



CLUB PRESIDENT REPORT

This year is the Townsville Bridge Club's fifty-fifth year of operation, and it was fitting that we hosted the 26th Barrier Reef Congress in May.

The Barrier Reef Congress was a great success for the club. Again, I thank Margaret Dousset for the tremendous amount of time she put in to organising the congress over the last twelve months. ABF president Allison Stralow and QBA manager Kim Ellaway attended

the congress and both praised Margaret's organisational skills and commented that it was one of the best organised congresses of its size that they had attended. High praise for Margaret and the club. I also thank all club members who worked hard prior to, during and after the congress. Your contribution was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to those members who stepped in at the last minute to play when visiting teams lost players due to covid.

I would also like to recognise the Townsville City Council for providing the club a community grant to cover the cost of the venue hire for the week. This allowed the club to run the congress at a profit. Our treasurer Geoff Allen will provide the actual figure at the Annual General Meeting.

The Club Championship Pairs event was held on the last weekend of May. This is the premier pairs event for the club and is an honour board event. Congratulations to the winners Maria Chippendale and Bill Bishop who held off a quality field of sixteen pairs.

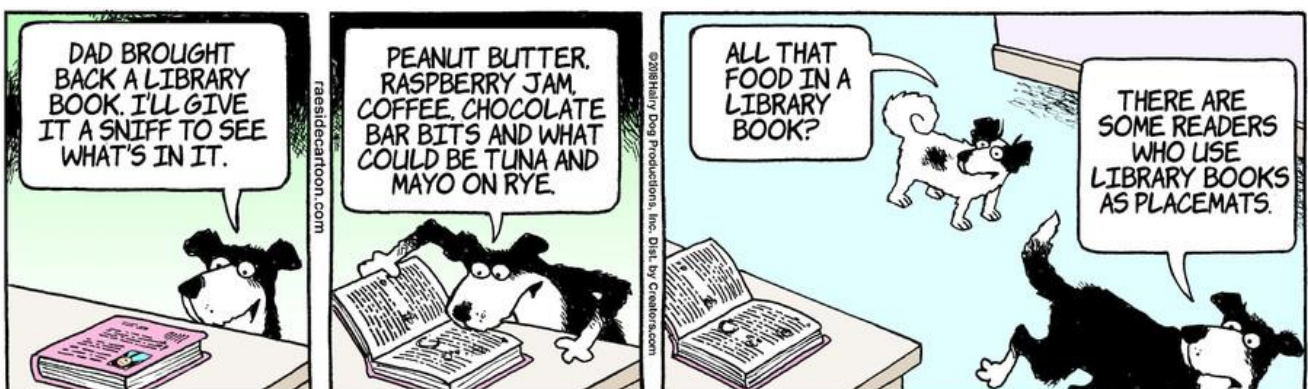
The month concluded with the Australia wide Novice Pairs event. Congratulations go to the winners Ian Leach and Nina Doyle who finished twelfth Australia wide. They will have their names in the booklet for next year's event, where the top fifty pairs for 2022 will be listed. This will be the second year in a row that the club has pairs in the top twenty Australia wide.

Shirley Strike's family have donated a large set of decorative coffee mugs to the club in appreciation of the use of the club premises for Shirley's wake in April.

Our air conditioning contractor has advised that the two new units will arrive in June and they will install them on Wednesday, 22 June.

Finally, a lot of our members including myself have contracted covid this month. It started with the congress but seems to be continuing with other community contacts. I wish those who are not yet well a speedy recovery.

Wilfred Tapiolas





26TH ANNUAL

BARRIER REEF CONGRESS

TOWNSVILLE

9 - 13 MAY 2022

AN ABE APPROVED GOLD POINT EVENT



CELEBRATING THE SUCCESSFULL 26th BARRIER REEF CONGRESS

HOSTED BY THE TOWNSVILLE BRIDGE CLUB



(An Extract) 27th Barrier Reef Congress – Townsville 2022

Tournament Organiser's Report – Margaret DOUSET



As in 2018, the Barrier Reef Congress was held mid-week from Monday 9 to Friday 13 May 2022 at the Townsville RSL Stadium.

A slow start to nominations increased after our successful week-long assistance program in mid-March registered players who did not have the technical ability or a computer to use MyABF.

Several players withdrew before the event as they became ill with the virus. Sam Bishop, our Partnership person, worked tirelessly to ensure all the broken teams and pairs had a 'good fit' with the local players who offered to step in at the last minute. Congratulations to Sam and all her player volunteers who helped the Congress run as smoothly as it did.

A total of 104 sets of boards (nearly 3,000 packs of cards!) were dealt. Special thanks to our dealers. You did an amazing job! Thanks also to the team of volunteers who assembled hundreds of the new wallets and transferred the cards from boards to the wallets.

Directors & Caddies:

Dr Laurie Kelso and Peter Busch were the directors and were very recognisable in their tropical congress shirts.

Eleven caddies, two for each session, were sourced from our supervised play group and two novices. It was a good way for most of them to experience the congress without the stress of playing. Their tropical shirts were also effective and noticeable. Congratulations! You did a great job.

Financials:

Due to increased venue hire from \$4,740 in 2018 to \$9,193.30, and the 'preferred' caterer charges of nearly \$5,000 more than our 2018 option, the committee decided to 'spread the load' and increase the entry fees to ensure the event did not run at a loss for the club.

- Officeworks for voucher
- Townsville City Council for the Community Grant for the venue
- Although TBIB were not represented at the congress this year I have been advised they will honour their sponsorship commitment

In the meantime, the club submitted an application to the Townsville City Council (TCC) for a Councillor Discretionary Grant. This was approved three days before the congress. The Grant will give in-kind support towards the venue hire and refund staff/equipment costs less the GST. In other words, instead of paying the Townsville City Council the original quote of \$9,193.30, we paid \$269.84 for GST on staff/equipment. An excellent outcome!

The full financial report will be submitted to the Townsville Bridge Club at the Annual General Meeting when finalised.



I would like to recognise our generous sponsors:

- Parkside Group for congress pens, raffle prize and cash
- Mickey Ink for the '*Barrier Reef themed*' signage and PowerPoint displays
- Burdekin Printers for the wallets
- Paul Lavings Bridgegear for a discount on bridge supplies
- Local member of parliament for the major raffle prize of a bbq
- Morleys funerals for cash
- Officeworks for voucher
- Townsville City Council for the Community Grant for the venue
- Although TBIB were not represented at the congress this year I have been advised they will honour their sponsorship commitment

Raffle:

Income of \$1396 was a fantastic effort. Thank you to everyone who donated the hampers, wine, chocolates and cake stand.

Prize winners

- Nicole Edwards (Townsville Stadium)
- Sandra M (Mackay)
- Dee Jierasak (Tablelands)
- Robert Mischlewski (Townsville)
- Sandra Bunnett (Townsville)
- Rennie (Gympie)
- Donna Fitch (Townsville)
- Laura Maguire (Townsville)
- Jeanette McKenzie (Townsville)

Overall:

Organising this event was an enormous task, especially when I had little or no experience. Special thanks to John Tredrea and Janet Hansen (Mackay) who generously shared their experience of organising a Barrier Reef Congress. It made my job less daunting to know they were only a phone call away.

Thanks to the Cleveland Bay and Ingham Bridge Clubs for the loan of all their side tables. They saved many a players twisted back.

Special thanks to my committee: Wilfred Tapiolas, Charlie Georgees, Devan Mitchell and Ann Smith. We muddled through, bounced ideas around, worked well together and gained valuable experience along the way.

Thanks to Adarina Bawden, who worked quietly behind the scenes every day of Congress Week.

Lastly but by no means least, a great deal of appreciation goes to all our club's wonderful volunteers. To the set-up & pack-away teams, cleaning & re-set crew, raffle preparers & ticket sellers, lunch takers, finance team, in-house catering crew, and prize envelope and booklet printers, my grateful thanks. From the longest serving to the most recent learners, our members donated their time, money and expertise to ensure the Barrier Reef Congress was a successful event for all.

Margaret Dousset



BRC Walk-ins

North South

1st THERESE TULLY - LEIGH OWENS

2nd CHARLIE LU - WATSON ZHOU

3rd DI JONES - ROBYN NOLAN

East West

1st JANET HANSEN - DIANE MORGAN

2nd JUSTIN MILL - SIEGFRIED KONIG

3rd PIYUSH JAIN - GARY RIDGWAY

BRC Eric Parsons Open Pairs (May 2022)

1st WATSON ZHOU / CHARLIE LU

2nd ALLISON STRALOW / KIM ELLAWAY

3rd KIM FRAZER / RICHARD WALLIS



Barrier Reef Restricted Pairs

1st JAN HARRIS / RICHARD WIX

2nd ANN SMITH / ROBYN GREEN

3rd LEE CHENOWETH / SUE ROHRIG

BRC John Brockwell Open Teams

1st GREER TUCKER - LIZ SYLVESTER - PETER GILL - MARTIN BLOOM

2nd LAURA GINNAN - JUSTIN MILL - GREG LEWIN - PETE HOLLANDS - SIMON HINGE

3rd WATSON ZHOU - CHARLIE LU - BILL NASH - JAMES WALLIS

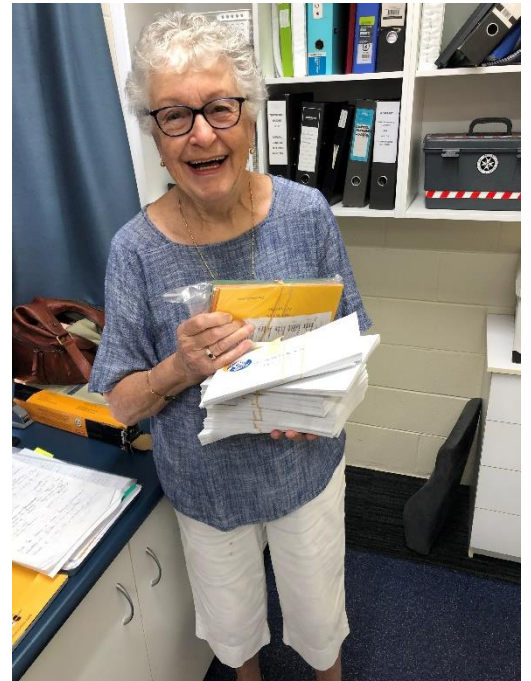
Barrier Reef 300 Teams

1st DEBBIE GIBBARDS - ELIZABETH VAN VUGT - JULIE SCOTT - GARY GIBBARDS

2nd LAURA MAGUIRE - CHED TWYMAN - CHARLIE GEORGEES - CATHY CRAWFORD

3rd GEOFF COWAN - ANNE LUTZ - ANNIE LYNCH - SANDRA MORRIS













Townsville Club Championship Pairs event WINNERS - Honour Board Event

MARIA CHIPPENDALE and BILL BISHOP



Winners Australia wide Novice Pairs event Winners

- Ian Leach and Nina Doyle who finished twelfth Australia wide



Player promotions Congratulations

to:

- Ched Twyman **LIFE**
- Sam Bishop **LIFE**
- Ann Smith **NATIONAL**
- Nina Doyle **STATE**
- Ian Leach **STATE**
- Terry Hughes **CLUB**
- Stephen Lee **GRADUATE**
- David Spence **GRADUATE**

Recent Grand Slams

CHED TWYMAN / CHARLIE GEORGEES

JACKIE SEGANFREDDO / FAY BLOWER





**THERE IS NO BETTER
PARTNER THAN A BOOK**



FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT

I've mentioned Victor Moll previously and want to continue with his book "Bridge in the Menagerie". In contrast to his book "Card Play Technique" this book is unlikely to increase your bridge acumen but is delightfully entertaining.

I'll plagiarize *an example*.

A J 8 4 2

J 10 8 4 2

A K

2

K 9 7 5

Q 10 3

A Q

K 7 6 3

6 5 4

5 3

Q 7 5 4

k 8 6 3

6

9 5

Q J 10 9 8 7

A J 10 9

South ends up in 3NT after North bids spades and hearts and South diamonds. West leads the 4 clubs, east plays the K and south the 10. East returns the 3 of clubs, south plays the J and west takes his K. West can now be forgiven for believing his partner has the A of clubs and continues the suit. South now wins the A and 9 of clubs discarding dummy's A and K of diamonds. He now has 7 more tricks off the top!

Ched Twyman

*Thank
You!*

On behalf of our family, I would like to extend sincere thanks to the Townsville Bridge Club.

Allowing us to use the club premises meant a great deal to us as Bridge was such an integral part of Mum's life.

We cannot thank you enough for all your assistance on the day of the funeral. We were all so appreciative of the help the club members were quietly doing in the background.

The family has asked me to extend their gratitude and thanks.

Regards, Kevin Strike



WHICH GRAND SLAM?

When I was teaching Roman Key Card Blackwood recently, I used the following hand:

♠ J 6	♠ A 2
♥ 10 9 7 6 5	♥ A K J 2
♦ A 2	♦ K Q J 10 9 3
♣ A Q J 2	♣ 3

I explained that once West opens 1♥, you are only interested in Aces and the♥ Q, so you use RKCB immediately.

If West bids 5♠, they have shown both missing Aces plus the♥ Q, so you should bid 7NT. There was some consternation about the notion of bidding 7NT rather than 7♥. However, at Pairs, you score 10 more points for bidding 7NT so, if you can count 13 tricks (no trumping), you should bid 7NT. On this hand you have: 1 spade, 5 hearts, 6 diamonds, 1 club = 13 tricks.

On the other hand, if West responds 5♥, showing two Aces but no♥ Q, you stop in 6♥ (not 6NT), because a black suit may be weak.

If opener responds 5♦ (0 key cards), you stop in 5♥; if they respond 5♣ (1 key card), then you should use the "Queen ask" to decide whether to play in 5♥ or 6♥.

Here's another example:

♠ A K Q 8 7	♠ J 10 6 5 4
♥ 3	♥ A K 7
♦ A J 9 7	♦ K Q 5
♣ A K 2	♣ J 6

2♣	2♠
3♠	4NT
5♣ (1 or 4)	5♦ (Queen ask)
6♣ (♠ Q, ♣ K)	?

Bidding this hand were Lauren Travis (then 16yo) and Stephen Williams (then 17yo), in the finals of the Gold Coast Congress. At this point, East (Lauren) knew that West held the♠ A-K-Q, ♦ A, ♣ A-K, which amounted to 20 HCP. She also knew that he would have 21+ HCP to open 2♣. Hence, she gave him at least one more Jack. She could count 12 sure tricks, but felt confident that his other points would provide a thirteenth trick (♥ Q, ♦ J or ♣ Q). Therefore she bid 7NT. This earned the young pair an outright top. Bidding 7♠ was worth 81%. [They were in the B Final, the Plate. In the A Final, 7♠ was worth 50%, and 7NT scored 88%.]



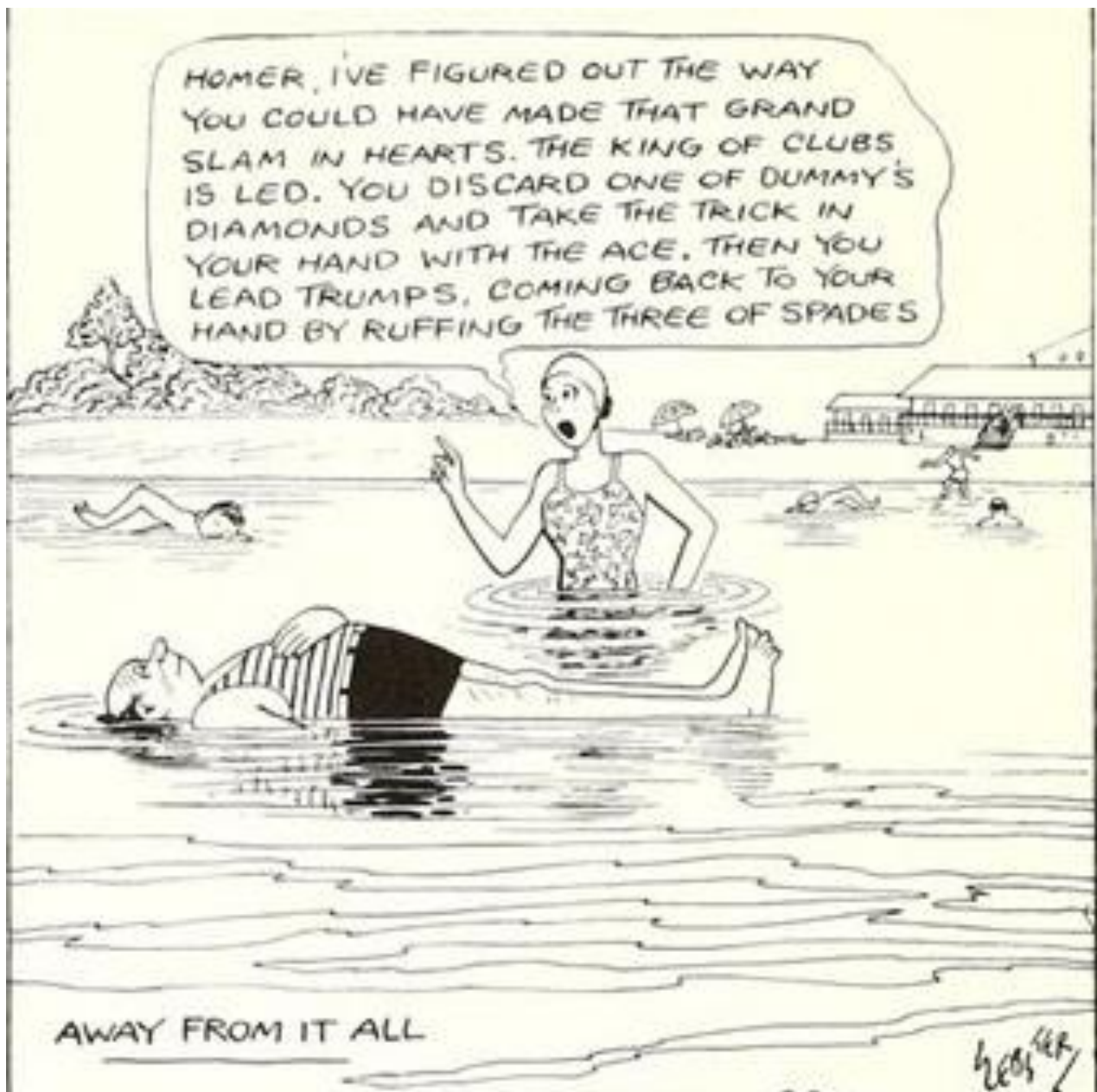
Finally, here's an example of opting for the suit contract:

♠ A K Q 3 2	♠ J 10 9 8
♥ 6 3 2	♥ A 5 4
♦ A 2	♦ K Q J 10 7
♣ A 5 4	♣ 7

1 ♠	4 ♣ (splinter)
4 ♦ (cue bid)	4 ♥ (cue bid, wanting West to 'take over')
4NT	5 ♣ (1 key card)
5NT (all key cards held)	7 ♠

After the 5NT bid, East knows that West holds ♠ A-K-Q-x-x (or more), ♦ A and ♣ A. Therefore, they can count: 5 spades, 1 heart, 5 diamonds, 1 club, 1 club ruff = 13. These 13 tricks involve trumping, thus you opt for 7 ♠ (not 7NT, which you could bid with an extra diamond).

Courtesy of Barbara Travis - SABF News





Member Profile:

Gloria MacDONALD

When and where did you first play Bridge?

I think it was about 1997 that I saw an advertisement for lessons to learn Bridge and asked some friends I worked with at James Cook University if they would like to come with me. That was the start of a journey of not only learning Bridge but also making wonderful friends and meeting such a variety of lovely people along the way.

Who introduced you to bridge?

Just always wanted to learn.

Who taught you to play bridge?

Keith Ramsbotham

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

I was born in Southampton, England. I was the youngest of three. Helping my Dad in the garden or watching my Mum cook always made me smile.

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

Titch. I am height impaired.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Vacuuming

Do you have any other interests, other than bridge?

Reading

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

Office work mainly. I enjoyed teaching English in Tehran. I have enjoyed every job I have ever had so choosing a favourite is hard.

One of the biggest joys I have had was being given the chance to teach and run Bridge sessions on the Princess Cruise ships.

An advertisement in the ABF bulletin asked for expressions of interest and over time I was lucky enough to get three fantastic cruises offered to me. An additional perk to this was being able to take a friend in the cabin for free. The first was from Australia and around New Zealand. I had a number of friends who were



willing to travel with me but for this first one I took Keith Ramsbotham with me. He was my amazing teacher when I started and offered me his teaching notes on which to base my lessons on board.

The second cruise was when the person who had been appointed unfortunately had to disembark at Adelaide because his wife had broken her leg whilst boarding the ship and a quick email to other potential people was sent out asking if anyone could be in Perth within 24 hours to join the ship and travel to Singapore. Because it was such short notice they even paid my air fares and I stayed an extra week to walk around the gardens.

The third cruise was from LA to Japan (22 days) and I took another friend on that one. It was full on during days at sea (32 students each day and organising games all afternoon) but the port days were free to go ashore and explore. My friend and I had a week in LA prior to the cruise and a week in Japan after disembarking.

I really enjoyed those times and the opportunities Princess Cruises gave me.

In my opening words to people who had chosen to come to the lessons I used to say:

“Bridge is a game that is played worldwide and once you understand the basics you will begin to enjoy a game that will keep you interested for the rest of your life. It is, however, (for those of you who play with a life partner in particular) a NON-contact sport.”

I think this is still a very relevant thought! Ha ha!

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

A bird. When I was young I used to dream I could fly. It was wonderful.

What is your favourite song?

Eye in the Sky.

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

I definitely have green thumbs.

What personality trait has got you in most trouble?

I never get in trouble.

Who is the most famous person you have met?

The Queen of England. She opened the School of Nursing at Southampton University where I was the Administrator.

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

Try to be glad and learn from every situation and work your way through problems. The glass is definitely half full for me. Thankfully!

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

Nobody famous for me. I would just like to have my family and friends over.

Best advice for your bridge partner

Smile, even though I have stuffed up (again).



Is there anything you would recommend to those who want to learn Bridge?

Yes – mainly just have a lot of patience.

With yourself as you learn - It is never ending how much you can learn.

Then with your different partners as you go along.

Is this an old people game?

No it is for everyone. I wish I had started earlier in life. But it is also something you can continue as you get older. I have friends whose Mum has just turned 100 and she still plays Bridge each week. Her mind is sharp and I am sure this is at least partly owing to Bridge keeping her brain occupied.

Have you ever given anything back to the Bridge Club?

I have held positions on the Committee like Honorary Secretary, Vice-President and President over many years and in 2007 became a Club Director. I think it is important to join the Committee or help in other ways if you can because it is all voluntary and the more help that is given the easier things run.

Do you have a joke?

A girl from New Zealand who was a blonde but decided to dye her hair a lovely auburn and then went for a drive. She came upon sheep crossing the road and said to the shepherd “if I can tell you how many sheep you have may I have one?” He laughed and said OK. She told him 348. He was amazed and as she was correct, he told her to help herself. She did and before she could drive away, he said “if I tell you your real hair colour can I have my dog back?”.

Postscript

Townsville had the honour to host the Barrier Reef Congress recently. Unfortunately, many people had to pull out because of COVID. Richard Ward was one of those and I was asked by the committee to play instead. My partner was Therese Tully, a wonderful player and a really nice lady. Our partners were Yolanda Carter and Toni Bardon and we ended up 7th. A terrific experience from me. Thank you to Margaret Dousset, and all the people who helped her, for doing such a fantastic job. Congratulations!



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