



TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

June 2018

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**The 23rd Barrier Reef Congress
Was held 14 – 18 May, 2018
At the Townsville Stadium
Convener John Tredrea**

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:

Clive Bunnett - 4773 1029

Vice President:

Gloria Macdonald - 0402 010 595

Secretary:

Helen Tapiolas - 0402 285 623

Treasurer:

Geoff Allen – 0407 154 716

Committee Members

Sandra Bunnett – 0439 384 462

Peter Hall – 4779 5464

Lyn Joye – 0402 248 086

Robert Mischlewski – 4779 7637

John Johnson – 4778 2797

Fay Blower – 4403 921

Congress Directors

Geoff Allen – 07 4721 0161

Diana McAlister – 0402 761 152

Bill Bishop - 0409 598 214

Active Club Directors

Bruce Bowden – 07 4779 6809

Clive Bunnett – 07 4773 1029

Betty Hobdell – 0457 965 454

Kay Lehmann – 07 4778 2914

Ian Patterson - 0474 706 214.

Phil Rains – 0417 160 059

Elsie Stubbs – 0451 013 753

Gloria MacDonald – 0402 010 595

Zonal Positions

Geoff Allen – Delegate

John Tredrea - Secretary

Award winners for our club were

Ched Twyman & Jennifer Mullen –
Winners of the Restricted Pairs

Donna Fitch & Di Garside – 3rd Restricted
Pairs

John Johnson, Phil Rains, Robyn Nolan,
Rosemary Glastonbury – Highest
finishing Team from the Barrier Reef
Zone in the Open Teams

Full results can be found at

<http://www.bridgeaustralia.org/resultslistbyheadevent.asp?umbid=173>

263 Players representing 51 different Bridge
Clubs from 5 Australian states participated.

78 people attended the Speaker Program on the
Wednesday morning. This raised \$ 380 for Youth
Bridge.

All the photos at

<http://www.qldbridge.com.au/brc/brcPhotos.php>

MIDWEEK CONGRESS A GREAT SUCCESS

John Tredrea's 'baby' of the 2018 BRC was finally delivered and what a healthy child it was. The experiment of holding the event midweek was a complete success with many visitors commenting that it suited them.

Thanks to the planning committee and all the willing workers who assisted with the many tasks that go into achieving an event of this kind. It is dangerous to mention names when so many were involved, even if was a 'lowly' task such as emptying waste baskets or tidying tables.

I would like to specially thank our newer members for their involvement especially with caddying. One member who helped has not even played a game at Club level yet. Chief caddy Alan did a great job throughout of teaching and organising his assistants. Congratulations to all those who were successful in winning or placing in the various events and also to all those who participated in the spirit of this great game.

Clive Bunnett

2018 BARRIER REEF CONGRESS

Words by Ian Patterson, Photos by Kay Lehmann

The 2018 Barrier Reef Congress has been and gone but not in enough of a blur - some memories don't fade at all.

PREPARATION AND SET-UP

My involvement in the actual event began on Sunday afternoon when I dutifully rolled up at the Clubhouse along with a number of others (including spouses and inactive members) to help load the truck with the essentials for the congress: boxes of boards (in the dozens), over 60 folding card tables, multiple side tables, waste paper baskets, rubbish bins, bidding pads, pens - you name it (even a stapler) - and of course Biscuits (mind the boxes with loose bottoms!) And in the middle of it all was Lyn Joye with checklist and pen, making sure it all went, while John T. gave directions.

Thanks to the numbers present, it was all over in about an hour and the unloading and set-up at the venue didn't take much longer the following morning. I arrived just before 8 am to find things going swingingly with tables being set up, table cloths being distributed and lots of people (including some of our newer members who weren't otherwise involved in the Congress) generally pitching in where needed. Before long we had 60 card tables set up with 240 chairs, 60 waste paper baskets and 60+ side tables of various descriptions, as well as a number of other tables around the room. Despite the seemingly enormous task (and sometimes apparent chaos) it was all over by 9 am. Outside in the entry/foyer, tables and chairs had been set up ready for the Tea/Coffee and biscuits (many hands), the lunch orders (Betty plus offsidiers) and the raffle (Robyn plus helpers).

Back at the venue before 1 pm, to find Tables already set up for the Walk-In Pairs with Table Numbers and Bridgemates, there was little to do but prepare for an afternoon of bridge. The next big session was after the Walk-Ins, when all was put in readiness for Tuesdays Pairs competition: 56 tables had to be set up with Numbers, Bidding Pads, Pens, 224 Personal Record booklets, Handouts and of course Bridgemates. At the conclusion of the Pairs it all had to be done again, setting up for the Teams Wednesday afternoon.

CATERING

I stayed as far away from this aspect of the Congress as I could, others could comment further,



but I did notice that there was no shortage of biscuits whenever I went grazing and my partner was always busy at the start of each day taking lunch orders - she even arrived at the start of one match with the cash box in hand



THE GRAND FINALE

Of course, all this had to be undone at the end of the Teams. Large numbers pitched in to stack and pack and fold tables and to carry things out to where the truck was expected for loading and transport back to the clubhouse. The truck arrived early while the presentations were taking place so there were just two of us there to load it along with the driver (thanks Pat). Thankfully the load was much reduced, many of the boxes of boards having already been transported back to the clubhouse and the others being transported by Bill B. in his ute. There were still biscuits to go, the sordid commercial variety from Woolworth's bakery that Lyn had ordered just in case, but at least we didn't run out. Finally I had an excuse for not being there to help unload when the truck got back to the clubhouse.

NOW FOR SOME RESULTS

The Walk-In Pairs

29 tables in 3 sections played in the Walk-Ins on Monday afternoon. There was a good roll-up of Townsville players with a fair sprinkling of visitors. Townsville Club players did well, featuring in all 3 sections:

In the A Section, John Johnson and Phil Rains won N/S with early arrivals Rosemary Mooney and Roberta Tait winning E/W from Bill Bishop and Albert Beric.

In the B Section, John Tredrea and Viv Otto won N/S with Rosemary Glastonbury and Robyn Nolan finishing = 3rd. Betty Hobdell and Ian Patterson won E/W.

The C Section was a clean sweep for Mackay with Monica Darley and Dell Ryan winning N/S and Terry Sheedy and Noel Bugeia winning E/W. Pat Leighton and Ray Muld were 2nd N/S while Beth Whebell and Pat Mannerstrale were 2nd E/W.



BRC Restricted Pairs - Townsville Shines

40 pairs lined up for the BRC Restricted Pairs of whom 13 were from the Townsville Club and 1 from Ingham. While it was a beautiful, sunny (typical) Townsville winter's day outside, it was a triumphant day inside for the Townsville Club. Dark horses (though not for some of our better judges) Jennifer Mullen and Ched Tywman (seeded 26th) WON the Restricted Pairs. They took the lead after the second match and were never headed thereafter, although a hiccup in the 2nd last match must have caused some concern.



However, they recovered well to win comfortably from the 1st round leaders (whom they had beaten in the 3rd match) - a pair who dogged their heels all afternoon. WELL DONE!

Equally pleasing were 3rd place-getters Donna Fitch and Di Garside (seeded 24th) who came home with a late surge, being 19th after the 3rd match. Other good results were: Marlies Maussen and Stephen Vigh (16) finishing 9th, Felicity Horne and Dusk Care (11) finishing 11th, Kay Lehman and Chris Tweddell (28) finishing 15th and Devan Mitchell and Kath Peever (5) finishing 17th.

BRC Open Pairs - A "Memorable" Experience

72 pairs played in the BRC Open Pairs, of whom just 10 came from the Townsville Club and 2 from Cleveland Bay. A number of our more established partnerships were absent for various reasons. Some of those present just played Bridge, others actually competed. While for me the final result was regrettable, it may not be forgettable. I hope some of the hands played were memorable at least in terms of lessons learnt. Starting at Table 24 (seeded 24), one of our opponents commented on the "names" present in the field and I half seriously replied that I didn't expect to play any of them. Surprisingly, it was only the vagaries of the draw that prevented this with some unexpected bad results from some of the top players: the 2nd seeds finished 42nd, the 5th seeds 17th, the 8th seeds 33rd and the 11th seeds 29th. Clearly anyone can have a bad day and at least I can say that Betty and I finished (36th) above the 2nd seeds (but then so did more than half the field).

The good results came from unexpected if deserving pairs. The best NQ result came from Max and Diane Holewa of Mackay, seeded 62nd and finishing 10th. I don't think they'll be ranked in the B category in many future Congresses. Leigh Rooney and her southern partner, Helen Clayton, (seeded 38th) finished 14th, while well known local card sharks, Fay Blower and Viv Otto (54) finished 18th. Jan Manders and Jackie Seganfreddo (49) finished 26th, just ahead of sisters Nini Perkins and

Yvonne Houbolt who finished 28th.

BRC Restricted Teams

24 teams competed in the Restricted Teams event, 7 with all Townsville Club members and another 4 with some Townsville representation - a good showing. Unfortunately we didn't create the same spectacle as in the pairs - while various teams threatened the lead and the Garside team (Di, Donna, Wifred, Geoff Eales and Helen) actually lead after the 3rd match, nobody could carry on the good work. The Reilly team (Sue, Jo, John and Margie) climbed to 2nd after the 6th match but faded to finish 11th, the Housden team (Peter, Andree, Nini and Yvonne) got to 2nd after the 4th match but slipped back to 17th. The best finish was from the Dousset team (Margaret, Joan, Peter Hall, Jackie and Carol) who after a shocker in match 2 clawed their way back to 6th with 1 to go, only to have a small loss in the last match and finish 8th.

BRC Open Teams

36 teams competed in the Open Teams event. While there were 14 teams from North Queensland, Townsville could only field 3 fully local teams while 5 other teams contained Townsville players - a sad reflection of the personal difficulties some of our members are currently facing. Being in the wrong half of the field (the bottom half), the draw pitted the 20th ranked Patterson team (Ian, Betty, Clive and Janelle Kipping) against Team 2 (about which I have little to say). The next match (Team 36) was easier but after a small win in match 3 a procession of small losses left us languishing in 26th place, 2 places below Leighton (Patty, Ray, Gaylene and Bill R.). Our highest ranked team, Johnson (John, Phil, Rosemary and Robyn) was seeded 17 and having more fortune in the draw (sour grapes?) finished with 3 wins to leave them 10th and the winners of the best NQ team prize.

The Mackay team which finished 7th lost out because one of their members is now a resident of Canberra. The Bishop team containing Bill and Albert performed creditably ranked 23 and finishing 19th and Beth Whebell's team (Mannerstrale, 22) finished 15th.

The top seeds won the day. Lewin contains players of the calibre of Simon Hinge, Peter Hollands and Laura Ginnan. They had 6 wins and 2 draws. It's not easy at the top but there were no spectacular disasters as in the Open Pairs: Team 2 finished 4th, Team 3 finished 8th and Team 4 finished 11th with less than 40 VPs between them. The top 4 teams all won 6 of their 8 matches. The best "country" team was Dawson from the Sunshine Coast, seeded 8th and finishing 3rd with 6-1-1. No wonder we lost to Ken and his partner in the Open Pairs!

The CADDIES

A special mention must be made of those Club members who volunteered to spend their time distributing boards at the start of each match, and then being on their feet for the rest of the session finding boards for impatient players. Most of our locals were relative beginners who had never played in a Congress let alone acted as a Caddy before. Under the supervision of a gentleman (whose name I don't remember, but whom I've met a number of times at southern Congresses like Bundaberg, Yeppoon and even Mackay - a friendly guy who's a Bridge Widower) our members picked up the trade quickly and performed superbly under trying conditions. Collecting the boards at the end of a match must be a nightmare.



MEANWHILE BACK AT THE CLUB ...

As the Club returns to more 'normal' ground, I would like our focus to return to looking for ways to market the game and encourage new members into the Club. Also to continue to expand and refine our existing teaching program. If this received similar support from members as the Congress, we would have a very dynamic Club, indeed.

Clive Bunnett

COMING EVENTS

Monday Pairs – open and under National
June 4, 11, 18

Zonal Pairs
June 9, 10

Mackay 50th Anniversary Teams
June 15 – 17

Handicap Pairs
June 22, 29

Cleveland Bay Graded Matchpoint Pairs
June 24

Bowen Congress
July 7,8

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Pat Allen
Cara Bragg
Fay Down
Lyn Joye
Robert Mischlewski
Joyce Webb
Ken Miller
Kevin Dwyer
Peter Hall
Diana McAlister
Vivienne Otto
Mervyn Smith

Happy birthday also to anyone with a birthday this month who has been missed, If you would like your birth month added to the list, please contact the editor

SOME RECENT RESULTS

Novice Pairs –

- 1st – Di Garside, Donna Fitch
- 2nd – Charlie Gorgees, Russell Woolley
- 3rd – Ray Muld, Anthony Wilson

Cleveland Bay GNOTS Qualifying

- 1st Hugh McAllister, Di McAllister, Geoff Allen, John Johnson
- 2nd Phil Rains, Ian Patterson, Bill Redhead Gaylene Brown
- 3rd Bill Bishop. Fay Blower, Rosemary Glastonbury, Robyn Nolan

RANKING PROMOTIONS FOR MAY

Di Garside – State *
Donna Fitch – State *
Barry Lehmann – State
Nina Doyle – Local*
Ian Leach – Local *
Audrey Stewart – Local
Chris Tweddell – Club
Charlie Gorgees – Club
Simon Jones – Club
Audrey Ledbrook - Club



We have established a major partnership with **Escape Travel Townsville**, who is willing to offer sponsorship in the form of a “Kickback” to the club of travel rewards. This is available on bookings made and paid for by our members, their family, friends and associates from other clubs. This means that at the end of each quarter the Club will receive travel vouchers that can be raffled for prizes to assist with our fundraising efforts.

All you have to do is contact **Escape Travel Townsville** on **07 4722 5000** mention that you are a member of the Townsville Bridge Cub (or an associate of the Club) when making the booking, for the club to receive the “Kickback” rewards. This will apply to ALL bookings for club business and your leisure travel booked through **Escape Travel Townsville** even if you live in other parts of the country we can still receive the benefits if you just follow the steps above.

