



Townsville Bridge Club

Newsletter

February 2024

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I would like to thank everyone for entering into the spirit of the Pink Stumps Day held in February. The club raised \$559, a great effort for a reasonably small membership. A two page feature of the day is included in this newsletter.

A number of competitions were held in February, the first was the Thursday Different Partners Event held over 3 weeks. This year's event was won by Betty Hobdell from a field of 25 players. Congratulations Betty!

Fourteen pairs competed in this year's Zonal Restricted Pair's competition, a red point event. Congratulations go to the winning pair Ann Smith and Heather Colbert.

At the last committee meeting, player mentoring was discussed as a means of encouraging newer members. Player at supervised play will be canvassed to take part. It is envisaged that they will play with a mentor on a Friday or Saturday monthly.

There are a number of events coming up in March starting with the GNOT Qualifying 1, a Gold Point event, followed by the Wednesday Pairs and Clive Bunnett Memorial Pairs, both over 3 weeks.

I have had a request from our directors for the Bridgemate Operator at each table to please check that all names entered are correct before play starts.

After play finishes, it is the responsibility of the N/S Pair to return the boards, bridgemates and table number to their locations and E/W pair to tidy the table, returning cups and emptying table bins.

Wilfred Tapiolas



Courtesy - Adrian Raeside



CHARLIE GEORGEES

Rest in Peace

Recently, the Townsville Bridge Club lost one of its well respected members.

Charlie was a stalwart of the club. He devoted many tireless hours at the club undertaking numerous roles, including, Vice President, Director, Trainer and Tournament Organiser.

He had a strong focus on increasing club membership and was very supportive of new players.

Charlie always wanted new players to feel at home at the club and went out of his way to ensure they could attend novice competition events and be mentored by more experienced players.

He was definitely a quiet achiever and never sought recognition or applause.

He worked quietly behind the scenes and would constantly volunteer to take on tasks on behalf of the club for the benefit of all members.

He was such a quiet achiever, most of us didn't know that Charlie in a previous life was an accomplished musician, in the genre of hard rock. In the following page you will see a recent article written about Charlie and his influence on Australian music scene in the 1970's.

Charlie will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the club, I pass on our sincere condolences to his family.

Rest in peace.

Albert Beric



Charlie Georgees with Rob Younger in The Other Side. Ian Shiels photo.

Charlie Georgees, one of the 1970s underground Australian rock and roll scene's unsung guitar heroes, passed away on Saturday. Close friend **Jim Dickson** of **Radio Birdman** broke the news today on Facebook.

The pair first crossed paths at James Cook University in Townsville and joined a musical migration of like-minded Queenslanders to Sydney soon after.

Georgees signed on with Oxford Funhouse favourites **The Hellcats** with **Ronald S Peno**, graduating to Rob Younger's post-Radio Birdman outfit, **The Other Side** from 1978-79. That band included future **Hoodoo Guru** and expat Queensland **Clyde Bramley** on bass and **Mark Kingsmill** (also a future Guru and ex- Hellcats). **Ron Keeley** (Radio Birdman. **The Visitors**) replaced Kingsmill on drums. Georgees played in an early Hitmen line-up, under the moniker **Johnny and the Hitmen**.

He also played bass with **The Psychosurgeons** on their 1978 "Horizontal Action" b/w "Wild Weekend"

Charlie joined members of Birdman in the studio to play on the 1978 Johnny Kannis solo single, "Under The Boardwalk" b/w "Pushing Too Hard", the B side of which was re-released by Dog Meat in 1991 with "King of The Surf" on the A side.

No studio recordings exist of The Other Side but surviving live recordings show why he was so admired by peers. His enormous tone and speedy but precise chording were the introduction for many to '60s punk.

In 1980, Charlie played in the first post-**Ed Kuepper** Saints gig at Sydney's Stagedoor Tavern with **Chris Bailey**, **Ivor Hay** on drums, Jim Dickson on bass and **Bruce "Cub" Calloway** on guitar.

"It was a memorable night and the only time that line-up played. It was great to play with Charlie," Bruce Calloway said.

Leaving a brief but indelible impression, Charlie Georgees shifted home to Townsville where he worked as a geologist. (Courtesy – The Barman (Website www.i94bar.com))

PINK STUMPS DAY



Thank you to everyone who helped make our Pink Stumps Day afternoon tea such a success. Many people dressed up which was great to see and we hope everyone enjoyed themselves. The club once again showed how generous it can be.

We received **\$559** in donations.

Thanks Rosemary Glastonbury and Di Garside.



thank
you!







MASTERPOINTS EXPLAINED



What are masterpoints? Their primary function is as an award. The Masterpoint Scheme is intended to stimulate interest in the game of bridge and provide a means of measuring player achievements.

Who gives them out? The Australian Bridge Federation (ABF)

How many types are there? **Green** masterpoints are generally awarded in normal club sessions, while **red** masterpoints are awarded in special club events, congresses and state events. **Gold** masterpoints are gained in national events or by attending ABF Gold point sanctioned congresses at Canberra, Gold Coast or Coffs Harbour (and other state capitals).

How do you get them?

By finishing in the top half of the field for pairs or the top third of the field for teams in an event sanctioned under the QLD Bridge Association or ABF.

How does the ABF know to give them to us? Your Masterpoints appear once the club masterpoint secretary or event coordinator submits the masterpoint awards to the ABF Masterpoint Centre (normally at the end of each quarter) and pays any relevant fees.

What is the McCutcheon Trophy? The player who has accumulated the highest number of masterpoints that year is the winner of the McCutcheon Trophy.

How do we find out how many we have? You can look up your current masterpoints details on line - [hCp://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/myawards.asp](http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/myawards.asp)

Are they important? They are as important as you want them to be. The masterpoint system often appeals to members because it lets them know their approximate overall ranking relative to every other member. The ranks that members earn as they achieve various plateaus of masterpoint holdings serve as close approximations of their overall standing. If you look at the Master Rankings Table, you can see you cannot move beyond a Regional Ranking without **Red** MPs, and a National Ranking without **Gold** MPs. However, being too "attached" to masterpoints is not wise. It is better to enjoy bridge for the sake of playing bridge and give more importance to your own evaluation of how you're progressing. This may help you to enjoy masterpoints, in a more detached way. Don't forget, a player's masterpoint holding **does not** directly indicate the time it has taken the player to earn them, or the calibre of the events the player has earned them in. Bridge is primarily a game to be enjoyed!



How can I find out more? You can read more about Masterpoints on-line: [hCp://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/mpmanual.asp](http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/mpmanual.asp)

How can I earn the different masterpoints at Townsville Bridge Club? **GREEN** points are awarded in regular bridge sessions. **RED** points are awarded in special red point events that are listed in the **Club Programme booklet**. **GOLD** points are awarded in our Club's GNOTS qualifying sessions and Regional final.

Are masterpoints free? No, the club pays for the masterpoints received by players. Last financial year, the ABF Masterpoint expenses for TBC and Northern Zone for green, red and gold masterpoints **totalled \$3286.98**.

Source: Newcastle Bridge Club with some edits

Update Team Structures and Responsibilities

The Management Committee has been reviewing the Team Structures at the Club for some considerable time now. The updated Team Structures and Responsibilities are on the Notice Board and show just how involved our members are involved in running the day to day operations of the Club.

There are nine teams: Conduct of Play, Player Development, Competitions, Preparation of Play, Collections, Provisions, Facilities, Finance, and Communications. Each has a Co-ordinator(s) who ensure all the various Responsibilities happen.

We thank everyone for their support.

Did
you
know?

Symbols in a Deck of Cards

The most common theory is that the four kings represent great rulers of the past.

- King of Spades: King David
- King of Clubs: Alexander the Great,
- King of Hearts: Charlemagne
- King of Diamonds – Julius Ceasar



BRIDGE TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

COURTESY Eddie Kantar

It is dangerous to count extra points for short suits or long suits before the bidding starts.

- If partner bids your short suit, that reduces, not increases, the value of your hand. If one of your opponents bids your long suit, that decreases, not increases, the value of your hand. If you let the bidding develop, you will see whether your long or short suits are working for or against you. You hold: ♠ Axxx ♥ x ♦ Qxxxx ♣ xxx

What is this hand worth? If partner opens 1♥, it is a minus 6-point hand. If partner opens 1♠, it is a 9-point hand (3 points for the singleton with four-card support). If LHO opens 1♦ and partner overcalls 1♥, the ♦ Q has lost its value not to mention the fifth diamond. You are now looking at a minus 4-point hand! Be patient with distributional evaluations until you hear the bidding.

- When the opponents bid and support each other and you have the jack or queen of their suit, do not count points for those honors. They are not worth the cardboard they are printed on. Secondary honors may take tricks on defense, but seldom do when you are the declarer.

RECENT GRAND SLAMS

KELLY WALKER / JO-ANNE GILLIS

LIKE TO SHARE ANYTHING?

If anyone has any photos, ideas or feedback for the newsletter, then please contact Albert Beric on 0403 153 211 or email them to me - aberich@tpg.com.au



COUNTING A HAND Courtesy Barbara Travis Bridge from Beaumont Oct 2023 Newsletter

Before we practice counting a hand, have some sympathy for West. They held:

♠ A 5

♥ H K 10 5 3

♦ D 6 4 3

♣ A K Q 4

The auction:

West	North	East	South
	3D	Pass	Pass

?

What would you bid?

Double is 'essentially' wrong, since East may well bid spades. However, you cannot bid 3NT and yet the hand is really too big to pass. In the end, West doubled and, of course, heard East bid 4!S, passed out.

The play:

♠ A 5

♠ K J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5 3

♥ A J 9

♦ 6 4 3

♦ void

♣ A K Q 4

♣ 8 7 6 5 2

South led the !DA, which you ruff. Who is more likely to hold the ♠ Q? It seems more likely that South will hold the ♠ Q, given that North holds 7 diamonds (and, thus, South holds 3 diamonds). This is known as the 'Theory of Vacant Spaces', using what you know to place the opponents' cards.

Therefore, at trick 2, you lead the ♠ J – Queen – Ace – 2. You continue to draw trumps, finding them 3-3. Now you play clubs from the top, and the clubs break 2-2. At this point, your two-way heart finesse is a 100% scenario.

You know North holds 7 diamonds, 3 spades, 2 clubs and thus only 1 heart. You cash the !HA, removing whatever heart North holds. If it's the Queen, you have the remaining tricks in high cards; if it is the ♥ 6 (as it was), you simply finesse South for the Queen on the second round.

You have just made all 13 tricks, for an excellent score. Well done.

Member Profile: **KENN WINTERS**



When and where did you first play Bridge?

TBC 1996

Who taught you to play bridge?

No one. I promised myself two things to do at 40, learn bridge and golf. Did not take up golf.

Who introduced you to bridge?

Di Jones

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

4 Born Stirling, Scotland, 28 week prem, grew up and trained NZ, crossed the ditch to Darwin post Tracy, on a free airfare the NT government gave out to get medical people fast. Did not go back to NZ.

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

None, kids weren't game.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

I was not put on this earth to clean or iron! My husband was well aware of these attributes before we married.

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

I have worked in the field of medicine for 55 years. Recently retired 04/07/23 My first job, at 16 was a cabbage seller in the grocer Abel's, Hamilton NZ My favourite job was being a street sweeper outside Buckingham palace. I had a two week apprenticeship, locating the pubs where I could get a free lunch. The first day flying solo, I had an incredible hangover + the heat.

One of the horses on guard decided to dump a huge mess. Not a good site. I was told to 'clean up the mess' I responded can I wait till the mess cools down first. I was sacked 5 minutes later.

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

Lemur, furry, fast and ferocious

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

Collect forged state stamps of Australia pre federation. Great cook; Surf the net; I do ballet to keep my joints moving.





What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

I don't tolerate fools.

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

Margaret Thatcher, Putin and Donald Trump, would make for a feisty dinner combination.

Best advice for your bridge partner

To my partner (s) Don't listen to the opposition telling you how to play and where you make mistakes. That is my role!!





AT PAIRS BRIDGE, THINK ABOUT 3NT AS A CONTRACT INSTEAD OF 5-MINOR –

Courtesy Barbara Travis

Whilst on last month's the Topic #17 of thinking about bidding 3NT, at Pairs you should just about always look for 3NT ahead of 5-minor simply because of the scoring. Playing Acol you hold:

K 4

K J 7

A 8 6 5

K Q J 10

You open 1C (weak 1NT opening bid) and partner responds 3C (10-12 HCP). You have all the other suits held and the values for game, so simply bid 3NT. Our opponent bid 3D and her partner should have bid 3NT but chose to respond 4C. Now it's too late to reach 3NT. On two basically balanced hands, you are playing the (Pairs) inferior 5C contract, dummy being:

A 7

Q 3 2

J 10 7

A 8 6 5 2

3NT has 10 tricks (2 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond and 5 clubs), which is already worth 630, so the play in 5C is largely irrelevant given that most people will be in be playing 3NT. However, 5C had 1 loser in hearts and eventually 2 losers in diamonds, so went down 1.

Those times when you belong in 5-minor rather than 3NT involve one of the following situations:

- Distribution, typically a singleton or void in one hand OR
- No control of a suit that the opponents have bid (or an identified weakness in one suit)

Here's an example from a recent session at SABA:



K J 2 A 9
10 8 3 2 A 7
A K J 10 9 8 5 4 2
K 6 2 Q J 4

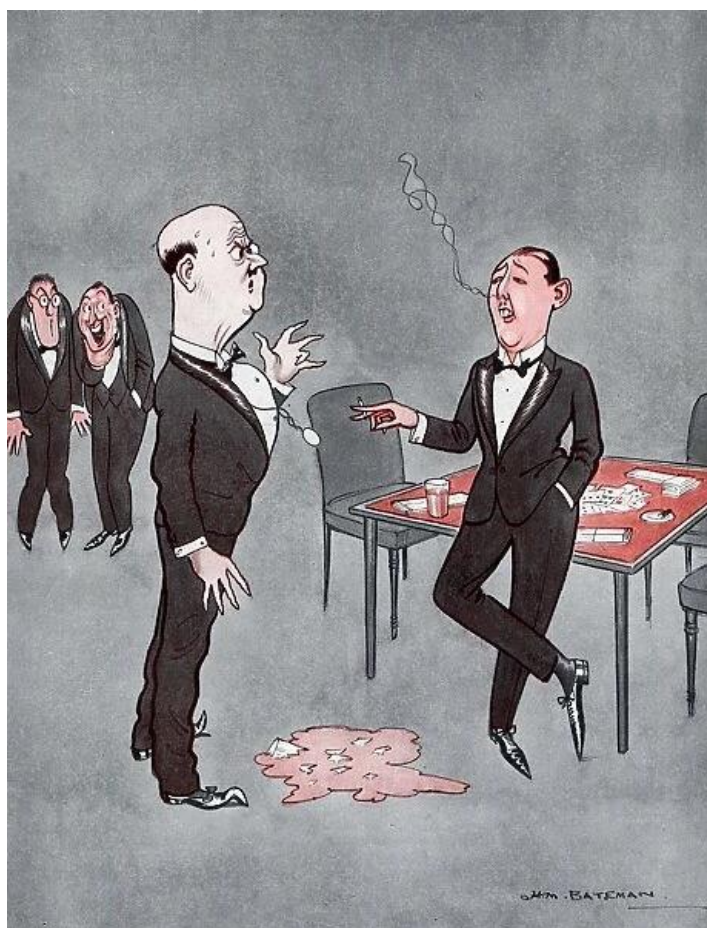
Imagine Wests opens 1NT, then East has a clear-cut 3NT response – 11 HCP, a long minor, no shortages.

The long diamond suit will provide winners to declarer. Furthermore, there could be 3 losers in 5D!

As it happened we got a top for playing in 3NT and making overtricks. Most of the field played in some diamond part-score.

Henry Mayo Bateman

As mentioned in our last newsletter, I am featuring a couple of bridge cartoons from **Henry Mayo Bateman (1887-1970)**. **If you would like to know more about Henry Bateman or see more of his work, then click on the following link -** © H M Bateman Designs www.hmbateman.com



The Novice Who Ticked Off The Bridge Expert by H M Bateman

The Novice Who Ticked Off The local Bridge Expert by H M Bateman. This illustration shows a man who is so unused to being contradicted that his monocle has fallen from his eye, he has dropped his drink and his face has gone completely white. The young man is obviously confident and cocky, and what he is saying has caused the fellows in the background to smirk and show shock. They would never have said such a thing. **Date: 1925**



THE MAN WHO REVOKED AT THE PORTLAND CLUB.

The Man Who Revoked at the Portland Club 1920s

The Portland club is reputedly the oldest and most traditional Bridge and Whist club in the world

BRIDGEMATES.....



Steve Eastern, Bruce Chalker, Sitting: Julie Gregory Moya Gabbert

Laurie Kelso and Sue Laing



Stan and Jean Bowker, Floris Brown and Joy Collier



Moya Gabbert, Yvonne Black and Lesleigh Rooney





Del Johnson, Janene Dutton, Clarice Suthers and Jill Spencer



Michael Suthers, Reith Gutheres, Emma Harwan, Del Johnson, Doris Mann, Janene Dutton, Clarice Suther, Jill Spencer (Proserpine), Beth Whebell and Harry Walsh (Proserpine), Front: Emma Hanran (back to camera)

HA-RA-A-AFF!
AWFF-F-FPH!
HA-WAFM!

THE DUMMY WHO,
WHEN HE SEES HIS
PARTNER START TO
LEAD A CARD IN THE
OPPONENTS' SUIT,
COUGHS VIGOROUSLY

