



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba Ph : (07) 46 384808 Email : [secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au)



August 2025

Ed: Glenys Clift

## Management Committee 2023-2034

President	Greg Munck
Vice President	Ngairé Wills
Secretary	Trevor Henderson
Treasurer	Marie Steger
Committee	Ken Orange
	Suzanne Brazier
	Henry Eastment
	Kerry Brown
	Michele Alroe

## Office Holders

Grounds Maint.	Margaret Tucker
Purchasing Officer	Ken Orange
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	Julie Pigdon
Building Maint.	Terry Sheedy
Office Manager	Stephan Nugent
Congress Convenor	Ngairé Wills

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



*We are entering the eighth month of the year and so not long to our premier event – the King's Birthday Congress. So if you want to play then you need to get an entry in as it is filling fast.*

*At the last Management Committee meeting it was decided to trial the proposed Tuesday midday session. Once we have finalised the arrangements members will be advised of the commencement date and other details*

*Happy bridging! El President*

*Greg Munck*

## CLUB PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025



**Photographer: Susie Fraser**

### **Treasurer's Report for June 2025**



Cash Flow for the month of June shows a deficit of \$1,788.78, due to capital expenditure: -

- Honda Lawnmower - \$1,700
- New Honour board (Office Bearers) - \$500

#### **Current Assets Held as at 30 June: -**

- Heritage Bank General Account - **\$16,340.95**
- Online Saver S26 Account - **\$7,673.52\***
- Term Deposit – 3 months - 3.85% - matures on 27<sup>th</sup> August - **\$70,000.00**
- MyABF - **\$11,697.90**

\*\$1,480 was transferred from the General Account to the Online Saver for Sinking Fund on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Table fees collected in June were \$7,761 plus \$1,200 for Monday morning Improvers classes = \$8,961.

Toowoomba Bridge Club Inc has been registered for GST from 1 August 2025. There will be an obligation to lodge quarterly Business Activity Statements, with the first Activity Statement to be lodged for the quarter ended 30 September 2025. Bizgro will be engaged for preparation and lodgement of Activity Statements.

*Make the most with the cards you are dealt!*

*Marie*

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### **WELCOME TO THE CLUB**



Welcome to the club to Wendy and Jim Smith who have recently returned to the area from Adelaide to settle in Esk. And congratulations on coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Section of the Club Pairs Championship and your latest master rank promotion. We wish you a long and happy association with the club. *Ngaire Wills*





## BIRTHDAY PAIRS



### **N/S PLACEGETTERS**

**1<sup>ST</sup> Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gwen Francis & Diana Drummond**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Mollison & Helen Fitzgerald**

### **E/W PLACEGETTERS**

**1<sup>st</sup> Hema De Zoysa & Mohan Trada**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Trevor Henderson & John Churchett**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Kerry Gibson & Pauline Curin**

For newer members not familiar with the reason we hold the Birthday Pairs, the following is an extract from “A History of Toowoomba Bridge Club”:

“From 2004 to 2006, the main focus was on raising money which became more imperative after gaining building approval. It is impossible to mention everyone who was involved in this process – because it wasn’t just the Management Committee and the multitude of sub-committees. It was every member of the club. Without their support, absolutely nothing would have happened. In 2004, the club had 209 members and \$108,000 in its building fund account and it was estimated the building would cost \$282,000 plus \$50,000 for the fitout and parking. In January 2006, this was revised by a quantity surveyor to \$449,823. The actual cost when the building opened in 2007 was over \$700,000.00. Thank goodness they didn’t know that at the beginning because they probably would have just given up there and then



Clive Berghofer had already pledged to pay for the air conditioning for little or no public recognition and now Glenys was going back to him about the site works. As she was driving out to his office, she kept thinking what can we give him? After all, the club had already offered him free bridge lessons which he still hasn’t taken up. So, as she was putting the proposition about him doing the site works and the club paying him over the next 50 - 100 years, he interrupted her and said, “That’s alright”. “Pardon?” “That will be alright, get Ray Moore to ring me.” Which is why Clive is our Patron.”

## INSUFFICIENT BID LAW 18D & LAW 27

This is a very common mistake – people either don't see the opponents have intervened or they make their next planned bid without registering that they need to go to a higher level. The opposition need to call the director, however -

- If the next player bids without realising the previous bid was insufficient – there is no penalty and play proceeds.
- If you make an insufficient bid, realise your mistake and then try to correct it – the Director must be called. Your left-hand opponent can accept the insufficient bid, in which the illegal replacement is withdrawn. If instead LHO does not accept the insufficient bid, then it is withdrawn and your later replacement remains. Restrictions may be imposed on your partner for the withdrawn call (which of course they are not allowed to know about).

**OPTIONS FOR THE OPPOSITION** after an insufficient bid - the first option belongs to the offenders left hand opponent (LHO):

### **LHO ACCEPTS THE BID.**

The main reason to accept the **insufficient bid** is that it has given your side more bidding space that you won't have if they make the bid good at the next level. It can help you to confirm a fit with partner, or to show a second suit, or to bid No Trumps to show strength and a stopper.

### **LHO DOES NOT ACCEPT THE BID.**

The Insufficient Bid must now be replaced with a legal call. The player can bid anything, including a Pass, but not a double or redouble, except in special circumstances (see below)

- As long as he bids the same suit at the next lowest denomination and it is not a convention or a comparable call, there is no penalty and the bidding proceeds normally.
- If he changes the suit or passes must pass whenever it is his turn to call. There will also now be lead penalties if he and his partner do not win the auction, become the defenders and have not bid that suit legally.
- If the insufficient bid or the substituted bid was a convention, then his partner must pass throughout the bidding. For example,

East bids 4NT (Blackwood)

West answers 4D (insufficient)

Now West has a problem. Because 5D is a convention and doesn't mean diamonds, his partner cannot bid again. Therefore, he has to make the difficult decision as to where they should play. If he thinks they will make 4NT and not slam, he can pass. If they were bidding a suit, say hearts, he has to bid either 5H or 6H. But whatever he bids will be the final bid for his side.

Another example is when a player does not see an opening bid and makes a bid.

North opens 1NT. East has not noticed that North opened and bids 1C which is a convention. His partner is now effectively barred from the bidding. Because 1C does not necessarily mean Clubs, if he and his partner become the defenders and his partner wins a trick, Declarer can forbid the lead of ANY suit.

## Club Pairs Championship 2025



The Club Pairs Championship was held on the last three Wednesday Afternoons in July. It was almost a full house both days. The field was divided into two grades (Open and Novice) with the first session being a qualifying round with the top 6 contending pairs in each direction advancing to the respective final. Each final then played 11x5-board rounds against every other pair in their final. This is a fair way to run such a large event “all plays all” – it is called a Barometer Howell. “Barometer” because all boards are played at the same time, so pairs know how well they are doing as they progress – unlike a regular Howell where boards move around the room and no results are known until the end.

Those not in the final played a regular duplicate pairs session, but still for red masterpoints.

Winners of these “plate” sections were:

23<sup>rd</sup> July            1<sup>st</sup> NS were Marie-Steger & Gretchen Graf  
                          1<sup>st</sup> EW were Kerry Gibson & Pauline Curin

30<sup>th</sup> July            1<sup>st</sup> NS section C were Eileen Josey & Edwina Willis  
                          1<sup>st</sup> EW section C were Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln  
                          1<sup>st</sup> NS section D were Ken Orange & Marilyn Oakroot  
                          1<sup>st</sup> EW section D were Desley Hanrahan & Lyn Vary

**Novice Pairs:**    1<sup>st</sup> **Debra Coward & Isabella Geldard**  
                          2<sup>nd</sup> Sharyn Gierke & Jan Flynn  
                          3<sup>rd</sup> Bob Dodman & Michael Walsh

**Open Pairs:**     1<sup>st</sup> **Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook**  
                          2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Smith & Wendy Smith  
                          3<sup>rd</sup> John Churchett & Jenni Buckley

Thank you all for playing, big thanks for the after-play treats on the 30<sup>th</sup>, and thanks to Will, Dave and Denise for help with Directing, and Sandy, Jim and others for helping with the boards. Cheers, *Chris*



## WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT



Our Welfare Officer, Julie Pigdon, is going away on the 17 August for 4 months. During her absence, I have been asked to take on the role. Please let me or a Committee Member know if any of our members have health issues or suffering family bereavement. Only recently, one of our members was hospitalised for more than two weeks. Sadly, no one was notified. Consequently, that member didn't receive any "Get well" wishes from our Club. It is important that we care for one another."

However, on a more positive note, wonderful news about Majella Wilson. Majella had been diagnosed with a brain tumour and was told there was no further treatment available and to prepare for the worst. However, Floyd took things into his own hand, sought a second opinion and immediately Majella was scheduled for urgent surgery at the PA Hospital in Brisbane. Happily, it's been hailed as a complete success! The most amazing thing was 5 days after the surgery, Majella attended Bruce Hinchliffe's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party.

Here are Majella and Floyd in the recovery ward at PA: 15/7



*Cheers, Kerry Brown*



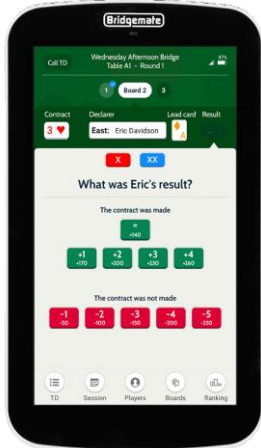
## Bridgemate Changes

We had major problems in the second session of the Club Pairs Championship Open Final, because two tables entered the wrong table number at the start of the session - this then meant that at the end of that round the bridgemate told them to go to the wrong table, and so on. It was compounded because some people went to the "right table" despite the names not matching (or they didn't check) and some to the table that reflected their name despite the move instruction from the previous table. It also meant that the scores at that table X went to the pairs sitting at table Y, and vice versa. I spent most of that night and some of the next morning piecing it all together. I did contact some people to confirm where they sat, and I appreciated those who responded, but did not want to call much after 10:00pm.

Boo boos are a part of life. If only one table had made such an error, then normally the second table would not be able to start their bridgemate and we would have been aware of the problem and could have fixed much earlier. This time it was not to be. Actually "typing the wrong table number into the bridgemate" happens a lot in regular sessions as well – you will often see a Director scurrying to a table during the first round "because their bridgemate doesn't work". An example is three board rounds where table 7 can't start their bridgemate, and it turns out to be because table 3 had just played board 7 and entered this as the table number!

More care and education may help, but I don't see the problem going away so I have acquired more bridgemates and over the next month they will be hard-coded, so players do not have to enter the section nor table number. It will make it easier for the players, but harder for the Directors and helpers who put out and collect the bridgemates.

As an aside, there is a new model of Bridgemate available. It is a full graphics screen so it is easier to read and there is more information on each screen (When you enter the lead it asks "what did Charlie lead" etc). The price that is paid for this graphics is that it is a touch screen with no tactile feedback. The overall functionality is the same, so I don't see a burning need to update in the near future, but it is nice to know what is out there. *Chris*

		
Original Bridgemate	Bridgemate II (like ours)	Bridgemate III

## LIBRARY NEWS



Hello Bridge fanatics

These new books on our library shelves, listed below, are not being borrowed and I am wondering why...they are all recent publications. Do you already know too much? Do you have no room in your brain for more information? Are you already such a Bridge expert that you despise any notion of others' ideas? Surely not! Here's a brief rundown of the titles again, to spark your interest, hopefully!

***Coming Back to Bridge*** (Goldfinger), as the name suggests, is written for people who have played Bridge many years previously and now want to explore the current conventions and methods of card play. It's also a good read for beginners.

***2/1 on Steroids*** (Solow) is written in a very personable style by a mathematician and keen Bridge player who calls his version of 2/1 "M&M" – yes, like those tasty treats. Check it out to find out why!

***Twelve Important Bridge Lessons on Declarer Play*** (Bird) is just that – twelve chapters, each with a recap quiz at the end of each lesson. Chapter one is "When to draw trumps" and chapter three is "When to hold up". Chapter two? Check it out.

***Step By Step Playing Bridge Contracts*** (Berthe & Lébely) is a companion volume to the much older Step by Step Playing Notrump Contracts" and is all about improving your card play. There is a useful index, and the last one third of the book is practice exercises.

***Bridge Bidding Tips*** (Parker) is a great Q&A book, with a chapter of information on a particular bidding tip, followed by a quiz about it. Please don't be tempted to write or circle your answers in the book!

Do borrow, and Happy reading everyone.

*Gretchen Graf*



## PRESIDENT'S CUP 2025



A Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook  
with President Greg Munck



C Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Judy Bodkin & Jen Darlington  
with President Greg Munck

Winners of the President's Cup  
were:

- A Denise Hartwig and Chris Snook
- B Kerry Gibson and Pauline Curin
- C Jen Darlington and Judy Bodkin  
who were also equal third  
overall.



B Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Pauline Curin & Kerry Gibson

## President's Cup

Fourteen pairs played in the President's Cup on the last two Saturday afternoons in July. It was a nice tidy event although there was a scramble to find two replacement pairs on the 26<sup>th</sup>. These changes caused a bit of a baptism of fire for Dave Roberts, who was looking after us as Director for this event. He did good, so thankyou Dave.

This event used to be played on Tuesday nights over three sessions attracting around 6-8 tables. In 2017, at Denise's encouragement, it was moved to a day/session specified by the bridge club President or the Tournament Subcommittee. In 2017, I ran it on a Sunday with 16.5 tables. The last three years have been a two-session event on Saturday afternoons with 10.5, 13.5 and 7 tables. The event certainly has the status, but it would be nice to see a few more entries next year.

Congratulations to : C-grade: Jen Darlington and Judy Bodkin (and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall)  
B-grade: Kerry Gibson and Pauline Curin  
Presidents Cup: Chris Snook and Denise Hartwig

For your information, here are the Presidents and winners of the Presidents Cup over the past twenty years:

Year	President	Winners
2006	Glenys Clift	Chris Snook & Mohan Trada
2007	Henry Eastment	--- not known ---
2008	Chris Snook	Glenys Clift & Jackie Henderson
2009	Chris Snook	Will Higgins & John Erlandson
2010	Chris Snook	John Erlandson & Will Higgins
2011	Floyd Wilson	Edwin Willey & Jenni Buckley
2012	Chris Snook	Chris Snook & Mohan Trada
2013	Chris Snook	Edwin Willey & Denise Hartwig
2014	Keith Jenkin	Liz Zeller & Byron Longford
2015	Henry Eastment	Edwin Willey & Harvey Billing
2016	Denise Hartwig	Lee Hore & John Churchett
2017	Denise Hartwig	Jenni Buckley & Jim Wood
2018	David Roberts	--- not known ---
2019	David Roberts	Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig
2020	Trevor Henderson	Mearon Geldard & Jim Wood
2021	Trevor Henderson	Lesley Meyer & Jeff Aitchison
2022	Trevor Henderson	--- Not held ---
2023	Greg Munck	John Churchett & Trevor Henderson
2024	Greg Munck	Pamela Steele & Dennis Lincoln
2025		Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig

Cheers *Chris*

## Building Maintenance



The exhaust fan in the ladies toilet has been replaced with a brand spanking new one. Hopefully that will see most of us out.

The 3 monthly air con filter clean is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> August, Hopefully there is no Tuesday morning competition scheduled for that day.

Other chores coming up over the next few weeks include:

1. Fire extinguisher inspection. On schedule, date to be confirmed.
2. Carpet cleaning to be booked for early September. I will be looking for some helpful recruits to assist with furniture moving, stacking, and re-setting at the appropriate time so that can be conducted smoothly and efficiently.
3. Testing of the Residual Current Devices (circuit safety switches) on the dealing room switchboard.
4. Some additional shelving for the SW corner storeroom has been ordered. We are waiting on delivery and installation sometime soon.
5. In conjunction with that, plan to replace those stained ceiling tiles.

*Terry Sheedy*

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## Improvers Lessons

The improvers lessons continue on Monday mornings with about 9-11 tables most weeks. We start at 8:45 finishing at 11:30.

In the next few weeks, we will be checking that it is safe to bid Slam using Blackwood after suit has been called/agreed and Gerber after partner has shown a balanced no-trump call. Our responses are up-the-line, so after 4NT, 5C shows 0 or 4 aces, 5D shows 1, etc; and after 4C Gerber, responses are 4D shows 0 or 4 aces, etc.

If you play with one of these developing players, please use their system so they can practice what they have learnt.

Week 14 : 11 Aug is Slam Bidding Suit Contracts - Blackwood 4NT

Week 15 : 18 Aug is Supervised Play

Week 16 : 25 Aug is Slam Bidding Notrump Contracts – 4C Gerber

Week 17 : 1 Sept is Supervised Play

Week 18 : 8 Sept is Opening Strong Balanced Hands

Week 19 : 15 Sept is Supervised Play

Week 20 : 22 Sept is Opening Strong Unbalanced Hands

Week 21 : 29 Sept is Supervised Play

Thanks to Denise, Rozalyn, Suzanne and Julie for helping the players during these sessions.

Cheers *Chris*



## Grounds Report - August 2025

The grounds are looking pretty good for Winter, with only a few plants showing a dislike for the cold. We have started some pruning, and occasional mowing and hedging is still happening.

Many thanks to the Management Committee for the purchase of a new mower. It still looks very shiny, but of course that won't last for long. Tony Pattison wants the Committee to know that mowing is now like a walk in the park, instead of a cardiac stress test, as it was with the old mower. And my husband has a case of mower envy!

Just on the off chance – does anyone have a garden arch that they no longer want. The one that we have in the NE bed, over the urn of Geraniums, is on its' last legs. I have included a couple of photos – Tony and I installing some extra garden edging, and the bird loving Melanie keeping the bird baths clean and full.

*Margaret Tucker.*



Margaret Tucker & Tony Pattison



Melanie Simmons

## Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In July, I processed results for 46 sections from 33 sessions yielding 110.31 green and 120.84 red masterpoints. This included 7.64 red masterpoints from the Winter Woolly Pairs from June.

### A top ten

Our top ten masterpoint earners this year (thus far), and a few other notable positions are:

<b>1</b>	Denise Hartwig	74.47	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	Pauline Curin	23.73
<b>2</b>	Elizabeth Zeller	68.89	<b>30</b>	Jenni Buckley	18.36
<b>3</b>	Kathy Duke	56.90	<b>40</b>	Delma Clark	15.50
<b>4</b>	Chris Snook	56.63	<b>50</b>	Henry Eastment	13.72
<b>5</b>	Julie Pigdon	52.65	<b>60</b>	Glenys Clift	11.43
<b>6</b>	Jim Wood	47.95	<b>70</b>	Jenni Darlington	10.33
<b>7</b>	Joan Mladen	45.88	<b>80</b>	Roy Reynolds	9.28
<b>8</b>	Mavis Simpson	37.65	<b>90</b>	Mearon Geldard	8.49
<b>9</b>	Robert Fulcher	37.32	<b>100<sup>th</sup></b>	Judy Morgan	7.09
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	Hema De Zoysa	33.54			

### Master Rank Promotions for July

Wendy Smith	Promoted to <b>Life</b> master with 300 points, at least 180 red/gold and 30 gold
Jim Smith	Promoted to <b>Life</b> master with 300 points, at least 180 red/gold and 30 gold
Lesley Meyer	Promoted to <b>National</b> master with 150 points, at least 75 red/gold
Pauline Curin	Promoted to <b>Bronze State</b> master with 100 points, at least 50 red/gold
Greg Munck	Promoted to <b>Bronze State</b> master with 100 points, at least 50 red/gold
Michael Walsh	Promoted to <b>State</b> master with 50 points, at least 25 red/gold
Alison Banks	Promoted to <b>State</b> master with 50 points, at least 25 red/gold
Isabella Geldard	Promoted to <b>Regional</b> master with 50 masterpoints
Geni Russ	Promoted to <b>Silver Local</b> master with 35 masterpoints
Dale Burey	Promoted to <b>Silver Local</b> master with 35 masterpoints
Eric Rudorfer	Promoted to <b>Silver Local</b> master with 35 masterpoints
Bruce Coward	Promoted to <b>Silver Local</b> master with 35 masterpoints
Jenny Bridge	Promoted to <b>Club</b> master with 5 masterpoints

Congratulations to all promotees. Cheers *Chris*

## Winners are Grinners

The “Monthly Winners” are recognised as the “individual” winner of **eclectic** multi-session events. These events combine 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).

### July Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Sandy Fraser & Susie Fraser
Monday PM Novice	Geni Russ
Tuesday Night	Chris Snook
Wednesday AM Restricted	Rosanne Munns & Dale Burey
Wednesday PM Open	Dennis Lincoln & Henry Eastment
Wednesday PM Novice	Angela Worrall & Adrienne Montague
Thursday Night	Helen Fitzgerald & Andrew Mollison
Friday Morning	Estelle Dehnert & Sandra Parker
Friday PM	Ian Jesser & John Churchett

### On the Congress Scene

#### **Bundaberg XIMP Pairs**

3<sup>rd</sup> *Selwyn Nitschke – Elizabeth Zeller*

#### **Bundaberg Swiss Teams**

1<sup>st</sup> *Selwyn Nitschke - Judy Zeller - Hugh O'Malley - Elizabeth Zeller*

#### **Warwick XIMP Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> Hema De Zoysa– Shanaal De Zoysa  
2<sup>nd</sup> Laurie-Marie McRoberts – Elizabeth Zeller  
B 2<sup>nd</sup> Kerry Gibson – Pauline Curin

Well done everyone!

Cheers *Chris*





### *Session Rules Reminder*

- Players should be **seated** 15 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (e.g. windows, air-conditioning).
- Only **green** and **blue** systems are permitted in club events.
- System cards are compulsory for competitions and red master point events and strongly recommended for all other sessions.
- NS are primarily responsible for the playing conditions at the table (bridgemates, management of boards and moving them if instructed to do so by the Director).
- EW are primarily responsible for tidy up and leaving the table in a good condition ready for the next session.
- All players should offer to help with general room clean-up to assist the Director.
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the Management Committee.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.
- Smoking is only permitted in the Designated Smoking Area or in the parklands off the premises.