



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

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Ed: : Glenys Clift April Newsletter 2026

## Management Committee 2025-2026

President	Greg Munck
Vice President	Trevor Henderson
Secretary	Kathy Duke
Treasurer	Marie Steger
Committee	Chris Snook
	Ken Orange
	Suzanne Brazier
	Ann Williams
	Rosemary Goodsell
	Stephan Nugent
	Helen Holmes

## Office Holders

Grounds Maint.	Margaret Tucker
Purchasing Officer	Graeme Ryan
Teaching Co-ord	David Roberts
MP Secretary	Chris Snook
Tenancy	Bruce Hinchliffe
Librarian	Gretchen Graf
Recorder	Ian Jesser
Chief Tournament	
Director	Chris Snook
Welfare Officer	Kerry Brown
Building Maint.	Terry Sheedy
Office Manager	Stephan Nugent
Congress Convenor	Chris Snook
Housekeeper	Ann Williams
Membership Sec	Stephan Nugent

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



*Everyone has by now settled into the 2026 bridge year and we are seeing good attendance at most sessions. Friday afternoon continues to be light on for numbers so if you want something challenging to do then roll up on Friday*

*afternoons.*

*The last of the GNOT qualifying rounds (gold point) are on Tuesday nights 21 and 28 April so if you haven't qualified a team then this is your last chance for the year.*

*Happy bridging,*

*El Presidente Greg*



Photographers: Kathy Duke, Susie Fraser

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026



Cash flow for the month of February resulted in a deficit due to the payment of Toowoomba Region Rates of \$2,871 and Toowoomba Chronicle advertising costs of \$1,567 to promote lessons.

### Current Assets Held

- Heritage Bank General Account: \$3,635.74
- Online Saver S26 Account (2.45%): \$26,875.62
- Term Deposit: \$70,000, due 27 Apr 2026 at 3.850%
- MyABF: \$8,181.80

GST-inclusive table fees collected in February totalled \$8,685, with an additional \$345 received from beginners' lessons.

A recent review identified twenty-six lapsed members who still held a credit with MyABF, and each was contacted to determine whether they wished to retain the credit for future use or request a refund if they were no longer able to play. The responses resulted in one member donating \$6 to the Bridge Club, seven members requesting refunds that were subsequently processed with MyABF's assistance, and one member requiring no action due to a small \$2 balance. Nine members chose to keep their credit for future use, while two require further follow-up and six did not respond.

### Past Members

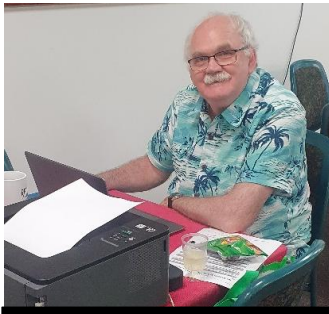
I had the pleasure of visiting Jack and Esme Burnie. Jack reminisced about playing bridge in the Besser Block building in Water Street (with no air-conditioning) and about being involved in the building project for our Stuart Street rooms. Esme recalled Sandy bidding 4 Spades without any idea of what Susie held in her hand! They miss seeing their long-time friends, but they are no longer able to play bridge due to Jack's failing eyesight. Jack has recently purchased an iPad and is adjusting to listening to audiobooks with the help of his state-of-the-art hearing aids. They told me how fortunate they feel to still be living independently in their own home, both now in their 90s. I passed on everyone's good wishes to them.

I also spoke to Gillian Whitehouse by phone. Gillian is living in a nursing home in Brisbane. Her eyesight has also failed, but she seemed content.

*Count your blessings and enjoy  
your Bridge! Marie*



Bruce Hinchliffe, Fay Short, Margaret Tucker  
with Jack & Esme Burnie (centre)



Director Chris Snook



Director Dave Roberts



**OPEN**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Jenny Buckley & Jim Wood
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews
- 3<sup>rd</sup> John Churchett & Trevor Henderson

**NOVICE**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Debra Coward & Bruce Coward
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Marie Steger & Gretchen Graf
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Shea Stanley & Jenny Bridge



President Greg Munck., Adrienne Montague, Michael Kaiser

## DIRECTORS REPORT: IVY DAHLER CUP

Ivy Dahler was Toowoomba's most prominent bridge identity. She was a highly successful player at international level and an important figure in administration, directing, organisation of major events and support for bridge in country areas. An interesting tidbit about Ivy Dahler is that she lived on Blackwood Street in Toowoomba, but she was not keen on the convention itself. Ivy died on 6 March 2006, just a week after, at age 83, she had been directing as usual at the Gold Coast International Congress. There are several major events around the country named for Ivy. The Toowoomba Bridge Club was Ivy's home club, and we honour her memory with the prestigious Ivy Dahler Cup and the Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs

We ran this event on three Monday afternoons: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March, with the field divided into two grades. For the first week 14 tables played in the Open section with the top 12 pairs qualifying to play in a Barometer Howell with 11x5-board rounds over the following two weeks. 12 tables played in the Novice section with the top 12 pairs qualifying to play in a Barometer Howell with 11x5-board rounds over the following two weeks. Both events were a good contest with the overall winners being:

Open 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Wood & Jenni Buckley  
2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews  
3<sup>rd</sup> John Churchett & Trevor Henderson

Novice 1<sup>st</sup> Debra Coward & Bruce Coward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Marie Steger & Gretchen Graf  
3<sup>rd</sup> Shea Stanley & Jenny Bridge

Previous winners are listed below. Ivy's family donated ten years of cups and a shield for the Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs. The event ran from 2007-2016. It was reinstated by the club in 2023 when the Ivy Dahler Cup moved from Tuesdays to Mondays.

Year	Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs	Ivy Dahler Cup
2007	Robbie Fulton & Lorraine Sutton	
2008	Chris Evans & Sharyn Courtney	Pat Larsen & Sue Spinks
2009	Judith Briggs & Delma Clark	Pat Larsen & Sue Spinks
2010	Mavis Simpson & Denise Hartwig	Val McClement & Eileen Josey
2011	Trevor Glasby & Judith Glasby	Val McClement & Eileen Josey
2012	Keith Jenkin & Barry Copley	Ian Jesser & Carol Wilson
2013	Ian Steger & Frank Cooper	Laurie-Marie McRoberts & Jackie Henderson
2014	Geoff Buckham & David Edwards	Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers
2015	Annette Topp & Bob Topp	Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers
2016	Pam Hosfield & Steve Hosfield	Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook
2017		Adrian Mayers & Byron Longford
2018		Jenni Buckley & Jim Wood
2019		Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers

2020		Mearon Geldard & Jim Wood
2021		Will Higgins & John Erlandson
2022		Will Higgins & Adrian Mayers
2023	Trevor Mallory & Ian Costin	Will Higgins & Adrian Mayers
2024	Debra Coward & Pauline Curin	Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews
2025	Mark Hunt & Terry Sheedy	Mohan Trada & Hema De Zoysa
2026	Debra Coward & Bruce Coward	Jim Wood & Jenni Buckley

Those who did not make the finals played in a combined duplicate session each week, with the winners being:

Plate/Consolation Week 1: NS 1<sup>st</sup> Glenys Clift & Henry Eastment  
EW 1<sup>st</sup> Geoff Rydon & Barbara Rydon

Plate/Consolation Week 2: NS 1<sup>st</sup> Delma Clark & Oliver Dashwood  
EW 1<sup>st</sup> Desley Hanrahan & Rozalyn Wright

Thank you to all who played and especially to those who helped with the kitchen, managing boards and assisted with taking Director calls.

Cheers *Chris*

### Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In February, I processed results for 46 sections from 32 sessions yielding 152.24 green, 61.40 red and 19.20 gold masterpoints. You have all earned a lot of points thus far in March, but the newsletter comes out just before the end of the month which is when masterpoints are reported, so you'll see all these soon.

#### Master Rank Promotions for January

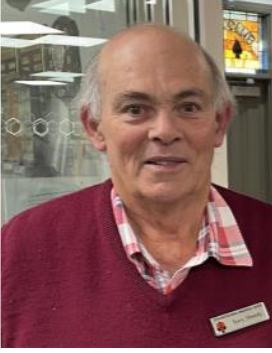
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Barkla, Judy	Silver Local	39.73	6.57	1,231
Davage, Barbara	Bronze Local	26.41	1.45	6,451
Bell, Robyn	Local	18.35	3.57	2,625
Brady, Brian	Local	15.63	1.42	6,584
Trueman, Alan	Club	8.30	3.38	2,825
Pietsch, Elizabeth	Club	5.41	0.51	12,529
Moffatt, Bernie	Graduate	2.14	0.32	14,782

#### Master Rank Promotions for February

NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Quick, Brenda	Bronze Local	26.60	3.72	2,505
Rutledge, Helen	Bronze Local	25.33	2.05	4,723
Horton, Denise	Bronze Local	25.13	0.43	13,314
Brownlie, Joan	Local	16.50	2.95	3,279
Grace, Kevin	Club	6.05	4.26	2,142
Brewer, Judy	Graduate	2.14	0.95	8,893
Field, Peter	Graduate	2.08	0.56	11,940

Cheers *Chris*

## MAINTENANCE REPORT – MARCH 2026



Very quiet month. Just a couple of minor items

### Electrical

Chris has pointed out a spaghetti mess of cables for the various pieces of equipment plugged into a 4 outlet power board, and used in the dealing room when our busy crew are preparing the boxes of boards for subsequent day's play.

Today, 2 new twin outlet power points have been added to the wall, and a small finishing touch is required to re-route the various cables.

### Wall Urn

The committee has asked that I obtain a quote for a larger unit than the one previously quoted. That has been done, and is being considered at the moment.

*Terry*

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## LIBRARY NEWS



Hello Bridge fanatics.

Your friendly librarian here. Not a lot of borrowing has been going on lately, unless – horror of horrors – people are forgetting to write their name, and the date on the old-fashioned index card system we have in place. Yes, no excuses, nothing digital about the borrowing system. And of course, when you do return a book, you write the 'date returned' on the same index card.

Our esteemed Treasurer, Marie Steger, occasionally provides Bridge novels in the Pemberton Bridge Club Mystery series for raffle prizes. These have proved quite popular among members. One being passed around at the moment is *Shades of Grey* by Ken Allan, which mentions, among other amusing plot twists and turns, how to cheat! (at Bridge...). Those who have read it enjoyed it very much. Let's hope not too much!

So I am wondering, do we want a few lighter reads in our library? Perhaps for those who would like to read *about* Bridge, because you already know everything about *how to play* Bridge, and will never read "2/1 on Steroids" (Solow) because you have no desire to learn anything more?

Think about it, fellow players, and let me know. Otherwise my modest Bridge budget might have to spent on wine instead.

Happy reading everyone *Gretchen*

**VALE JACKIE HENDERSON**  
**1939 – 2026**



Jackie joined the TBC in 1988 and resigned in 2010. When Jackie joined, the club was more or less run by Ivy Dahler and Col Martin with Joyce Benson running her Wednesday morning session almost as a separate entity, even having its own Xmas Party.

Jackie was President 1996-2000, Providore from 1994- 2005 and the Club Teacher under the guidance of Ivy Dahler from 1996-2004. Up until Jackie became President any talk about what would happen when the Lease for the building ran out in 2012 was pretty much ignored. In fact, the Council had authorised, that in 2012 the building would be demolished as part of the proposed Creek Open Space Corridor. Jackie appointed a sub-committee which included

Pam Gebbett, Marlene Stanley and Glenys Clift, who all followed her as President, to find new premises for the Bridge Club. And perhaps, if it hadn't been for Jackie Henderson, we wouldn't be in Stuart Street today.

In 2004 Jackie was made a Life Member of the Toowoomba Bridge Club in recognition of her contribution to the club on Committee in various roles, over 11 years.



**Water Street Premises**



**Stuart Street Premises**

## TRIVIA



As it turned out, the Council didn't have to demolish the old Bridge Club in Water Street, the 2011 floods sorted that problem out.



East Creek became a raging torrent and washed the building away.



When East Creek overflowed into the city.

By 2007 when we moved to Stuart Street, both Col Martin and Ivy Dahler had died and sadly Joyce Benson was nearly blind. Ivy on the 6/3/2006 aged 83, and Col on the 9/7/2007 aged 84. Perhaps their ages didn't make them hopeful of being around in 2012 which is why they were never interested.

Actually, even though Ivy was initially against the idea of finding other premises, eventually she did come on board before she died. Ivy was a brilliant bridge player, a tough teacher who forced you to learn what she taught because you were too frightened not to (like my Latin teacher at school) and her contribution to Australian bridge was truly outstanding.

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



**Gail Blencoe**

I was born and lived in Rhodesia and had a carefree and peaceful lifestyle. Rhodesia became Zimbabwe and life changed. My daughter and son arranged my emigration to Australia in 2007.

Starting a new life in a new country without friends isn't easy but playing Bridge was a bonus. Glenys Clift helped me settle in and introduced me to a special partner and friend, Olive Ole. We were partners for many happy years, starting with playing Acol and then changing to Standard American systems. Through the years I have been fortunate to have Bridge partners that have become true friends. Elizabeth Cavanagh was also one of those lovely ladies; we played Tuesday sessions when lunch was eaten between play. Those were all good times. *Gail*



**Cel Phillips**

Born in Cairns, I attended various schools as my family moved around finally ending up in Townsville. Met my husband at Magnetic Island and we spent 30 years in Charters Towers running a large supermarket where our four children, 3 sons and one daughter grew up.

As members of Apex, we began the Charters Towers Country Music festival which drew competitors from all over Qld even winning a Qld tourist festival award. My role was organising and publicity including television and national radio and the newspaper. This resulted in me receiving a Golden Guitar for contribution to promoting country music. Believe it or not my name is on a Tamworth monument - definitely not for singing.

Here in Toowoomba not knowing anyone here when I came in 1992, as well as the Bridge Club, I joined several clubs such as St Vincent's De Paul, tennis clubs, porcelain doll club.

My greatest love is being close to my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. *Cel*



**Glenys Clift**

From age 13 when I started my first job working for a private catering company on the weekends then backpacking around Oz at age 18, up until I retired when I was 60, I have worked as a waitress, receptionist, secretary, barmaid, cleaner, nightclub hostess, magistrates clerk, cook, petrol attendant, real estate agent, shop assistant, surgical nurse and nurse clinical teacher pretty much in that order.

I feel truly blessed that my last jobs, as a surgical nurse and clinical teacher were the jobs I loved the best. I did start my training when I was 19 but had a run-in with matron in 3<sup>rd</sup> year, so it wasn't until I was 50 that I finally became a registered nurse via USQ. The next 10 yrs I worked part time at St Vincents as a surgical nurse and the USQ supervising groups of 1<sup>st</sup> year nursing students on their first 2 week clinical. Even though newly registered, I was very much old-school and was pretty tough on them but.... when the 2 weeks were up, they thought they were shit hot and so did I.

However, the smartest thing I ever did was marry a bloke called John Clift. During the 10 yrs I was nursing, all my wages went into a travel account, and he had to support us – and bless him, he did. I have been a member of the Bridge Club for 40 yrs and the best thing about bridge; is all the great people you meet. *Glenys*



I have recently returned to playing bridge and after taking a few years off to study. My mother encouraged me to start playing early and my first set of lessons were about 1993. I have had great teachers along the way, with formal lessons from Ross and Diana Dick at Toowong, Jackie Henderson at Water Street and Liz Zeller here at Stuart Street and of course all the excellent coaching before and during play from other club members.

Outside bridge I am a pharmacist - I conduct home medication reviews and work as a clinical educator to support students on rural placements. I am trying to convince my husband Luke to play bridge, however the lure of the golf course is way too strong. *Lucy*



**Edwina Willis**

Grew up in Rockhampton and attended Rockhampton Girls Grammar where I was invited to teach Music and Sport. My specialties in sport were netball, tennis and swimming whilst with music, I taught piano. I then spent 2 years on a working holiday in New Zealand.

I met my husband when I returned to Rockhampton. We lived at Baralaba where we owned and ran a cattle property which ran along the Dawson River and where our 2 boys grew up. They both attended the Toowoomba Preparatory School from age 5 upwards. We sold the property in 1985, bought a property at Brookstead and moved to Middle Ridge. I first learned bridge from Enid Busch when she was teaching in different people's homes. *Edwina*

### PROFILES

I would like to thank the 246 members who have shared something about themselves for the newsletter over the last two years. What an interesting mob we are!! However, other than the profiles which are included in this edition, I will probably hold off now until the end of the year. Mainly because out of every group that starts lessons and joins, there is always a small percentage who for whatever reason, don't continue which is why I wait until the end of the year for new members. And that happens with people joining all types of community organisations.

I have tried to ask all members, and if I have missed you, please contact me because it is certainly not deliberate; and some got a little cross because apparently, I had already asked them and they had declined. But you have to give me a little bit of a break. After all, I will be 82 this year and quite frankly I am grateful just to be upright let alone anything else.

On the following page, I have included an updated list of occupations members have pursued during their lives. Given that the majority of members are 70+, we have been a very fortunate generation in that most of us were given nothing and told to get on with it. One thing we can all be proud of is not only have we contributed to the wealth and growth of our country. but for those with children, we tried to make sure they also were given opportunities to build their own lives. As to what is happening today, well that is another story and I'm certainly not going there.

*Glenys*

## OCCUPATIONS

### HEALTH

Nurses  
Medical  
Surgical  
Paediatric  
Nurse Educator  
Psychiatric  
Midwife  
ICU  
Practice Nurse  
Neonatal  
Medical & Surgical Drs.  
General Practitioners  
General Surgeon  
Paediatricians  
Anaesthetist  
Orthopaedic Surgeon  
Psychiatrist  
Dentists  
Paediatric Speech Therapy  
Physiotherapists  
Occupational Therapist  
Optometrist  
Pharmacists

### EDUCATION

Child-care Managers  
Pre-School Teachers  
Primary School Teachers  
High School Teachers  
Special Ed Teacher  
School Counsellor  
Drama Teachers Music Teachers  
University Lecturers  
Ag. College Lecturer  
Pottery Teacher  
Contract Bridge Trainer  
School Sports Coach

### FARMING & ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Livestock breeding  
Crop farming/Crop management  
Veterinarians  
Wool Broker

### COMPUTERS/IT

Computer Analyst  
Computer Programming  
Desk Top Publishing  
Project Manager

### HORTICULTURE

Garden design  
Apiarist  
Floriculture -Flower farming  
Horticulturists

### LEGISLATORS

Councillors

### FINANCIAL

Auditors  
Accountants  
Financial Planning  
Mortgage Broker  
Tax Agent  
Economic Advisor  
Economist

### MEDIA & PUBLISHING

Book publishing  
Newspaper Editors  
Journalists  
Children's Author

### BUILDING/ENGINEERING

Electrical Engineers  
Mechanical Engineers  
Civil Engineers  
Aeronautical Engineers  
Surveyors  
Wood Patternmakers  
Stained Glass Designer  
Metal Workers  
Architectural Lighting Tech  
Landscape Architecture  
Manager Brickworks  
Road Design Draftsman

### SCIENTIFIC

Medical Anthropology  
Professor Physical Chemistry  
Medical Research  
Analytical Chemist  
Agriculture Scientist  
Poultry Scientist  
Animal Physiology /neuroscience  
Mechanical Compliance  
Environmental Scientist  
Primary Industry  
Entomologist

### ENTERTAINMENT

Musicians  
Singers

### HOSPITALITY

Moteliers  
Publican  
Café  
B& B

### SMALL BUSINESS

Retail outlets  
Supermarkets  
Deli  
Hospitality  
Catering  
Dressmaking  
Upholsterer  
Windscreens  
Butcher

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Financial Controller  
HR Training Co-ord  
General Admin  
Human Resource Management  
Secretary/ Office workers  
Legal Secretary

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Librarians  
Hairdressers  
Sports Coach  
Public Service  
Sales Assist

### TRANSPORT

Railway Driver  
Railway Maintenance  
Courier services  
Taxi Owner/drivers  
Driving Instructor

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Real Estate

### SECURITY

Australian Defence Force  
Police  
Prison Officer  
Aviation Security  
Security/Risk Management  
Marine Rescue



**Convenor  
Chris Snook**

**WINNERS**



**Director Jo Neary**



**A Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Roberta Tait & Lex Ranke**



**A Grade 2<sup>nd</sup> John Morris & Neven Burcia**



**A Grade 3<sup>rd</sup> Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook**



**B Grade 1<sup>st</sup> John Churchett & Trevor Henderson**



**B Grade 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Duke & Julie Pigdon**



**C Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Terry Sheedy & Trevor Corthorne**



Raffle Sellers, Ngaire Wills, Marie Steger



Pauline Lutton, Kathy Duke & Julie Pigdon Winners Chris Wooley, Ngaire Wills & Lucy Parker



Morning Caddy Pauline Lutton



Afternoon Caddy Lyn Vary

## CONVENORS REPORT : X-IMP PAIRS CONGRESS

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Toowoomba Bridge Club hosted a “somewhat” new event ... a X-IMP Pairs congress. IMP's are a method of scoring. In regular duplicate pairs your score depends on how often you beat your competitors (even if only by one trick, or by bidding and making NT instead of a major suit game). In IMP (International Match Points) scoring, the size of the score matters. If you bid and make game and your opponent's make the same 10 tricks but only bid part game – then you get a big score. IMP's are mainly used when comparing two scores such as in a team's event, but the magic of X-IMPs is that your score is compared with every other table and then your final score is the average of all of these. The upshot is you tend to be rewarded for bidding game and slam and for doubling and taking down an over-zealous opponent. If you are sitting NS, then all the other EW in the room is acting like your team-mates. Anyway, enough of the detail!!!

It was a change of scenery for me because I got a Brisbane colleague, Jo Neary, to be the Director for this event, and consequently it was a rare occasion for me to play in one of our congresses. My last time playing in a Toowoomba congress was in 2012 playing in the Labour Day weekend two-day teams with Mohan Trada, Edwin Willey and Bruce Meakins. We had a wonderful run but were tipped into second place by the gun Brisbane team of Ralph Parker, Nathan Van Jole, Pranjal Chakradeo and Neville Parker.

For this X-IMP Pairs event, entries were a little slow coming in, but we ended up with a respectable 36 pairs (18 tables) with a good mix of local players, and visitors from Dalby, Warwick and Brisbane. Big thanks to Marie Steger for arranging the raffle, Kathy Duke and Julie Pigdon for help with catering and much of the running on the day, Pauline Lutton and Lyn Vary for their help as caddies whilst also providing help in the kitchen. Thanks to Lyn also for much of the dealing and Kerry Gibson for copying hand records. Many other club members also helped in setup, board movement and cleanup of the room – thank you to all!

Now for the winners list:

1<sup>st</sup> Roberta Tait – Lex Ranke (QCBC)  
2<sup>nd</sup> John Morris – Neven Burica (QCBC)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Denise Hartwig – Chris Snook

B 1<sup>st</sup> John Churchett – Trevor Henderson  
B 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Duke – Julie Pigdon

C 1<sup>st</sup> Terry Sheedy – Trevor Corthorne

It was a good day, a good advert for bridge and a good advert for our club.

Cheers *Chris*

## WELCOME ALAN & PAULINE ROBINSON



Alan and Pauline first learned Bridge in Canberra where they played socially. Alan worked as an engineer at the Tidbinbilla Deep Space Communication Complex while Pauline worked as a teacher at Canberra Institute of Technology managing both national and international education projects.

When they retired to Maleny they played at the Maleny Bridge Club, where they were active members for many years. Alan served three terms as President, was the Treasurer for seven years and provided technical support for the Club. Pauline was a regular player and a member of the catering team. Last year they decided to sell their 1.5-acre property and move to Toowoomba to be closer to family. They bought a house in Rangeville and moved in January this year. They are loving life in Toowoomba and are looking forward to getting to know their fellow players at the Club.

### DATE CLAIMERS

- **GNOT (Grand National Open Teams) Heat C:** Tuesday Nights 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April.  
Nominate a team of four, five or six players to play in this club event. If someone can't play both weeks you may use other people/or pairs provided you do not exceed six in total. The GNOT is run by the ABF for members of clubs all around Australia and is the only event where you can earn **gold masterpoints** playing in your own club against your peers. There are about 1700 teams (7000 players) that start this event – making it one of the largest in the world.  
The winners of this club heat earn the right to advance to the Zone Final (against top teams from the other participating clubs in our zone – Darling Downs, Dalby, Warwick, Stanthorpe, Roma, Lockyer, Goondiwindi). The top two teams from our zone final earn the right to advance to the “Round of 64” in September and the top teams after that play in the national final in Brisbane in November.
- **Joyce Benson Pairs:** Wednesday Afternoons 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup> June for red masterpoints.  
Played in two sections (Open and Novice) over three weeks. First week is a qualifying session, and the top 12 pairs will advance into the Final that runs over weeks two and three. Those not in the final will play in regular walk-in sessions over weeks two and three.
- **Australia-Wide Novice Pairs:** Novice section of Monday Afternoon 25<sup>th</sup> May.

All these events are listed on our website in the “Calendar” area, are usually listed on the website front page, often have a flyer on display in the clubrooms, and are announced by the Directors (should be at the start of each session). They are also mentioned on the TV announcements when these TV's are switched on. Despite this, word of mouth remains the best way to get people involved, so always make sure you gee-up your friends to play 😊

Thanks *Chris*

## WELFARE REPORT



"Thankfully this month has been much kinder to our members with only two condolence cards being sent. One was sent to Eleanor Johnson's family and the other to Floyd Wilson following the death of Majella"  
Regards

*Kerry Brown*

## TEACHING INVITATION



From a Teaching perspective there is no official report, but this is a note for all Beginner/Novice players.

Beginner lessons are almost complete and the new intake will be practising their skills in the regular Wednesday morning and Thursday evening sessions during April. Please welcome them and be patient - remember, we all had to start somewhere.

I am seeking buddy players to partner one of the beginners for 3 of the Thursday evening sessions during April/May. Please let me know if you want to help. The next round of Improver lessons will commence on Monday 13th April starting at 9am. The topics planned can be found on our website. *Kathy Duke*

## HISTORY OF NEWSLETTERS

The first newsletter started in 1997 was a one-page information sheet which back then was distributed every 3 months after a committee meeting. However by 1999 it was averaging about 8-10 pages and was posted to members. In 2006 Floyd Wilson was appointed Editor, revamped the format so it looked more professional and continued until 2015 when John Churchett took over. When John took over, the newsletter was no longer being posted but was being sent by email.

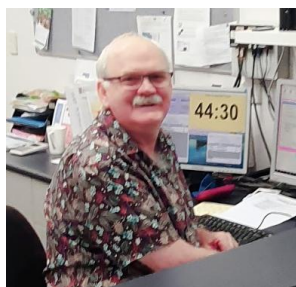
However, during the COVID years when the club was closed then restarted on a very restricted basis, the committee used email to keep members updated and when John tried to restart the newsletter in 2021 he found it very difficult trying to obtain articles mainly, I think because the committee was using Pianola to communicate to members on a fairly regular basis.

Your current editor who must be completely stupid, made a rod for her back by doing newsletters on a monthly basis, but it always surprises me how much goes in each month .... however, I would be delighted to receive any articles from members. And to finish off, the following is something I read recently and thought I would share :

*While physical beauty fades with age, inner beauty which embraces kindness, empathy, compassion and authenticity lasts for ever.*

**Past newsletters from 2009 onwards, can be viewed by clicking a link on the front page of our website**

## WINNERS ARE GRINNERS



The “Monthly Winners” are recognised as the “individual” winner of **eclectic** multi-session events. These events combine of all the green masterpoint sessions in a month that have not already counted toward a competition. If there are three available sessions then your best two scores are counted (shows as 2/3), if there are four available sessions then your best three scores are counted (3/4) and if there are five available sessions then your best four scores might be counted (4/5). If there are two available sessions, then they are treated as an eclectic event (best 2/2). If there are five days in the month, then we usually combine two of these (see the bridge diary) as a “**Two-Weekly**” and additional masterpoints are awarded to the top half of those whose partnerships played both days. The remaining three days are scored as an eclectic with (2/3).

### February Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Glenys Clift
Monday PM Novice	Judy Barkla
Wednesday AM Restricted	Kevin Grace & Brenda Quick
Wednesday PM Open	Adrian Mayers & Will Higgins
Wednesday PM Novice	Bruce Coward
Thursday Night	Andrew Mollison
Friday Morning	Ian Costin
Friday PM	Will Higgins & Mohan Trada

And on the congress scene:

### Toowoomba Under 500 Pairs

1 <sup>st</sup>	Hema De Zoysa & Shanaal De Zoysa
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trevor Henderson & Dennis Lincoln

### Toowoomba Novice Pairs

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bruce Coward & Debra Coward
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alison Banks & Teena Haslam
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lucy Parker & Graeme Ryan

Well done everyone.

Cheers  
*Chris*

**VALE MAJELLA WILSON**  
**1946 – 2026**



At Majella's funeral, there was a huge crowd at St Patricks Cathedral made up of family, friends, residents of Palm Lakes, members of Probus and members from both the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Bridge Clubs. The following is an extract from her son, Greg's Eulogy about his mother's life.

“Majella Anne Wilson — born Majella Roche — entered the world on 14 May 1946 in Warwick. She was the fifth child of Dan and Mary Roche. Remarkably, Dan and Mary went on to have sixteen children, so Mum was raised in what can only be described as a wonderfully large, noisy, loving family. Many of her brothers and sisters, and their extended families, are here today — a living testament to that extraordinary Roche clan and the deep bonds that shaped Mum's life.

Mum spent her childhood in Warwick. Shortly after finishing high school, she and a friend decided — with typical courage and independence — to join the Air Force. Off they went to basic training, and when that was finished, Mum was posted to RAAF Base Frognall, located in Camberwell, Melbourne, working as a clerk in the medical section. It was there that she met a handsome young engineering Officer Cadet named Floyd Wilson. Over the following months, Floyd became a very frequent visitor to the medical section — usually with minor, somewhat unconvincing ailments. These were, of course, thinly disguised excuses to see the young woman he had taken quite a fancy to. In 1969, Floyd and Majella were married.

In those days, the Air Force did not allow enlisted servicewomen to be married to officers, so Majella resigned after what was a short but memorable three-year career. It was a different era — and Mum embraced the next chapter of her life wholeheartedly. They had two children — Craig and me — and later this month they would have celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary. Fifty-seven years of partnership, loyalty, and quiet devotion.”

Majella joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2005.

