NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Crikey, no one told me the size of the boots I had to fill.

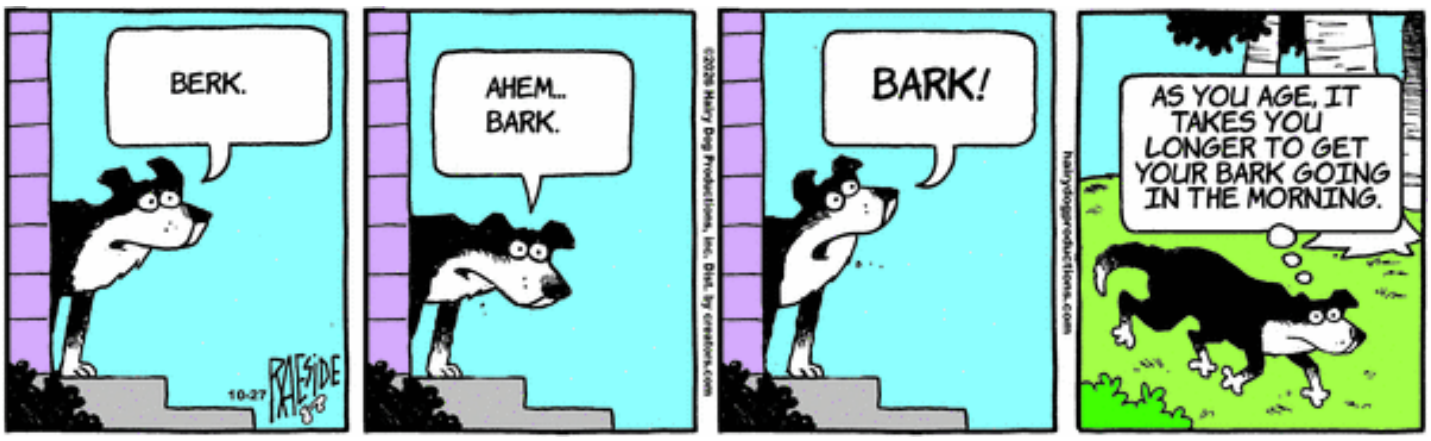
Thank you Wilfred for your incredible contribution to and leadership of the Townsville Bridge club. You guided the club through some major events not least of which were the Covid epidemic and the accommodation of Cleveland Bay into our building. The Sub-committees established during your tenure take responsibility for the multiple facets of management both seen and unseen. The committee was effusive in their praise for your actions and leadership during your 6 year tenure. I look forward to leaning on you for assistance as I try to fill the void you have left.

Major local results include Leigh Owens and Jan Smith winning the Keith Ramsbotham Shield and the Club Team Championship won by the Hobdell team. A shout out to Luthile and Brad for their top 50 finish in the Australia wide Restricted pairs.

The last couple of months have had congresses and competitions from Atherton to Mackay and the Townsville clubs have been well represented. Whilst we may not always be winners when travelling the bon hommie shown to Townsville members shows how much you are appreciated for your participation! Congratulations to the Doyle team for the B grade win in Mackay and Bill Bishop with various cronies coming second in Mackay A grade and in the top 5 at the Tablelands Congress pairs with Ian.

One of the club goals for 2027 has to be getting more people playing bridge. If you have any ideas please bring them forward and on the sidelines hassle those young family members to come and try it out! A thank you to Di Garside who is stepping aside from co-ordinating lessons for the club and to Devan for stepping in for 2027.

Anto Wilson



Courtesy – Adrian Raeside

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Luthile Arlett	**Bronze State**
Stephen Lee	**State**
Annette Lee	**Silver Local**
Chris Tweddell	**State**
Kelly Walker	**National**

RECENT GRAND SLAMS

CHRISTINE PERKINS / YVONNE HOUBOLT

DUSK CARE / JOYCE MCARTHUR

Recipe - From Sandra Crowe, Club Member

Capsicum Dip

1 red capsicum

1 long red chilli

2 cloves garlic

Juice of a lemon

Black pepper

3-4 tbs sundries tomatoes with oil

100g roasted salted cashew nuts

40g grated Parmesan

2tbsp olive oil

Fresh coriander.

Blitz in a blender - done!

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

Happy Birthday!

Ian Leech – Happy 80th Birthday



THANKYOU!

Over the last few months there has been many events at the club, including the Melbourne Cup and club competitions. We would like to thank all those volunteers, card dealers and Directors that helped to make these great events.

Again, thank you everyone that helped out!



Tom Browne Circa early 1900s

Novice Teams November 2026

It was great to see our novice players being involved in club competitions over the weekend. Thankyou for your participation, we hope you enjoyed the experience.



1st Place TONI BARRELL – SANDRA CROWE - ANNE MURPHY - ROSLYN SNEDDON





2nd Place STEPHEN LEE - BRAD ROSS - ANTO WILSON - ANNETTE LEE



3rd Place GARRY BOLTON - JAN NETTLE - GREG LAWLER - MICHELLE JONES SEPHEN LEE (Michele missing from the photo)

RECENT RESULTS

Anniversary Pairs – Cleveland Bay Bridge Club

1st GLORIA MACDONALD - BETTY HOBDELL

2nd PAT LEIGHTON - LEIGH OWENS (115)

3rd STEPHEN LEE - ANNETTE LEE

Australia wide restricted pairs

1st KELLY WALKER - ANTHONY WILSON

2nd GREG LAWLER / GARRY BOLTON

3rd BRAD ROSS / LUTHILE ARLETT



KEITH RAMSBOTHAM PAIRS

1st JAN SMITH - LEIGH OWENS

2nd LUTHILE ARLETT - BILL BISHOP

3rd GLORIA MACDONALD - BETTY HOBDELL

Club Teams - November 2026

1st Place

BETTY HOBDELL - IAN PATTERSON - JOAN ELLIOTT - ROBYN NOLAN

2nd Place

PHIL RAINS - BILL REDHEAD - LUTHILE ARLETT - ALBERT BERIC - BRAD ROSS

3rd Place

KELLY WALKER - BILL BISHOP - JAN SMITH - LEIGH OWENS



FNQ Tropical Spring Congress

Walk-in Pairs

1st E/W BILL REDHEAD - GLORIA MACDONALD

3rd E/W ANTO WILSON - LUTHILE ARLETT

Tropical Spring Pairs – Best achievement from Townsville Club

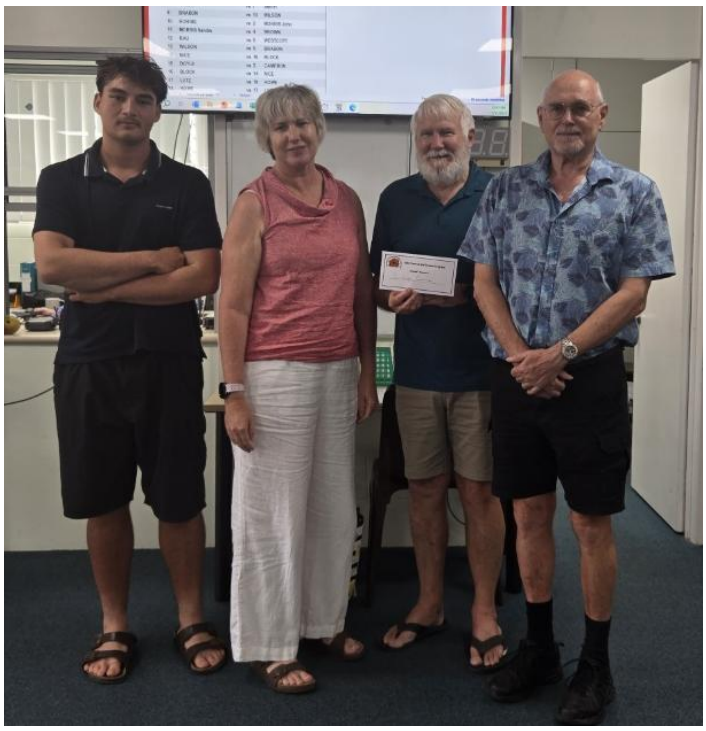
5th Place IAN LEACH / BILL BISHOP

6th place BILL REDHEAD / GLORIA MACDONALD



Atherton Congress – Dinner

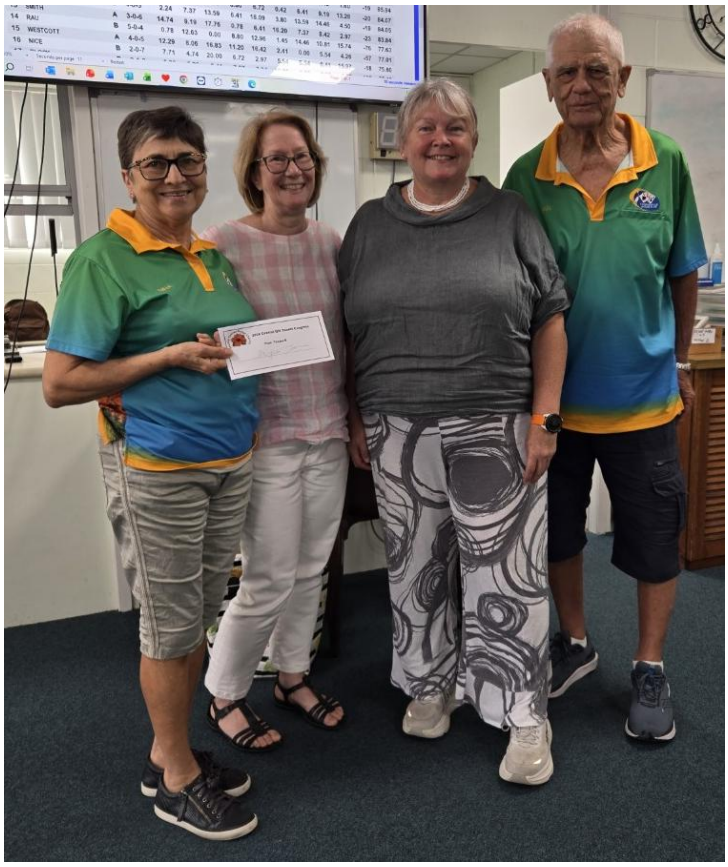
2026 Central Qld Teams Congress



2nd A Category

TAMATI GREIGBILL, KELLY WALKER – BILL BISHOP - LEIGH OWENS





1st Place B Category

NINA DOYLE - LUTHILE ARLETT - JAYNE DALTON - IAN LEACH

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

The 13 spade mystery usually refers to either a famous bridge legend or a plot point in detective and pop-culture lore: The ***Ely Culbertson*** Legend

In 1925, contract bridge pioneer Ely Culbertson was supposedly dealt a hand containing all 13 spades. Because the mathematical probability of holding an entire 13-card suit is about ***1 in 635 billion*** (meaning it would happen roughly once every 17 million years if playing 100 hands a day), rivals whispered it was a brilliant marketing stunt to sell his bridge books

Who is Ely Culbertson

Ely Culbertson, was born on July 22, 1891 and died in December 27, 1955. He was an American contract bridge entrepreneur during the 1930s. He played a major role in promoting and making popular the game of bridge and was widely regarded as "the man who made contract bridge".

He invented many ideas which are still used in bidding systems today, such as forcing bids, 4-Card Majors, bidding the longest suits first at a low level, Honor Count (HC) and hand evaluation -for example, 1-level opening in a suit typically required around 11–14+ points (historically using an honour-trick and distribution count rather than modern high-card point counts





The Bridgemate was developed in the Netherlands around 2000 and gained immediate popularity. Within the first 18 months nearly 200 clubs in the Netherlands were using Bridgemate technology and by 2004 there were 500 clubs.

In 2005, a new version of the Bridgemate was released and this model was introduced in many European countries as well as other continents like Asia and Australia. A world-wide network of distributors was set up to market and support the Bridgemate system locally in all major bridge markets.

Bridgemate are now used by more than 6,000 clubs in 65+ countries on all continents of the world. About half a million bridge players enjoy the benefits and user friendliness of the Bridgemate system on a regular basis.

MELBOURNE CUP EVENT


















EXIT
AED






TOWNSVILLE
Bridge Club




























Moreen



Jan Smith and Margaret Ward





At rear ? ? Front: Bruce Chalker and Pat Easton

Floris Brown, Joy Collier and Margaret Ward



Jan Smith, Leigh Owens, Richard Ward and Margaret Ward



HEY! COME OUT HERE QUICK! I'VE GOT THE BIGGEST SALMON IN THE RIVER! HE'LL GO OVER 40 POUNDS!

YOU GO DOC – YOU'RE DUMMY. LETS SEE NOW , ITS YOUR PLAY PHILO

