



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

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



Ed : Glenys Clift November 2025

Management Committee 2025-2026

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

Office Holders

Grounds Maint.	Margaret Tucker
Purchasing Officer	Graham 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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The end of 2025 is rapidly approaching. And so the Xmas lunch day with presentations is almost upon us. Come along and have a great day on Saturday 13 December.

You will have received your annual renewal notice by now and it would be great to see you all again in 2026. We are looking to automate the process as much as possible this year and you should have received a My ABF notice explaining the process to renew.

If you need any assistance then please see a committee member or our resident IT experts Trevor Henderson, Dave Roberts.

Happy bridging, Greg



Photographer: Susie Fraser



Treasurer's Report for the month ended 31 October 2025

Cash Flow for the month of October shows a decrease of \$20,529 due to the purchase of used bridgemates and bridge supplies, plus annual expenditure of audit fees, AGM honorarium, Toowoomba Regional Council water rates and congress expenses paid in October.

Table fees collected in October:- \$7,075 plus \$13.64 for lessons.

Current Assets Held:-

- Heritage Bank General Account - \$5,407.25
- Online Saver S26 Account - \$13,259.13
- Term Deposit – 4 months @ 4.15% - matures on 27th December - \$70,000
 - MyABF - \$8,016

On 7th November \$1,400 was spent on purchasing a replacement 'Dealer' Laptop. An additional \$1,000 to be spent for NAS (network attached storage). Other outdated computers will also be replaced in due course.

Enjoy your bridge! Marie Steger



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

Christmas Party and Award Presentations

Saturday 13th December
10.30 for 11:00 am start
Bring a plate (see list on table in foyer)

- 11:00am Presentation of Prizes
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Bridge

ALL WELCOME – please enter via MyABF

GROUNDS REPORT - NOVEMBER 2025



All is well in the garden, even the Silky Oak which lost a large branch in the storm of the 26th October. Discussions are ongoing as to how to deal with the broken but still hanging smaller branches.

Many thanks to TBC members who donated their Council plant vouchers. I have used 7 of them this morning to gather plants which will be planted shortly.

Margaret Tucker.

NEW OFFICE BEARERS



PURCHASING OFFICER – GRAEME RYAN

When Graeme first joined the club in 2024, he was working with Aurizon as a train driver and still is which makes it hard sometimes to get to bridge. However, he is definitely a man of many talents – prior to Aurizon he worked for BMS for 30 years, then - to put it in his words - he spent time in and out of prison at Westbrook (working as a correctional officer).

The Purchasing Officer is responsible for consumables as advised by the Housekeeper and Kitchen Manager.

Thanks Graeme

HOUSEKEEPER - ANN WILLIAMS



Ann moved to the Toowoomba 4 years ago and joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2024. Ann has also had a very interesting background having worked in Aviation Security at Brisbane International and Domestic airports for 30 years.

The Housekeeper liaises with the cleaners on behalf of the Committee, organises the carpet cleaning and also liaises with the Congress Director as needed. Please let Ann know if you are willing to help with the weekly washing related to the kitchen and after special events such as congresses. The more hands, the better.

Thanks Ann

BEHIND THE SCENES - THE DEALING TEAM



Lyn Vary, Kerry Brown & David Lynch

When we turn up for a bridge session, be it directors or players –we just assume there will be boxes of boards available for us to use. So this is a thank you and acknowledgement of our dealing team who give their time every week to ensure there are sufficient boards both club play, weekend competitions and congresses. Lyn, Kerry and David have all been doing the dealing for at least 10+ years, and the following is a breakdown of their contributions to the club:

LYN VARY

Lyn joined the club in 2012 and as well as being on Open Day sub-committees and joining the dealers, was a Committee Member from 2016 – 2018. Lyn also held the role of Housekeeper from 2015 - 2018

KERRY BROWN

Kerry joined the club in 2008 and as well as being on Open Day sub-committees and joining the dealers, was a Committee Member in 2019 – 2020. Kerry is also the Welfare Officer.

DAVID LYNCH

David joined the club in 2009 and has also served on Open Day sub-committees. Judy Desjardins and Kerry showed David how to work the dealing machine in 2014. While the last couple of months hasn't been the greatest for his family health-wise (which is why we haven't seen him at the bridge table recently) he has still tried to come when possible.

During COVID, when the club began to open up, every set of boards had to be duplicated at least three times to minimise hand contact by members. And when there is a congress, that is when it gets really interesting. For a 3-day congress, Chris estimated at least 54 boxes of boards have to be dealt. Now you might think that's not a big deal, but that is 1,782 boards and with 2 people working the dealing machine, one checking the boards, then feeding them into the machine, the other taking them out after the board is dealt and packing them, labelling the box, storing them and recording each box. With one person it obviously takes twice as long.

If you have some spare time, and would be willing to help, I'm sure they would welcome you with open arms!!



Dave Edwards Best Dressed Male



Beverley McCasker & Ken Orange



Sandy Fraser Kevin Grace & Vicki Hyland



Trev Kathy Vicki & Greg - Melbourne Cup Sweep



"Hostess with the Mostest" Michele Alroe



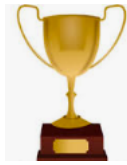
Jenny Speziali Best Dressed Female



Jen Darlington – Best Dressed Jockey



Melbourne Cup Bridge Day A Runaway Success!



This year's Melbourne Cup celebration at the club was an absolute winner! Twelve tables of beautifully dressed and very enthusiastic pairs joined us for a lively day of bridge, great company, delicious food—and of course, that famous little horse race.

President Greg and Vice President Trev kept the sweeps running smoothly, with Vicky Hyland expertly preparing the tickets and Susie Fraser working her magic to sell them all. After a wonderfully social morning of bridge, everyone enjoyed a fantastic lunch organised by Michele and our talented catering team. And the surprise dessert - ice-cream cones! Couldn't have been more perfect on such a hot day.

As always, our members dressed to impress, making the fashion stakes almost as exciting as the race itself.



Best Dressed Male: Dave Edwards in a sharp, stylish suit.



Best Dressed Female: Jenny Speziali, absolutely stunning in her beautifully coordinated dress, shoes, and fascinator.

And for the very first time, we even had a jockey and horse join the festivities! A special prize went to Jen Darlington for her fantastic, crowd-pleasing costume.

All in all, it was a fabulous day filled with fun, flair, and friendship. A huge thank-you to everyone who helped organise, cater, and contribute to making this event such a standout success. Here's to another brilliant year of bridge and celebration!

Cheers Kathy Duke

2025 Catering Report



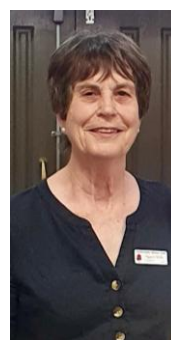
The year is almost over for the catering team. Deb Archer, Ngaire Wills and I started the year not sure of what was ahead and mindful of the great work done by those who came before us. The Toowoomba Bridge Club has a reputation for friendliness and good food and we hoped to live up to expectations.

For our team the focus was on healthy, yummy offerings, reduced call on members for donations and a few different/surprise food offerings. The big events where members' donations were essential were the January Under 500 and Novice Pairs, the October Congress, 2024 December Swiss Teams and Christmas Party. The members' response was again overwhelming. This year we were able to freeze some of the baking so the need to call for donations for smaller events was not required.

A big thank you goes out to members who donated when asked and also to those who always turned up with an offering when playing at an event which deliciously supplemented the standard biscuits and cheese.

A further change this year was to add to the size of the savoury platters, which were supplied after nearly all events, and not offer party pies, sausage rolls, mini quiches and frankfurters. This simplified the work in the kitchen, reduced the need for volunteers and helped keep our waistlines under control.

This year we also introduced Baker's Delight fruit loaf on arrival to events where competitors were coming from outside Toowoomba. This simple yet tasty offering hit the spot, was easy to source and was an economical choice requiring little extra work in the kitchen.



A big thank you must go to Deb Archer for not only being in charge of preparing the food but purchasing a variety delicious, healthy foods and fruits for the platters. Ken Orange ensured we had the extras we needed, and Mike Kaiser again kept us supplied with wines, beer and soft beverages with Ngaire Wills being there to help with everything when needed as well as doing the busy job of Convenor.

We had a number of BYO lunch events with platters at the end of play. The Winter Woollies pizza, fruit cake and custard was popular as was the "surprise" dessert – drumstick ice-creams - devoured by all at the Melbourne Cup event after a delicious lunch of ribbon sandwiches and fruit cake.

The October Congress again saw an abundance of food on offer, so many delicious donated cakes and savouries. Lunch was sandwiches on Saturday, mixed sandwiches and wraps of Sunday and Monday. We mostly received compliments on the caterers' offerings but it is fair to say it is hard to satisfy everyone as some loved the sandwiches not the wraps and other loved the wraps on not the sandwiches. Who would be a caterer!!

Two more events to go. Saturday 7 December is the Swiss Teams Congress (BYO lunch with call to members for cakes) and Saturday 13 December, the Christmas Party (Lunch provided supplemented by donations from members). Check your emails for details. Going on past events I am confident that this year we will again have an abundance of delicious food on offer.

To all who helped in any way in providing food, helping in kitchen or working behind the bar a BIG THANK YOU.

We wish the 2026 catering team all the best and know you will support them as well as you have supported our team in 2025.

Michele Alroe

Wishing Alison and Husband Greg All the Best for the Future



Alison Lewis joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2010 due to the encouragement of her husband when she was still working part time and only retired from music teaching at the Gatton Catholic School (Our Lady of Good Counsel) at the end of 2019 and continued to do some supply teaching until 2023.

They are relocating to Perth on the 12th December where her daughter Emma, and her husband Gabriel, both geologists, live. Emma works for Rio Tinto. Their son, Thomas, is at University of Adelaide completing a Master of Philosophy in English Literature.

The one thing Alison has always loved about bridge as well as the social interaction, is the challenge of the game. Alison will find that Perth has a very active bridge community and I am sure she will be welcomed by any club she joins there.

Teams of Three



Directors & Organizers – Chris Snook & Kathy Duke



Winners A Grade: Rosanne Munns -
Adrienne Montague - Dale Burey -
Captain Ruth Hanson



Winners B Grade: Thea Hayes - Jane
O'sullivan - Capt: Ross Mccasker
(Missing - Brian Brady)



2nd Place A Grade - Judy Barkla - Marie Steger
- Capt Denise Hartwig (Missing Diana Bryant)

Teams of Three

I'm a hoarder, and was just looking at old newsletters and other records, when I came across the following results:

- Toowoomba To3 2012: Henry Eastment John Clift, Roz Wright and Anne Arnold
- QBA To3 2017 B 1st: Byron Longford. Dave Edwards, Rita Fatseas and Hugh Robinson
- Toowoomba To3 2019: John Erlandson, Robert Fulcher, Kathleen Beckwith and Joan Mladen
- Toowoomba To3 2019 Rookies: Desley Hanrahan, Murray Pietsch, Pam Gillespie and Robyn Jackson
- Toowoomba To3 2024: Dave Edwards, Aino Jaatinen, Pauline Curin and Debra Coward
- Toowoomba To3 2024 B: Paul Matthews, Dianne Dwyer, Ian Costin and Shea Stanley
- Toowoomba To3 2024 C: Denise Hartwig, Steven Lee, Tracey Collen and Eric Rudorfer
- Toowoomba To3 2025: Kathy Duke, Eric Rudorfer, Steve Savage and Margaret Savage

There are a few interesting and a few sad features in this list – see if you can spot them. The first named person is the captain.

So, we come to 8th November, when we ran another successful event with 12 teams (48 players), sorted into two grades and assigned captains to suit their skill level and temperament. This takes a lot of work and thanks to Denise and Kathy for chasing teams and chasing/organizing the captains.

Also, big thanks to all the captains for giving their time and expertise: Ruth Hanson, Denise Hartwig, Dave Edwards, Chris Snook, Glenys Clift, Roz Wright, Kathy Duke, Laurie-Marie McRoberts, Ross McCasker, Oliver Dashwood, Bev McCasker and Kerry Gibson. These events only work because of the enthusiastic participation of the players because the captains give their time and experience so freely.

Winners for this event were:

- Novice: Ruth Hanson, Rosanne Munns, Adrienne Montague and Dale Burey
- Rookies: Ross McCasker, Thea Hayes, Jane O'Sullivan and Brian Brady

Cheers *Chris*



Toowoomba Bridge Club Teams Congress

Sunday 7th December, 2025

Venue	Toowoomba Bridge Club, 55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350 (07) 4638 4808 (on event day only)
Time	Arrive 9:00am. Play starts at 9:30am.
Convenor/ Director	Chris Snook 04 1313 6435 or congresses@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au
How to Enter	Enter and pay via MyABF . Navigate to MyABF congress ID 3338 or the following link: https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/3338 If you are having difficulty with registering for MyABF, contact Trevor Henderson 0419 878826.
Entries close	5:00 pm Thursday 4th December 2025, or earlier if limit of 30 tables is reached.
Entry Fee	\$140 per team (\$35 per player). Pay via MyABF for the team, or individually. Full payment is required by close of entries.
Format	• QBA Regulations apply. • Swiss movement with random draw for first round. • Red masterpoints per win and draw plus outright awards to the top third of each field. • Green, Blue and Red systems and Brown Sticker conventions/treatments are permitted. Each pair must have two systemically identical ABF system cards at the start of each round.
Prizes	1st (\$480) and 2nd (\$320). There may be secondary prizes dependent on field size. Prizes paid by MyABF Credits.
Catering	BYO Lunch. Refreshments available all day, drinks and savouries at end of play.

Welfare Officer' s Report



Since my last Welfare Report in September, a number of our members have had a difficult time in one way or another.

Get Well cards were sent to Jan Flynn, Sandy Parker and David Lynch who have had surgery. Helen Walsh also had some time in hospital while Judy Geisemann and Joan Mladen are at home dealing with their health issues. We wish all these members a quick and problem free recovery.

Judy Bodkin and Rosemary Kelley were sent Condolence cards following the sad deaths of their husbands. Robyn Jackson lost her sister-in-law Margaret Barlow, while Laurie-Marie McRobert's mother also passed away, so cards were sent to them as well. We trust that all the fond memories of their loved ones will help sustain them in their sad loss.

It is lovely to see Peggy Hansel (who lost her husband a few months ago), Judy Bodkin, Rosemary Kelley and Jan Flynn already back at the Club being welcomed and supported by other members.

Thank you to all those who keep me informed of our members having a difficult time. I am sorry if I have missed anyone. My best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas filled with love."

Cheers Kerry

POSITIONS YET TO BE FILLED

Health and Safety Officer

The Health and Safety Officer, subject to directions from the Management Committee, is responsible for issues relating to health and safety in the Club rooms and grounds including:

- The development, monitoring and implementation of the Health and Safety policy of the Club.
- Ensuring the Club is compliant with relevant health and safety legislation.
- The inspection of the Club rooms and grounds on a regular basis to identify and evaluate possible risks and hazards. The Health and Safety Officer will provide the Secretary with a monthly report.

Kitchen Manager

The Kitchen Manager is responsible for the catering of all Club sessions which do not include Congresses and Special Functions for which catering is the responsibility of the Function Catering Manager.

Function and Catering Manager

The Function and Catering Manager liaises with the Congress Convenor and Committee for special functions where club members are invited to contribute and help.

Etiquette

“Bridge is a social game, but unfortunately it does attract some antisocial people”.

The above unattributed quote sounds like a rather pessimistic view of the bridge world, but it really isn't. When someone does, or more likely says, something untoward at the table, do you:

- Bite right back;
- Scream for the Director;
- Sit there silently stewing, and then spend the rest of the session telling every pair that you meet about how terrible person XYZ was; or
- Burn a V-for-vendetta in your long-term memory.

None of these are a good way to handle the situation (but they are easy to lapse into). You never know a person's backstory, what is happening at home, what happened earlier in the day, etc. They might be one of the more than 95% of good people at the club who just had a bad moment, so let it ride.

However, if things do get out of hand, then quietly call for the Director, and have them fix the problem.

Calling for the Director

You don't "call the Director on someone", you call the Director to come and help fix a situation where actions do not comply with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, and your Director just helps to put things right. They can't do that if you don't call them.

A very approximate distribution of reasons to call the Director are:

- Mechanical errors such as leads out of turn or simple revokes (40%)
- Insufficient bids or bids out of rotation (10%)
- Other mechanical errors such as missing card, incorrect number of cards, board fouled by another table before it gets to you (10%)
- Unauthorized information causing damage to non-offenders score (10%)
 - Incorrect claims and similar issues (10%)
- Slow play, noise and other movement issues (15%)
- Behaviour problems (less than 5%)

Directors will tell you their most stressful time is at the start of a session when they have chosen a movement, setup the scoring program, overseen the distribution of board and then hoping for silence rather than the panic of "bridgemate says we should have board NN". After this, guess which type of call cause the Director the most stress?

Here are some tips to avoid stressing at the table:

- When attending any club session ensure that you arrive at least 15–20 minutes before the start of play.
- Move quietly and promptly when the Director tells the room to move.
- Listen if the Director or another player is talking.
- Do not EVER leave the table if the Director is in attendance giving a ruling.
- Conversations at the table during bidding or play of a hand are generally unwelcome.
- Do not argue with or backchat to the Director. If you feel that their ruling is incorrect then you may appeal their decision.
- During the session, it is extremely poor taste (and a breach of etiquette) to abuse or criticise either your partner or an opponent. There should be no teaching at the table – none of us are good enough!
- When you are dummy, it is poor form to look at either opponent's hand or the Declarer's. If you do, you lose your rights as dummy.

After the play of a hand is over, do not touch an opponent's cards and look at them without asking permission. Lastly, for all you Bambi fans ... remember Thumper's Law. Cheers *Chris*

Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In October, I processed results for 43 sections from 35 sessions yielding 136.44 green and 13.36 red masterpoints. At club level the opportunities for shiny masterpoints (red or gold) are starting to dry up – because most of the big events occur between February and October.

I have mentioned before that the ABF census date for masterpoint calculations are from October-September, in the last census period you earned 2076 masterpoints, comprised of 1474 green, 440 red and 160 gold masterpoints.

Master Rank Promotions for October

David Edwards	Promoted to Bronze National master with 200 points, at least 100 red/gold
Carol Edwards	Promoted to Bronze State master with 100 points, at least 50 red/gold
Stephan Nugent	Promoted to Silver Local master with 35 points
Judy Bodkin	Promoted to Bronze Local master with 25 masterpoints
Dianne Dwyer	Promoted to Bronze Local master with 25 masterpoints
Steve Savage	Promoted to Local master with 15 masterpoints
Margaret Savage	Promoted to Local master with 15 masterpoints
Anna Michaels	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints
Patricia Kelly	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints
Sally Callaghan	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints

Congratulations to all promotees.

Master Rank

Masterpoints won by players over their lifetime are used to determine each player's **Master Ranking**. Players receive official recognition of each rank attained within the masterpoint scheme. You can see a list of these rankings and the number of masterpoints required for each on the back of your ABF membership card, on the Masterpoint Centre website, and in the table below.

All masterpoints contribute towards Graduate, Club, Local and Regional master ranks. For the higher ranks there is a requirement for a percentage of the points to be red or gold. This is recognition that red and gold masterpoint sessions are usually of a higher standard and thus are “worth more” than regular green points.

Master Rank	Minimum masterpoints required		
	Total	Red/Gold	Gold
Graduate Master	2		
Club Master	5		
Local Master	15		
Local * Master	25		
Local ** Master	35		
Regional Master	50		
Regional * Master	100		
State Master	50	25	
State * Master	100	50	
National Master	150	75	
National * Master	200	100	
National ** Master	300	150	
Life Master	300	180	30
Bronze Life Master	400	240	40
Silver Life Master	500	300	50
Gold Life Master	750	450	75
Grand Master	1000	700	200
Silver Grand	2500	1900	600
Gold Grand Master	5000	4000	1400
Emerald Grand	10000	8500	3000
Diamond Grand	15000	13000	5000

Grand Masters

At the moment we have one Silver Grand master: Adrian Mayers; and six Grand masters : Denise Hartwig, Liz Zeller, Chris Snook, Jim Wood, Jenni Buckley and Eileen Josey.

The One Thousand Club

The One Thousand Club is a master rank (with over 1000 points of any colour) and we have three regular members at this rank:

1541.61	Henry Eastment
1466.16	Ian Jesser
1032.84	Glenys Clift

Missing some points?

If you feel that you are missing some masterpoints, check with me as the Club Masterpoint Secretary, advising of the date and session that you played in, who your partner was and who the Director was. If you added up the points you think you might receive, and the actual amount is different, then tell me the points/events you think you did achieve. Please put the information in writing via email or letter so I can check exact details.

Remember that masterpoint shown on our noticeboard or on the club website are provided for your general information only – the calculations that determine them are not confirmed until they are approved and displayed on the ABF Masterpoint Centre website.

Cheers *Chris*

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).

October Monthly Winners

Tuesday Daytime	Wendy Smith & Jim Smith
Tuesday Night	Chris Snook
Wednesday AM Restricted	Dianne Dwyer & Harold Coggan
Wednesday PM Open	Hema De Zoysa
Wednesday PM Novice	Peter Taylor
Thursday Night	Lyn Vary & Jill Cory
Friday Morning	Andrew Mollison & Robert Beaumont
Friday PM	John Churchett & Ian Jesser

On the congress scene

Qld Senior Pairs (Sunshine Coast)

2nd Liz Zeller – Alison Dawson

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 backlands off the