



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

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September 2025

Ed: Glenys Clift

## Management Committee 2024-2025

<b>President</b>	<b>Greg Munck</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Ngaire Wills</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Trevor Henderson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Marie Steger</b>
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Ken Orange</b>
	<b>Suzanne Brazier</b>
	<b>Henry Eastment</b>
	<b>Kerry Brown</b>
	<b>Michele Alroe</b>

## Office Holders

<b>Grounds Maint.</b>	<b>Margaret Tucker</b>
<b>Purchasing Officer</b>	<b>Ken Orange</b>
<b>Teaching Co-ord</b>	<b>David Roberts</b>
<b>MP Secretary</b>	<b>Chris Snook</b>
<b>Tenancy</b>	<b>Bruce Hinchliffe</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>Gretchen Graf</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Ian Jesser</b>
<b>Chief Tournament</b>	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Chris Snook</b>
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	<b>Julie Pigdon</b>
<b>Building Maint.</b>	<b>Terry Sheedy</b>
<b>Office Manager</b>	<b>Stephan Nugent</b>
<b>Congress Convenor</b>	<b>Ngaire Wills</b>

## VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Thanks to Kathy Duke, Peter Morton and Trevor Mallory for their initiative to fundraise for the ABF Bridge in School's Program by picking a huge tub of avocados from our carpark trees. To further support this, the

Management Committee is donating \$50 towards an additional raffle prize, and all table money from Tuesday's event will be added to our club's fundraising efforts.

Please welcome new members Christine Dowling, Judy Delofski and Kevin Grace to our club. Both have recently graduated from the last round of lessons. We look forward to meeting you across the bridge table.

The biggest event in our calendar is the annual Kings Birthday Congress on 3-6 October. Thanks to all who have offered to help during the 4 days of the event, and to those who have already contributed by placing home baked goodies in the freezer. With 120 people expected on each of the three full days of play, we need a lot of these goodies for morning and afternoon teas. If you have a spare few hours to spare over the weekend, extra help is always needed – please contact me if you are free. *Ngaire Wills*

## TOOWOMBA BRIDGE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



## Fundraising with Avocados for The ABF Bridge in School's Program



Peter Morton, Trevor Mallory and Kathy Duke spent a few hours picking avocados off our tree. We want to strip the tree of the remaining fruit. This will not only encourage the tree to generate more fruit next year but will also prevent over-ripe avos falling onto people's cars.

We decided to use the fruit for raising funds for the ABF Bridge in School's Program. A key goal for the ABF Foundation from 2025-2028 is to support a scalable and enduring nationwide Bridge in Schools program. The Foundation is working on a holistic model that connects bridge clubs and schools, providing high-quality resources and professional training. An early-stage pilot is already underway, with the aim of creating a sustainable program that will introduce bridge to students across the country, fostering

critical skills and a passion for the game.

There is a bin of avos at the club and a gold-coin donation box. Please take an avocado and donate whatever you can.

On **Tuesday 23rd September** we have a red point game as well as a raffle and Bridge bingo to raise further funds. This is Australia's Bridge Day Out where Bridge players nationwide, unite in fun and fundraising, playing the same deals on the same day in their local clubs. The ABF has donated prizes including a voucher to an **online lesson donated by Andy Hung** on Competitive Bidding which will be held on October 31st.

Despite the efforts of the group, the remaining fruit is too high to reach, even from the back of a ute with the step ladder. If any of you have young and fit family members who can assist, or have another way to help pick the avos, could they please let Kathy Duke know? *Kathy*







**NEW**

## TUESDAY BRIDGE SESSION



Toowoomba Bridge Club is pleased to be running a **Red Point** Bridge session in support of **Australia's Bridge Day Out**. Games will be hosted by clubs across Australia to raise funds for a nationwide "Bridge in Schools" program.

**Session Date:** Tuesday 23 September

**Session Times:** 9:45am for a 10am start

BYO Lunch break between 12:15pm and 1pm

Session ends around 2:15pm

**Cost:** \$6 for members, \$9 for visitors

*MyABF will be used for payments*

**Fundraising:**

**Bridge Bingo**



Lunch and Learn  
Lesson with Kathy Duke



Need a partner? Speak to Kathy or Trevor  
Email: [kathyqld@outlook.com](mailto:kathyqld@outlook.com)

**Australia's  
Bridge Day Out  
September 23rd  
10am to 2:15pm**

**ABF**  
FOUNDATION  
Supporting the future of bridge



*Looking forward to seeing you.*

At last year's AGM, after considered discussion it was resolved that this year's meeting be held on a playing day with the hope that more of our members could/would attend.

FYI, last year a quorum was only achieved by ringing several members close to 10am and asking them to come. The minimum number required was only 23 (our club has over 300 members) but had the members contacted between 9.50 and 10am not come, the meeting would have had to be adjourned. Last year the Committee had only 9 of the possible 11 positions filled.

For the coming year several of the current Committee are planning on NOT standing again. If we don't have new nominations then we may not have the minimum of 5 needed to form a Committee and run the club, so please give serious consideration to nominating thanks. We will forward via a follow-up reminder and publish to the club website, the Committee nomination form for the 25/26 year shortly.

In the interim should you be interested in becoming a Committee member, please talk to President Greg or in Greg's absence, one of the current Committee as to how you could be involved.

Regards & thanks in advance for your serious consideration of the above.

*Trev Henderson*

Secretary.

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### *Why Become a Committee Member*

I am very aware that for most people, retirement or in some cases, semi- retirement hasn't meant sitting around doing nothing. In fact, quite the opposite. There are family commitments not only helping our children, but also grandchildren and some cases, great grandchildren. And for the majority of retirees, this is the time in our lives when we do most of our travelling be it Australia or overseas. It is also the time in our lives for quite a lot of us, where our doctor becomes our best friend – wonderful. And it is very frustrating when you ask members would they be interested in going on committee and they say, "Oh no, I'm retired now and only come to play bridge". Guess what – that applies to nearly all of us. But as Trev says above, if we don't have a committee – we don't have a club. It is as simple as that. And we cannot expect the same people to put their hands up every year.

Being on committee, really doesn't stop you doing anything. When I was on committee from 1996-2006, I was working week-on/week-off at the hospital and every 18 months, John and I would take off for 6-8 weeks overseas. Which is probably why, where possible when I have been on Committee, I have always tried to get a mate to work with me, so they could fill-in for me when I wasn't there. Plus, it shares the work, and they don't have to be on committee. And having done the profiles on 200+ of our members over the last 18 months, we do have a lot of talent in this club. Plus it is only one meeting a month!!

Cheers *Glenys*

## *Acknowledgment*

This is an acknowledge of the contribution by members of our present committee.

### GREG MUNCK

Greg joined in 2016 and has been on committee for 9 consecutive years, 6 years as Treasurer and 2 years as President plus he has also been working part-time for most of this time.

### NGAIRE WILLS

Ngaire joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2020 and became a committee member in 2021 where she has taken on the roles of Membership Secretary, Congress Convenor and Vice President.

### TREVOR HENDERSON

Trevor joined in 2014, has been on committee for 9 years where he has fulfilled the roles of President for 3 years, Vice President for 2 years, Secretary for 2 years and has also been and still is, our IT Officer for most of that time. Plus, he has also been working part time with some of his older clients.

### MARIE STEGER

Marie joined in 2019 and has been our Treasurer for the last 2 years – and what a wonderful treasurer she is.

### MICHELE ALROE

Michelle is the liaison with the Function & Catering group and was one of our strongest supporters together with Bruce Hinchliffe (who has been our Tenancy Co-ordinator since moving to Stuart Street) when they were on the Toowoomba Council, supporting our application to be granted the lease on the land in Stuart Street for our clubhouse.

### KERRY BROWN

Is currently fulfilling the role of Welfare Officer and has been involved with the Dealing Group for many years.

SUZANNE BRAZIER has been the Minute Secretary supporting Trevor for the last 2 years.

### HENRY EASTMENT

Is a founding member of the Toowoomba Bridge Club Inc, has been on more committees than I can count and has been President twice since we moved to Stuart Street.

### KEN ORANGE

Has been on 4 Committees taking various roles and was responsible for the promotion and distribution of the Toowoomba Bridge Club History book where he did an excellent job.

## Treasurer's Report for August 2025



The financial report for the year ended 31 July 2025 will be presented at the AGM on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October. As you will see the club has remained financially healthy. A Profit & Loss statement for the year 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025 prepared on a cash basis shows net income over expenditure of \$28,047.75 before depreciation allowance. After capital expenditure cash flow for the year resulted in an increase of \$17,663.

**Table fees** collected have increased by 9% from the previous year. With the \$1.00 table fee increase in January, \$8,973 has been transferred to a Heritage Bank Online Saver Account for our Sinking Fund to be used for future capital expenditure.

**Goods and Services Tax** – Due to the increased turnover the Club has registered for GST from 1 August 2025, with an obligation to lodge quarterly Business Activity Statements.

Cash Flow for the **month of August** shows a decrease of \$4,191.43 due to payment of business insurance \$4,318 and capital expenditure of 2,761 for Storage Cabinet and Custom Doors to existing shelving. The carpets were also cleaned at a cost of \$747.

### Current Assets Held 31 August 2025:-

- Heritage Bank General Account - **\$6,918.04**
- Online Saver S26 Account - **\$10,689.74**
- Term Deposit – 4 months @ 4.15% - matures on 27<sup>th</sup> December - **\$70,000**
- MyABF - **\$19,830**

Table fees collected in August were \$6,760 (i.e. \$7,436 less GST \$676).

Enjoy your bridge!

*Marie*

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

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## Welfare Officer's Report



“Since taking on the role in mid- August, I have contacted 5 of our members. Condolence cards were sent to Kay Duncan, Rosemary Kelley and Peggy Hansel who sadly are suffering the passing of their husbands.

Get Well cards went to Oliver Dashwood and Eleanor Johnson who, unfortunately, have spent some time in hospital. We wish Eleanor all the best as she continues to recuperate. It has been pleasing to see Kay, Rosemary and Oliver back at the Bridge table and trust they find comfort in spending time with friends at the Club. Please don't forget to let me know if someone you know is having a difficult time.”

Thanks Kerry



## BUILDING MAINTENANCE

August has been a bit of a busy time for routine inspections and maintenance, with some additional activity for September. Routine, but essential inspections covered:

- Six monthly testing of Residual Current Devices has been completed.
- Three monthly Air Con inspection and filter cleaning has been completed.
- Six monthly Emergency Lighting testing has been completed. Two lights failed to stay the 40 minute time period and were replaced with new lights.
- Twelve monthly Pest Control spraying and inspection (a bit overdue) has been completed. It was noted that skeletal remains of a large rodent was found in one of the outside vermin traps. This most likely accounts for an unusual odour in the western room early in winter.
- Six monthly inspection of the fire extinguishers and fire blanket have been completed.

During the preparation for the carpet cleaning, the clock in the western playing room succumbed to gravity, and met an untimely end. New batteries failed to deliver the kiss of life, so a new clock has been purchased and installed.

Many thanks to the players who stayed back after play on each of the Friday morning and Friday afternoon sessions and helped to clear the playing rooms so that the carpet cleaning could be completed. Also, thank you to Don Adsett and the McCaskers for rocking up at 8am on the Monday to help set both playing rooms up in time for the Improver lessons being run by Denise that morning.

Some new shelving and a cupboard have been installed in the SE corner storeroom. I have noticed that it took no time at all for the kitchen crew to make good use of this extended facility. Also, some doors have been fitted in the office storeroom to add some security to teaching materials.

While our handyman was on site, I indulged him to replace several stained ceiling tiles, which some players looking up for divine inspiration have already noticed. One of the ceiling lights expired and was yesterday (15<sup>th</sup>) replaced with a new light. Believe it or not, the entire light is cheaper than the faulty component, which is almost impossible to source anyway.

Particularly on the South side of the building, some shrubbery had been noted sprouting in the guttering. From a recent visual inspection, it would appear that our man who handles this has cleaned out the gutters.

I will be out of town for a week that takes in the October long weekend for a family wedding in Rockhampton.

To all those playing, have an exceptional weekend. For all those working and helping to run the weekend event, many thanks.

*Terry*



## Australia-Wide Open Pairs

This was a fairly new event on the Toowoomba Calendar – playing in the Australia-Wide Open Pairs along with 1524 pairs from Toowoomba and another 89 clubs around Australia. The only condition was that the session be run during that week and that results should not be made public until all the other clubs had played. That makes sense, otherwise the temptation to peek might be too great. We used the same boards for our Novice section so they could also view the scoring booklets. Will Higgins was Director and Chris Snook was scorer. Our top few pairs after scoring across the field were:

1st	(43 overall)	Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig
2nd	(76 overall)	Bev & Ross McCasker
3rd	(102 overall)	Kerry Gibson & Pauline Curin

Bev & Ross McCasker won a book prize for making 11 tricks on board 11 (+200).

Paul Matthews & Dave Roberts won a book prize for making 13 tricks in 6C on board 28 (+1390).

The organisers put a lot of time into the scoring booklets, and I am sure many of our members appreciated the detailed discussion of each board.

Cheers  
Chris

## Tuesday Night Teams competition

Six teams played in the Tuesday Night Teams competition played over two sessions: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September.

Top three were: 1<sup>st</sup> David Roberts - Ngaire Wills - Lawrence Price - Greg Munck  
2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Snook - Mohan Trada - Marie Steger - Anne Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Denise Hartwig - Rozalyn Wright - Delma Clark - Oliver Dashwood

Cheers Chris

## Bridgemate Changes



The changes to the bridgemates that I foreshadowed in the last newsletter have now been implemented. They have now been hard-coded so if a bridgemate is labelled “A9” then it has also been programmed as “A 9”. You do not have to enter a section and table number – just get the right bridgemate (the one that matches your table number).

It will make it easier for the players, but harder for the Directors and helpers who put out and collect the bridgemates. Not that much harder, though. Terry Sheedy has made up some carry/storage boxes for the bridgemates.

This will make it easier to get the “right” bridgemate and also reduce the amount of damage to the screens that has been occurring when the bridgemates are stored loosely in the plastic boxes.





## Improvers Lessons

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

We are nearly at the end of the structured lessons, only one new topic and one practice week to go.

Week 20 : 22 Sept is Opening Strong Unbalanced Hands

Week 21 : 29 Sept is Supervised Play

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

Some players have asked if we can continue with practice/lessons on card play like we did last year. I am investigating options for this and will advise the class and send a Pianola message when we have an answer.

Cheers

Chris

## Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In August, I processed results for 37 sections from 29 sessions yielding 119.09 green and 6.46 red masterpoints. At the end of September, the ABF decides how many red masterpoint sessions we are allocated for 2026. It is based on the number of green masterpoints we awarded in the period October-24 to September-26. At this stage it looks like we will get 28 sessions – down from the 30 in 2025 (because we are playing slightly less bridge).

## Master Rank Promotions for August

Pamela Steele	Promoted to <b>Life Silver National</b> master with 300 points, at least 150 red/gold
Michelle Porter	Promoted to <b>Bronze State</b> master with 100 points, at least 50 red/gold
Kerry Gibson	Promoted to <b>Bronze State</b> master with 100 points, at least 50 red/gold
Rosanne Munns	Promoted to <b>Silver Local</b> master with 35 masterpoints
Judy Barkla	Promoted to <b>Bronze Local</b> master with 25 masterpoints
Robert Beaumont	Promoted to <b>Bronze Local</b> master with 25 masterpoints
Yvonne Mallory	Promoted to <b>Bronze Local</b> master with 25 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).

### August Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Chris Snook & Hema De Zoysa
Monday PM Novice	Michael Rose-Miller
Tuesday Night	Chris Snook
Wednesday AM Restricted	Rosanne Munns & Dale Burey
Wednesday PM Open	Denise Hartwig & Chris Snook
Wednesday PM Novice	Murray Pietsch & Michael Rose-Miller
Thursday Night	Greg Munck
Friday Morning	Ian Costin & Trevor Mallory
Friday PM	Henry Eastment & Rhondda Dean

### On the congress scene

#### **Redland Under 50 Graded Pairs – A Grade**

2<sup>nd</sup> Shanaal De Zoysa - Hema De Zoysa

#### **Dalby Pairs**

2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Wilson – Anne Kirkpatrick  
B = 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy Fraser – Susie Fraser  
B = 2<sup>nd</sup> Judy Bodkin – Jenni Darlington

#### **Dalby Teams**

1<sup>st</sup> Joan Mladen - Jim Wood - Judy Zeller - Elizabeth Zeller

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.

