



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to a new year of bridge.

In preparation for the 2026 Barrier Reef Congress which will be hosted by our club, the committee decided to trial the Australia Day Congress on the ABF website as ABF had spent a great deal of money improving the site. This was a one-off trial and club congresses will not be held on the ABF site in future. A number of issues arose, and I would like thank Jan, Leigh and Bill Bishop for sorting them out. This trial should help us in running the 2026 Barrier Reef Congress smoothly.

Numbers for this year's Australia Day Congress were up on previous years with entries received from the Tablelands, Cairns, Ingham, Cleveland Bay, Townsville, Bowen and Mackay bridge clubs. Thirty four pairs compared with 22 last year contested the Butler pairs event and 16 teams up from 13 last year competed in the teams event.

The walk in pairs event was won by Pat and Geoff Allen (N/S) and Jan Smith and Leigh Owens (E/W).

The winners of the Butler pairs held in four grades were –

- A Betty Hobdell and Rosemary Glastonbury
- B Peter Housden and Gloria Macdonald
- C Graham Sanderson and Kay Anderson
- D Ken Muhling and Alan Giles

The winning teams were, A grade the Conroy team, B grade the Feige team and C grade the Bolton Team. Congratulations to all winners and place getters. Thank you to the Directors Jan Smith, Leigh Owens and Bill Bishop for directing and sorting out the problems with ABF.

Thanks to Joan Elliott, Ann Smith and Devan Mitchell who worked hard in the background to make the congress a great success, in arranging prizes, providoring and congress secretarial work. Thanks also to the dealing and card packing team and the decorating team. Thanks to Annette Lee who took the photos for the newsletter.

The Zonal Secretary, John Tredrea, has asked me to remind you of the Red Point Zonal Teams event being held at the Cleveland Bay Bridge Club on the weekend of 15/16 February. Nine teams have entered so far and entries close on Monday February 10.

**Wilfred Tapiolas**

## RECENT GRAND SLAMS

BRUCE BOWDEN / PAM JAMIESON

IAN PATTERSON / BILL BISHOP

JAN SMITH / LEIGH OWENS

JEANETTE MCKENZIE / ANNE MURPHY

DEVAN MITCHELL / CAROL BLACKMAN



<b>BD: 13</b>	♠ K853	<b>Dir: N</b>	
	♥ T62	<b>Vul: ALL</b>	
	♦ 852		
	♣ 876		
♠ 92		♠ AQJT6	
♥ AKQJ754		♥ 83	
♦ AKQ4		♦ J3	
♣		♣ QJT3	
	♠ 74		
	♥ 9		
	♦ T976		
	♣ AK9542		
	♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT		
N			3
S		19	11
E	2 5 7 6 5		7
W	2 5 7 6 5		

Recent interesting hand at the club

## RECENT PROMOTIONS

Kay Goodwin **Bronze Life**

Donna Clarkson **Bronze Local**

Dave Care **Club**



Courtesy Adrian Raeside



## Australia Day Weekend Congress Results

### AUSTRALIA DAY WALK-IN PAIRS – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

N/S Geoff Allen – Pat Allen

E/W Jan Smith – Leigh Owens

### AUSTRALIA DAY BUTLER SWISS PAIRS - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Betty Hobdell – Rosemary Glastonbury Overall

Peter Housden – Gloria MacDonald B Cat

Graham Sanderson – Kay Anderson C Cat

### AUSTRALIA DAY SWISS TEAMS – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Overall Janelle Conroy - Tex Sheedy – Leigh Ownes - Pat Larsen

B Cat Vivienne Otto – Helen Tapiolas – Audrey Ledbrook – Wilfred Tapiolas

C Cat Renate Feige – Jill Brabon – Neil Cawthorne – Lydie Martin

D Cat Ken Muhling and Alan Giles



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**OVERALL WINNERS**  
**WALKINS, PAIRS AND TEAMS**





## PLACE WINNERS



# PLACE WINNERS



# Did you know?

First Vice Regal (and formal) raising of the Australian Flag by Governor-General, Lord Hopetoun at Townsville, Queensland.

It was on this day in 1901 that the Australian National Flag was first formally flown at The Strand in Townsville, in the presence of Australia's inaugural governor-general, Lord Hopetoun. A flagpole and plaque in Flinders Street commemorates this event.



Thank you to Arthur Johnson who has kindly made some silky oak card holders for members to use.



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

2014

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

My brother and his wife who commenced playing with the Cairns Bridge Club.

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

Elsie Stubbs

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

Born in Malta, came to Australia when 7 months old. Brought up on a cane farm at Woopen Creek. Where is Woopen Creek you ask, well it's near Chooky Chooky Creek (for real). Alright, it's about 20ks South of Babinda, turning right after the Russell River bridge. The family home was on a hill where we had vast views of Mount Bartle Frere, Queensland's highest mountain, and overlooked the Russell River where we spent many hours swimming (the crocs now do the swimming). Going to the Babinda Munro Picture Theatre and sitting in the canvas sling back chairs watching Elvis movies. Unfortunately, in 2006 Cyclone Larry demolished the theatre. Although the theatre was fully restored, the new canvas sling back chairs are not as comfortable.



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

"absolutely hate doing" the words are a little strong as there is nothing I absolutely hate doing. Maybe there are lots of chores I just don't want to do or don't like doing because the chores are repetitive. Going to bed is not my favourite thing to do though its not a chore. Evenings/nights are my favourite time, they are calming, a quiet time for me. I delay going to bed as long as I can before I close the chapter to another day, remembering my supply of days is slowly depleting.

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

Birdwatching with Birdlife Townsville, gym, yoga, catching up with the Babinda Teenagers of the 60s n 70s, travelling.

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

First casual job was at Jones' grocery store Miriwinni, then a permanent job at





Babinda Sugar Mill, office work early 1970s. Worked in Mount Isa at the local Holden dealership, Barkly Motors. Accountancy firms in Melbourne and Brisbane, finally worked at Townsville Enterprise for 8 years until 2014. Namely administration, bookkeeping and accountancy.

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

Polo pony. I would have a long neck, slender body, strong smooth limbs, be quick and agile, mix with the rich and famous, and hopefully be owned by an Argentinian. Though unsure about having tail braided and trimming my mane.

**What is your favourite song?**

No particular song. Love listening to my favourite CD, Tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales. Calming. Yes, I am a Diana tragic.

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

Passed the Bar exam at the Babinda Hotel. Make a mean banana cake.

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

Too honest.

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

Had my photo taken with Prime Minister Jillian Gillard when Townsville Enterprise provided her with a boardroom for whatever was required.

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

Our pet Cocker Spaniel Billy lived by the following ethos and I believe I adapt them to my way of life:

Never fight those bigger than you, leave those smaller than you alone and be friends with those the same size.

Should others ask you to do an errand, do the errand only when you are ready, but always within a reasonable time to keep everyone happy.

Should things don't work out as planned, pick yourself up, give yourself a shake and keep walking on, pretending nothing has happened.

Always show an attitude, however keep those you love in your sight.

Beware of those bearing gifts, especially Santa.

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

Princess Diana, Scott Rush, Anne Frank

**Best advice for your bridge partner?**

Let it Go, Let it Go, Let it Go.

**Do you have a joke?**

"Did you hear about the poor chap who had a nasty work accident and had his ear partially torn off. The surgeons replaced his ear with a pig's ear. The surgery was a great success, except for some crackling."



**LESSONS COMMENCING SOON – TELL YOUR FRIENDS**

## LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE



### 2025 LESSONS COMMENCE:

Tues 11th February 2025 at 9.00am

Wed 12th February 2025 at 5.30pm

**\*Introductory Lesson FREE \***

Subsequent Lessons \$7 - Refreshments Provided



Enquiries: Di 0439 598 019

Website: <https://townsville.bridgeaustralia.org/>

Email: [secretary@townsvillebridgeclub.org.au](mailto:secretary@townsvillebridgeclub.org.au)

Clubhouse: 142 Wellington St, Aitkenvale 4814 (Beside PCYC)

# BRIDGEMATES



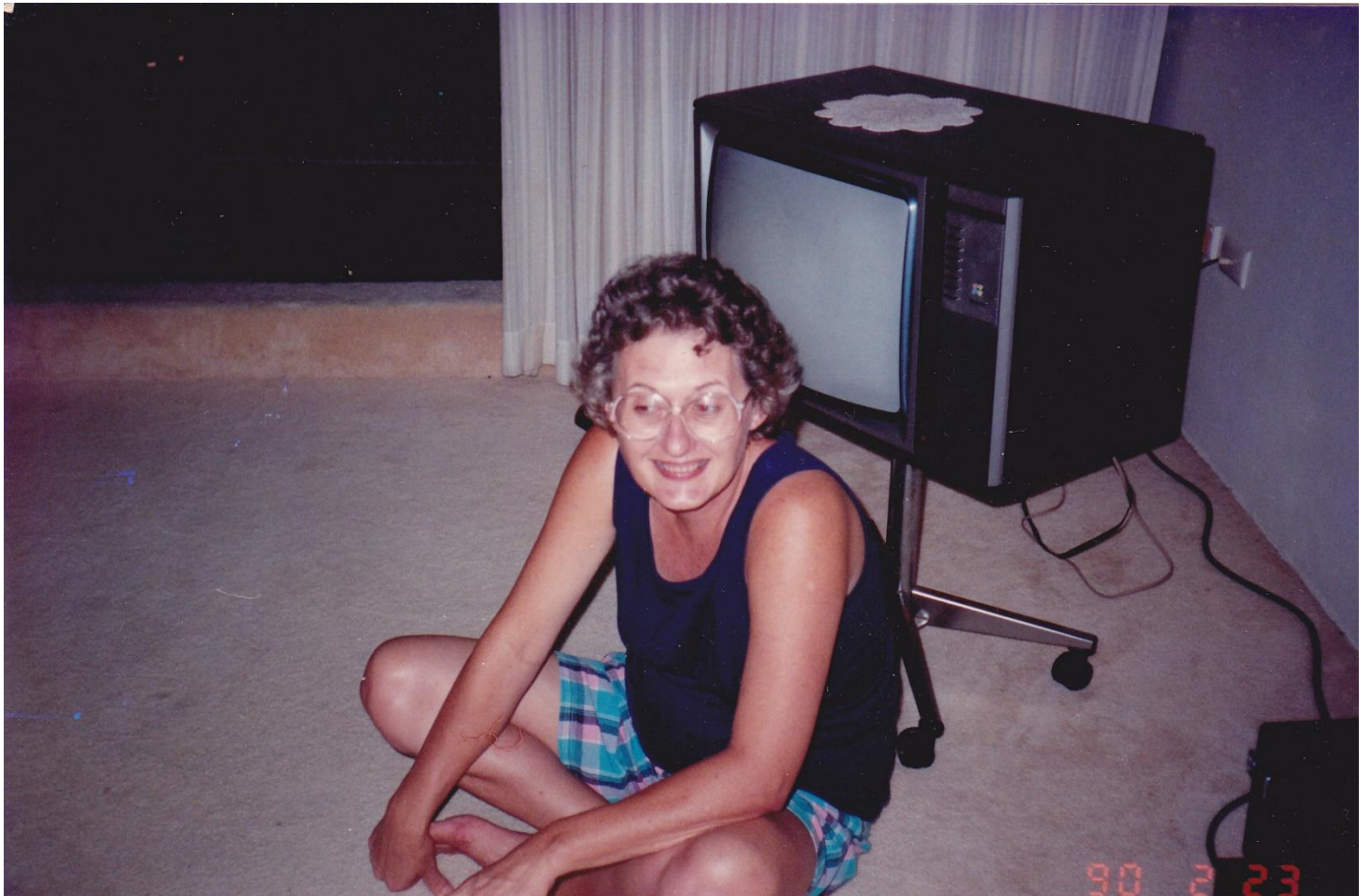
Gayleen Brown, Mac Stoneman and Aileen Keogh



Elsie Stubbs and Clarice Suthers



Ina Clancy Robyn Nolan Bernice Morton David Vance



Barbara Hospers

YOU WANT TO REMEMBER  
THE MEANING OF A POSITIVE  
DOUBLE! USUALLY YOU DON'T.  
AND LISTEN, - DON'T GO AND  
BID NO TRUMPS UNLESS YOU  
HAVE FOUR QUICK TRICKS  
IN YOUR HAND! DON'T  
SPECULATE ON MINE. I'LL  
DO THAT

NOW, WILBUR, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE,  
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE ME  
OUT ON A NEGATIVE DOUBLE!  
I'LL JUST NATURALLY KILL YOU IF  
YOU DO! AND DON'T FORGET  
WHEN YOU SHUFFLE TO PLACE  
THE CARDS AT THE LEFT  
OF THE PLAYER WHOSE NEXT  
DEAL IT IS!



TWO PEOPLE ABOUT TO START  
FOR AN EVENING OF RELAXATION  
AT THE HOME OF TWO BRIDGE SHARKS

LEBSTER