sold it and moved to a retirement village called EdenLea in Buderim. Still haven't got Seaforth out of my system but EdenLea is very nice, and the people are lovely as well.



Memories.....

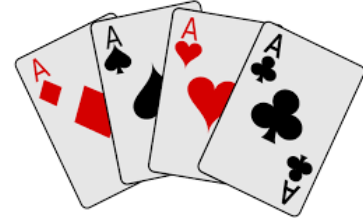
John Gray, Beth Whebell, Brian Blyth and Lindy Back



Dorthea Stewart and Daphne Crimston



Back: Claire Maloney and Leslie Rooney **Front:** Billie Harrington, Matt Mullamphy



Jim Foley, Beryl Parker, Dot Shannon, ?





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 - aberic@tpg.com.au