



# FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



## CLUB PRESIDENT

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2022.

Once again, the Australia Day Congress was a resounding success with visitors travelling from Brisbane and the Gold Coast, Mackay and the Atherton Tablelands to compete. Unfortunately, due to covid, we had to again limit the event to

sixteen tables. It was good to see an even mix of player expertise with one third A grade, one third B grade and one third C grade in both pairs and teams events. Congratulations to all who participated and the winners and placegetters. Thanks to Jan and Leigh for directing and to everyone who helped organise and run a wonderful event.

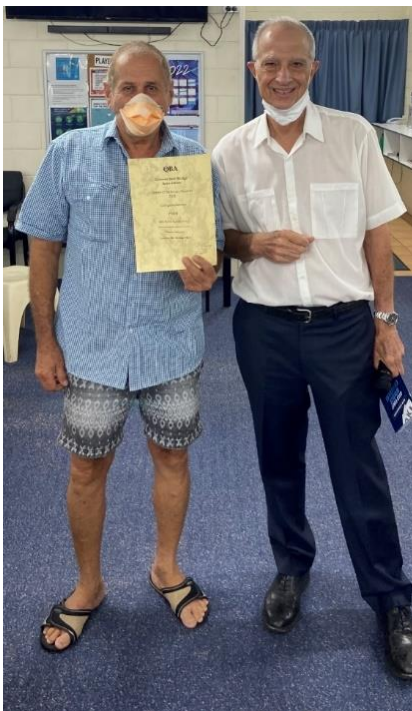
It was pointed out to me that, as the C grade players contributed one third of the congress entrance fees and received only two of the twelve prizes, the committee should review the situation for next year.

This year the city council has cancelled the Get Fit Expo at Jezzine Barracks and instead is promoting an active and healthy lifestyle by publishing monthly "Come and Try" get active and healthy calendars. The council is supporting our next Learn to Play Bridge classes which start on 8 February, by promoting bridge in the February calendar.

I am happy to be able to report that most of our members are now triple vaccinated. However, I would remind you that mask wearing is compulsory when playing bridge and the club has masks available if you forget to bring one.

Finally, I am pleased to add my congratulations to Charlie Georgees for winning the James Sullivan award. This is the third time he has won the award as he progresses through the masterpoint categories: a great achievement for both Charlie and our club.

## Wilfred Tapiolas



**JAMES O'SULLIVAN AWARD - First Bronze National – Most Masterpoints gained**

## CONGRATULATIONS CHARLIE GEORGEES

**The James O'Sullivan Award** – This award recognises the achievement of the player, in each of the masterpoint categories, who achieves the most masterpoints for the year.

James O'Sullivan was a major force in the development of national and international bridge administration in the 1970s and early 1980s. His drive, commitment and skills helped lay the foundations for much of what exists today. His most important contribution to bridge though lay in his efforts to strengthen administration at every level from State to national to zone and international level and to better define the roles that each level should play so as to contribute most to the development of bridge. During his ABF presidency, the ABF constitution was changed to give the Federal executive increased power relative to the states. (Source: ABF)



## UPCOMING EVENTS.....

### FEBRUARY 2022

- 3<sup>rd</sup> TBC Different Partners - 1 of 3 (Green)
- 5<sup>th</sup> TBC (QBA) Zonal Restricted Pairs (2 Sessions, Red)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Afternoon Open Session (Green)
- 10<sup>th</sup> TBC Different Partners - 2 of 3 (Green)
- 12<sup>th</sup> CBBC - Zonal Teams (Red)
- 13<sup>th</sup> CBBC - Zonal Teams (Red)
- 17<sup>th</sup> TBC Different Partners - 3 of 3 (Green)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Gold Coast Congress (9 days)

### MARCH 2022

- 2<sup>nd</sup> TBC Wed Pairs 1 - Restricted Conventions - (Green)
- 5<sup>th</sup> TBC GNOT Qual. 1 - Northern Zone (Gold)
- 6<sup>th</sup> TBC GNOT Qual. 1 - Northern Zone (Gold)
- 9<sup>th</sup> TBC Wed Pairs 2 - Restricted Conventions - (Green)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Open and Novice Sections
- 12<sup>th</sup> Clive Bunnett Memorial Pairs - 1 of 3 (Red)



### Player promotions

Congratulations to:

- Terry Hughes Graduate
- Maxine Virgo Graduate

### Recent Grand Slams

- KENN WINTER / GLORIA MACDONALD
- JACKIE SEGANFREDDO / KEN MANDERS
- BETTY HOBDELL / JOHN JOHNSON

### BRIDGE ETIQUETTE and PROTOCOL

- ✓ Do say 'Director Please' in a pleasant tone. Keep your hand up so that the Director can quickly determine who called.
- ✓ Do support your partner at all times. She/he is the only player in the room that is on your side!

**Note:** The following phone numbers are incorrect in our latest calendar.

- John Larkin 0473 162 829
- Nina Doyle 0407 634 920
- Ian Leach 0438 808 822





# TOWNSVILLE AUSTRALIA DAY CONGRESS RESULTS

## WALKIN PAIRS

### North South

- 1<sup>st</sup> JOHN JOHNSON / AUDREY LEDBROOK
- 2<sup>nd</sup> JOHN TREDREA / HELEN LOVEGROVE
- 3<sup>rd</sup> KENN WINTER / DAVID NORTH

### East West

- IAN PATTERSON / ROBYN NOLAN
- TERRENCE SHEEDY / ERROL MILLER
- PATRICIA LARSEN / BILL BISHOP

## SWISS TEAMS

- Winners "A" Division JOHN TREDREA, HELEN LOVEGROVE, CHARLIE GEORGEES, RUSSELL WOOLLEY
- Second "A" Division TERRENCE SHEEDY, ERROL MILLER, JOHN JOHNSON, AUDREY LEDBROOK
- Third "A" Division BETTY HOBDELL, ROSEMARY GLASTONBURY, ROBYN NOLAN, IAN PATTERSON
- Winners "B" Division PHIL RAINS, LESLEIGH ROONEY, DEVAN MITCHELL, JACKIE SEGANFREDDO
- Second "B" Division GLADYS TULLOCH, BARBARA HOSPERS, CATHY CRAWFORD, ALBERT BERIC
- Winners "C" Division ANDREE GALEANO, SAM BISHOP, DI GARSIDE, DONNA FITCH, JAN MANDERS



## SWISS PAIRS

- Winners "A" Division PHIL RAINS / LESLEIGH ROONEY
- Second "A" Division BETTY HOBDELL / ROSEMARY GLASTONBURY
- Third "A" Division PAT LARSEN / BILL BISHOP
- Winners "B" Division DUSK CARE / KAY GOODWIN
- Second "B" Division JAN MANDERS / KEN MANDERS
- Winners "C" Division CATHY CRAWFORD / ALBERT BERIC

**WELL DONE !!!!!!!**



*'So I told them, "Ladies, you've got to be fit to play in our bridge tournament. "'*





Go to the photos tab our website home page to view more great photos of the Australian Day Congress

Our guest team from Mackay (Ian Cruickshank, Noel Bugeia, Ian Afflick) and from Gold Coast (Val Holbrook)



Dusk Care and Kay Goodwin

Terry Sheedy, Errol Miller, Audrey Ledbrook and John Johnson



Charlie Georgees, Russell Woolley, Helen Lovegrove, John Tredrea



Jackie Seganfreddo, Devan Mitchell, Phil Rains, Lesleigh Rooney



Robyn Nolan and Ian Patterson



Andree Galeano, Sam Bishop, Di Garside, Donna Fitch



## DID YOU KNOW?

**Bill Gates loves playing Bridge. The following is an extract from his Blog - What Makes for a Good Bridge Partner?**

*I learned to play bridge from my parents, but it became one of my favorite pastimes after I began playing with Warren Buffett.*

*I'm lucky that I get to play with bridge players who are dramatically better than I am, and who are nice enough that they will understand my game and appreciate why maybe I led the wrong thing or didn't shift to the right suit or evaluated the hand just slightly wrong. They'll make comments that add to my knowledge, increasing the chance I might do it right next time. And that's a lot of fun.*

*I'm amazed that some of these bridge players remember all the hands. You play 50 or 60 hands in a day, and you go to dinner that night, and they know every single one. Bob Hamman, one of the greatest bridge players of all times, is kind of the ultimate of that. If I misplayed some hand three years ago, he can still tell you the spot cards that were in there. Bob himself has misplayed very few hands when I've played with him, but I do make sure to remember those so I have my modest defense ready.*

*The classic form of the game is the team format where you have four people and you're playing for the normal game-type scores. Warren Buffett prefers that, because it's just the traditional form of the game, and doesn't make a big deal of the small differences of a no-trump contract versus a suit contract.*

*I like both team and match point. I like match points because there are just two of you playing, so there are slightly fewer variables. You usually get hand records afterwards, and a lot of tables play the same hand, and so you can look at all those different scores and see what happened. And because it's so excruciatingly important to take every trick you can, match point highlights any sloppiness in defensive or declarative play.*

*So it forces you to think, okay, I've got to learn about squeezes, I've got to keep track of the shape of the hands I don't know as the hand goes on, and take full advantage of that.*

*So, I really like the mix of the two. If you get the right team of four, that's a lot of fun because it's a social thing as well as kind of a mental challenge.*



## Bridge for Beginners and Beyond

Helpful  
Tips

Developing Counting Skills by Karen Walker  
Professional player and teacher

### Collecting information from the bidding

Whether you're defending or declaring, use what you know from the bidding to come up with an initial picture or one or both opponents' hands. You can start with very simple assumptions, such as the minimum length promised by an opening bid or response. If an opponent opens 1H, for example, you can see at least five of his 13 cards.

If that opponent makes subsequent bids in the auction, you'll learn more about his other 8 cards and you can often build a fairly accurate — or sometimes perfect — picture of his hand pattern.

You can also use the bidding to determine what a player does not hold in a suit, which will lead you to conclusions about his length in other suits and, in some cases, his partner's length in a suit.

### Counting one suit

As declarer, there are two main techniques you can use to keep count of the cards remaining in a suit:

**(1) Count up** from the number of cards you and dummy hold in the suit.

If you have a total of 8 cards in a suit in your hand and dummy, you would start your count at 8 and then mentally count up to 13 as the opponents play their cards in the suit. If both opponents follow to the first lead of the suit, you would count 9-10, then 11-12 on the next trick. Subtracting the last number from 13 will tell you how many cards the opponents still hold in the suit.

**(2) Count down** from the number of cards that are missing.

With an 8-card fit, you would start your count at 5 and then mentally count down to 0. If both opponents follow to your first lead of the suit, you would count 5-4. The next number in the sequence is the number of cards the opponents still hold.

Most players find #1 the easiest, but it doesn't really matter which approach you use. Anything you're comfortable with will work fine.

You can use the same counting technique as a defender, with only minor variations. Start your count with the number of cards you and dummy hold in the critical suit. In some cases, you'll already know how many cards partner holds in that suit (from his lead or from the bidding), so you'll have a full count on the suit before any cards are even played.





## HOW WOULD YOU BID?



Here is your hand, sitting east?

♠ K  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ AK98653  
 ♣ AKJ9

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1 ♠	?	

The hand has too much playing strength for a simple overcall. Double is better.

		Double	Pass
1NT	Pass	?	

Partner's 1NT response to your double should show about 7-10 HCP, including a spade stopper. If it is the ♠ A, your hand is far better than if it is the Queen (or Jack).

Doubling then introducing your own suit shows a 'big hand' double, revealing a hand that was too good for an initial overcall. You could now bid 2 ♦, though I think 3 ♦ is better on this hand. The jump to 3 ♦ reveals a single-suited hand and will be game forcing opposite partner's 1NT bid, since they have guaranteed some values.

		3 ♦	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	?	

Given you have created a game forcing auction, partner's 4 ♦ bid should be more encouraging than if they had jumped to game with 5 ♦, being an application of the Principle of Slow Arrival. They have left you space to use Blackwood or RKCB – leaving the 4NT bid accessible. You should do use whichever form of Ace Ask you utilise; 1 ace is enough for slam.

		4NT	Pass
(1 ace) Pass		6 ♦	All Pass

West's hand was:

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

Even if you had overcalled 2 ♦, once partner raises, you should be simply asking for aces (which would surprise your partner, given the simple overcall).



## Member Profile:

# DEVAN MITCHELL



### **When and where did you first play Bridge?**

I first played bridge at the Townsville bridge club in 2008 when it seemed that I needed to stimulate my brain.

### **Who introduced you to bridge?**

Clive Bunnett first started to talk to me about bridge few years before I had the Courage to go to lessons.

### **Who taught you to play bridge?**

After a hesitant start Keith Ramsbotham and Betty Hobdell tried to show me the wonders of bridge. Having played cards since a child I believed that I would be able to understand 'bridge' after the first lesson. What a shock I was in for. I walked out of the clubhouse saying that I will never understand this game. I think that is still true today.

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

Although I was born in Roma I lived all my childhood in Bundaberg. It was a gentle way back then where you could spend all your days playing in the street or down at the nearby creek and be sure you were home by dark. One of my favourite memories of my childhood is travelling to the Snowy Mountains seeing snow and having my first experience of skiing. I think these holidays began my yearning for travel.

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

### **What chore do you absolutely hate doing?**

I do dislike housework. However my most hated job is cleaning the bathroom.

### **Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?**

I used to play many sports – squash, basketball, netball and golf. However now I only walk and care for my yard. My greatest interest is visiting other cultures and seeing landscapes that are so varied. I was amazed at the colours and landscape of the centre of Australia. Some day soon I hope to see much more of Australia.

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

I have had a varied job life. I began as a shop assistant in Woolies for the school holidays. Then I did tobacco grading, product demonstrating, grape and apricot picking, door to door selling and finally teaching. In my final years of teaching I worked with students of special needs, parents and teachers. All very challenging but rewarding.

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

I would be a leopard as they are self-contained, independent, unique and difficult to find





**What is your favourite song?**

I have a varied taste in music from the old masters (Beethoven, Grieg etc) to jazz. My favourite musicals would have to be 'West Side Story' and 'Les Miserables'.

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

I have no hidden talents – just average at most things.

**What personality trait has got you in most trouble?**

I don't think I should tell you this. Others know it better than I.

**Who is the most famous person you have met?**

In my childhood I met Winifred Atwell at Bundaberg airport. Later I have met Rolf Harris and Kamal when they came to Townsville.

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

Be honest to yourself.

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

Three people I would like invite are Bob Hawke and Angela Merkel. The last person would be my maternal grandmother to learn more about her life and adventures.

**Best advice for your bridge partner**

Enjoy the game.

**Do you have a joke?**

I don't have a joke but I'll enjoy yours.

**A genie granted me one wish, so I said 'I just want to be happy'  
Now I'm living in a cottage with 6 dwarves and working in a mine.**

## **A love of bridge**

*"Many games provide fun, but bridge grips you. It exercises your mind. Your mind can rust, you know, but bridge prevents the rust from forming." Omar Sharif*

**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](mailto:aberic@tpg.com.au)



## Memories.....



Mid 1970s - ? Rae Freer, Peter Rainey, Pauline Cordingly

Hanran, ? , Daphne Crimston ?

1970s - Emma





Pat Back, Beth Whebell, Steve Brookes, John Brown and Verna Brookes



Dot Shannon and Dawn Kelly

