



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

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



December, 2024

Ed: Glenys Clift

Management Committee 2023-2024

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The super Xmas party has been and gone so that means bridge is nearing a close for 2024. Thanks to all who have helped at the Club this year from the gardening group, the event organisers, the dealers, the teachers, the directors, to the hard-working committee - you all made the year the success it was.

And of course, thanks to all the members who played during the year and allowed us all to enjoy the wonderful game of bridge. By now you all should have received your membership renewal invitation for next year and I hope that you all return to our wonderful Club in 2025.

On behalf of the management committee, I wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Happy Bridging in 2025. Greg Munck



Treasurer's Report for November 2024



For the period 1 August to 30 November this year we have recorded a deficit of \$385.70. \$25,349 income was generated from Table Fees plus \$19,767 from Congress entry fees. Interest of \$3,469.31 was paid on the 12-month term deposit. \$1,891.50 rent was received from the U3A Mahjong group for the period.

The shortfall is as a result of the following annual expenses which have been paid:- Auditor Fees \$2,112; AGM Honoraria \$3,670; Insurance \$3,864; GNOT Zone table fees \$1,110; plus, general expense of \$2,808 for repairs & maintenance; and \$2,559 for food & drinks after play.

Balance of accounts as at 30 November 2024

- Heritage Bank General Account - **\$12,681.98**
- Term Deposit I6 (6 months) 4.65% matures 27 May 2025 - **\$70,000**
- ABF funds held - **\$10,049**

The term deposit was renewed for 6 months, and in the new year a separate interest-bearing account will be opened to facilitate the transfer of funds from increased table fees to be set aside for future capital expenditure.

The club members were very generous with their donations to the Salvation Army appeal this year. We were very pleased to hand over a cheque for **\$1,497.50** for cash collected at our Christmas party. The cheque plus the many and varied hamper donations were greatly appreciated by the Salvation Army representatives



Don't just count your cards, make your cards count! Marie

Membership Secretary's Report



Please welcome the following new players whose applications to the club have been accepted since September: Anna Michaels, Jenny Bridge, Patricia Kelly, Vicki Hyland, Bill Redhead, Regan Cass, Noel Cass and David Prout. We wish them lots of fun and success at the club.

As of December 2024, we have a total of 347 members made up of 290 Home members, 50 Away members, and 7 Life members. This is a net increase of 19 members from December 2023. We are always looking for new members so please encourage your friends and neighbours to consider taking up the challenge of learning bridge next year. A new round of lessons will be starting early in February 2025.

A big thank you for new member David Prout who has kindly made and donated a number of wooden card holders for use by members. A very thoughtful and kind gesture.

Membership fees for 2025 are due and you should have received a notice via MyABF about this. Please see Trev Henderson, Dave Roberts, or myself if you have any problems with this payment system.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe festive season, and good bridging in 2025.

Ngaire Wills Membership Secretary.

14th December 2024

Christmas Party Awards Presentation



Pauline Curin & Debra Coward, Liz Zeller & Adrian Mayers, Ian Jesser, Kathy Duke & Dennis Lincoln, Ian Costin John Churchett & Trevor Henderson, Denise Hartwig Mavis Simpson, Alison Banks, Roz Wright with Awards.



For the organisation of the Christmas Party, we need to thank Ngaire Wills, Ken Orange Trevor Henderson and Michele Alroe who in turn, would like to acknowledge Deb Archer and her band of merry friends who helped in the kitchen. You all did a fantastic job. The stars of the afternoon were of course, all the members who bought food. What an incredible selection.

Chris Snook assisted by Marie Steger in the presentation of awards - thank you Chris and Marie.

There were 92 of our members who stayed for lunch and played bridge in the afternoon with Kathy Duke and Chris acting as Directors. And thank you to all those members who stayed back to help with the cleanup. What a great day!!!



Gretchen Graf Pauline Curin Carmel Barrett, Denise Hartwig, Mavis Simpson Bev McCosker & Marie Steger



Jojo Uichanco Yvonne Mallory Ian Costin Greg Munck Sandy Fraser

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT



Robyn Jackson is currently in St Andrews Hospital where she was originally admitted to the ICU ward. Robyn is now in the general ward. Robyn would like to wish all members of the club a very happy Xmas as we, likewise, wish her every success with her recovery.

The club would also like to welcome back John Ryan who has had a pretty torrid time with an infection that caused him to stay in hospital for nearly a month.

If members need to contact me about a member who is ill or in hospital, my contact details are:

email: yakkaj@hotmail.com or 0400 427 257

Julie Pigdon

THE GARDENING GROUP



Unfortunately, most of us (and I include myself) simply take for granted when we come to the club, that the gardens and surrounds at the Bridge Club always look so fantastic. It never occurs to us to think about who is responsible and how much time or work this involves.

The gardening group which also includes Martin Carey, John Ryan & Peter Bryce when they are available. And they all have to be congratulated on the amazing job they have been doing keeping the garden looking as good as it is now. But given the amount of rain we have been having, the mowing almost has to be done on a weekly basis. I asked Tony how much time this takes, he said about 2 hours which includes getting rid of the debris.

Sadly this year, no extra people have joined their group. They have been told if it gets too much for them, they can arrange a professional to do the mowing. But when you factor in what garden maintenance professionals are charging today, glory know what that is going to cost which in turn may influence table fees. Particularly compared to when the club increased table fees to \$5, 20 years ago, according to the RBA, a basket of goods costing \$5 then, now costs \$10.

**If you have a couple of hours to spare, even once a fortnight,
they would love you to join them.**

2025 Membership Renewals Status

By now all of us should have received a 2025 renewal notice via MyABF. Also, a reminder that from the 1st January 2025 Standard club session table fees as previously notified are Members \$6 & Visitors \$9.

If you've not seen your membership renewal notice yet, please check your emails. If you can't see your renewal please let Ngaire, our Membership Secretary, know if you see her at the club or simply email Ngaire at renewals@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au. Equally, if you still have questions on what you still need to do to pay for your renewal, contact Ngaire thanks, hopefully what follows below should answer most of your questions.

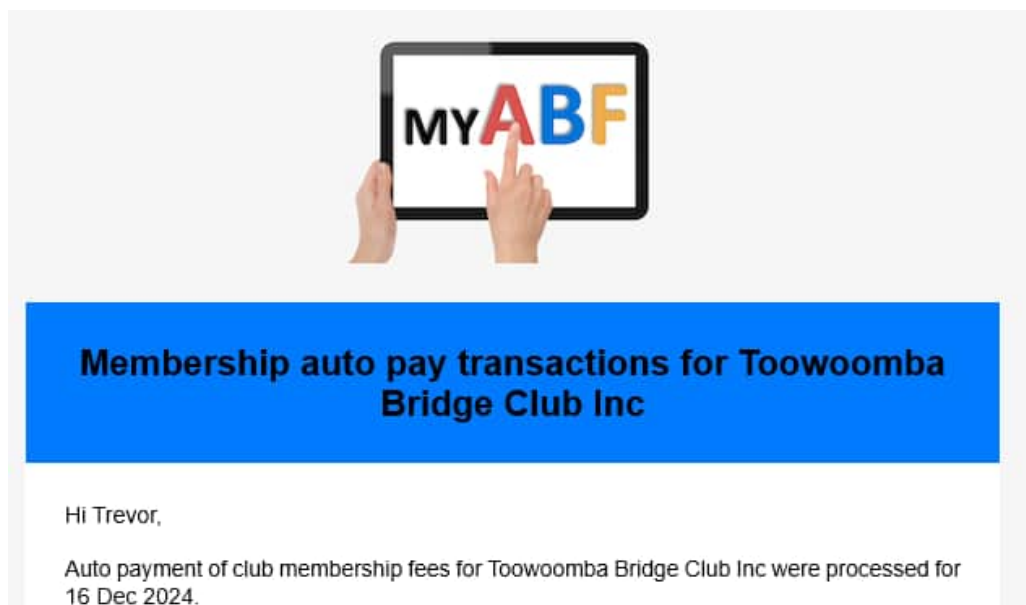
FYI, The club has sent out 330 membership renewals since late November, and as of this morning 280 have been paid, appreciated & thanks. Happy bridging, merry Christmas & see you all in the new year.

Regards
Trev Henderson
Secretary

How the ABF Membership Renewal System works

The details below cover what myABF reports to the Club re Renewal status on a nightly basis. It also covers what is still required when your Renewal is still unpaid. Most of you had sufficient funds in your account or had auto Top-up enabled (our recommended approach) & these renewals were then automatic on the autopay date, this for most of you will have been in the last week, with the last batch being processed last night.

This is an extract from the report for those renewals successfully processed @ 10pm last night.



120 membership fee auto payments were charged successfully.

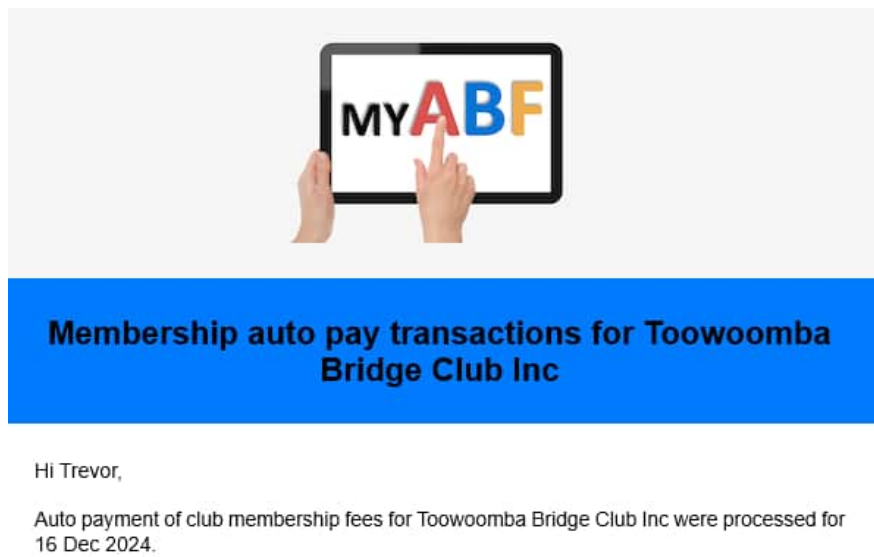
How the ABF Membership Renewal System works (cont)

This means that given the myABF issues you a receipt this has been a big step forward saving us significant time. No more chasing bank statements with missing details, writing out receipts, tracking who has paid, who is still outstanding etc. etc. From the start of 2025 you'll still be able to play, if your renewal has not been paid by then, and myABF will still process your session payments but given your membership will have lapsed it will treat your tables fees as a visitor. If you are unable to have these fees paid by the month end, please let Ngaire know so that we can take this into consideration.

This is our first year using myABF for Club renewals & whilst in future years they will automatically be sent early November & give you two months' notice, this has not been the case this year. Where needed, we'll certainly make allowances as need be, but please let us know thanks.

For those that have yet to pay, just a reminder your Renewal is due to be paid for by 31st December. For those of you who have not turned on auto Top-Up it is not a problem, but you will need to go to your account and do a manual top-up, just as you do now with your session payments when you have a low balance. The next evening, myABF will then automatically collect your membership fee

This is the extract from the report for those that did not have sufficient funds available from last night.



47 membership fee auto payments were unsuccessful.

Auto payment of these fees will be attempted again tomorrow.

For those few that have disabled autopay, the same process applies ie you'll need to top-up your account BUT you'll also need to select the Pay Now option, once you've ensured your account has sufficient funds to cover the renewal amount.

Note that as you have disabled autopay myABF cannot process your renewal automatically

How the ABF Membership Renewal System works (cont)



Hi Trevor,

Auto payment of club membership fees for Toowoomba Bridge Club Inc were processed for 16 Dec 2024.

The following members have disallowed auto payment of their fees.
Auto payment will not be attempted again for these membership fees.

The following is from the myABF instructions on how to find and then pay your renewal in this case.

11.2. Pay with bridge credits manually

Once a membership renewal has been issued, a player will see a notification in their "Your Upcoming Events" box that they have an outstanding membership payment.



A more detailed explanation is also on the club website here



And a link to this page is included here for your convenience,

<http://www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au/documents/myABF%20Update%20and%20TBC%202025%20Annual%20Membership%20Renewal.pdf>

Under 500 and Novice Matchpoint Pairs Sunday 19th January, 2025



- Venue** Toowoomba Bridge Club, 55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350
(07) 4638 4808
- Time** Arrive 9:00am. Play starts at 9:30am
- Director** Chris Snook
- How to Enter** Enter and pay via MyABF. Navigate to <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/2097>
If you are having difficulty with registering for MyABF, contact Tim Porter 0418 693 631 Trevor Henderson 0419 878826 or Chris Snook 0413 136435.
- Entries close** 4pm Friday 17th January 2024, or earlier if limit of 30 tables is reached.
- Entry Fee** \$70 per pair (\$35 per player). Pay via MyABF for the pair, or individually.
- Format**
- QBA Regulations apply.
 - Two separate sections:
 - Under 500 limited to players with fewer than 500 masterpoints
 - Novice limited to players with fewer than 100 masterpoints (status as at 30 November 2024).
 - Red masterpoints at appropriate B4 rate per win plus outright awards to the top third of each field. Masterpoints not guaranteed without correct ABF numbers.
 - Green, Blue and Red systems and Brown Sticker treatments are allowed in U500 section, and Green and Blue systems are allowed in Novice section.
 - Each pair must have two systemically identical ABF system card at the start of each round.
- Prizes** 1st (\$200) and 2nd (\$140) in each section. There may be additional cash prizes dependent of field size.
- Catering** BYO Lunch. Refreshments available all day, drinks and savouries at end of play.
- Convenor** congresses@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au



Melbourne Cup Day was a great success with many thanks to Floyd Wilson for acting as Director and general organiser; Adrienne Montague and Michael Kaiser who organised the lunch and the beautiful chocolate cake even though at this time, they were no longer in charge of Functions & Catering – but was a commitment they had made to the club. And thank you to all those members who contributed to the success of the day, especially our President, Greg Munck who did a lot of work behind the scenes, assisted by Kerry Brown and Sandy & Susie Fraser.



Ken Orange (best male hat) Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews (Best Couple)
 Andrew Mollison (Best male ensemble) Ann Williams (Best fascinator)
 with President Greg Munck



Andrew Mollison



Kerry Brown, Sandy Fraser & Greg Munck selling raffle tickets & sweeps
Necia Bach, Joan Brownlie, Lyn Vary, Michelle Alroe, Kathy Duke and John Clift



Ken Orange



Paul Matthews, Susie Fraser, Kathy Duke, Sandy Fraser



Diana Drummond, Murray Pietsch, Gwen Francis, Alison Lewis



Adrienne Montague



John Clift Carol Edwards Glenys Clift David Edwards



Michael Walsh, Jenny Speziali, Ken Orange Michelle Alroe



Rosanne Munns, Robyn Bell, Gail Donovan, Bob Dodman



TEACHING REPORT
From
DAVID ROBERTS

LESSON PROGRAM FEBRUARY – APRIL 2025

DATE	TOPIC	DETAILS
5//2/025	INTRODUCTION TO BRIDGE	Explanation of how the game is played. The language of bidding. Valuation of hands.
12/02/2025	BIDDING 1 NO TRUMP	What is a balanced hand and responding with balanced and unbalanced hands.
19/02/2025	PLAYING NO TRUMP HANDS	After reviewing the bidding, players are given boards to play to gain greater understand of the bidding.
26/02/2025	OPENING THE BIDDING WITH 1 HEART OR 1 SPADE (the majors)	Opening the bidding in suits – the power of the trump suit and how to show partner the shape of your hand.
5/03/2025	PLAYING HANDS WHERE YOU OPEN IN 1H or 1S	Gaining a better understanding of how the second round of bidding determines how high you bid.
12/03/2025	OPENING THE BIDDING WITH 1 CLUB OR 1 DIAMOND (the minors) and PLAYING HANDS IN BOTH THE MAJORS AND MINORS	After reviewing the bidding – looking for a fit in the majors, if no fit, deciding whether to play in No Trumps or one of the minors. Showing how the openers partner called responder will determine what the final contract will be
19/03/2025	PLAYING HANDS	Re-enforcing how the bidding translates to actual contracts and gaining experience in card play
26/3/2025	INTRODUCING THE DOUBLE BID - FORCING PARTNER TO BID	Dealing with interventions by doubling and showing an opening hand and forcing partner to bid
2/04/2025	INTRODUCING THE OVERCALL	How to interfere with the opposition's bidding
09/04/2025	PLAYING HANDS	Gaining experience in both bidding and card play
16/04/2025	PLAYING HANDS	As above
23/04/2025	PLAYING HANDS	As above

LESSONS ARE OPEN TO ANY MEMBER OF THE CLUB WHO WOULD LIKE A REVISION



IMPROVER LESSONS MONDAY MORNING 2025
With Chris Snook

Chris' Improvers Lessons are designed for Novices and introduces the topics and conventions not covered in the beginner's lessons such as Stayman, Gerber, Blackwood.

See the following page for programme and dates.

LESSONS – (Monday Mornings)

Improver Play – Building on the Basics

On **Monday Mornings from 12th May**, “**Improver lessons**” will be held to cater for players who have recently finished the basic beginner lessons and want to advance their knowledge. Members who would like a refresher on any of these topics are most welcome to attend all or just a few lessons.

Lessons including playing 8 boards on the lesson content. There are also Supervised Play sessions with more boards, where some hands relative to the previous week’s lessons will be included. The rest of the hands will be based on revision of earlier content and a few random hands. During the Supervised play sessions, players may consult their notes or ask for help.

WHEN: Arrive 8.45am for a 9:00am start to approximately 11.30am.

Week 1 : 12 May	Constructive Overcalls – both sides in the bidding
Week 2 : 19 May	Supervised Play
Week 3 : 26 May	Takeout Doubles – more on entering the auction
Week 4 : 2 June	Supervised Play
Week 5 : 9 June	Pre-emptive Bids – weak 3 & 4 level opening bids
Week 6 : 16 June	Supervised Play
Week 7 : 23 June	Pre-emptive Bids – weak 2 level opening bids
Week 8 : 30 June	Supervised Play
Week 9 : 7 July	Supervised Play
Week 10 : 14 July	Simple Transfers after 1NT opening: 2D → 2H, 2H → 2S
Week 11 : 21 July	Supervised Play
Week 12 : 28 July	2C Stayman – looking for a major fit after partner opens 1NT
Week 13 : 4 Aug	Supervised Play
Week 14 : 11 Aug	Slam Bidding Suit Contracts - Blackwood 4NT
Week 15 : 18 Aug	Supervised Play
Week 16 : 25 Aug	Slam Bidding Notrump Contracts – 4C Gerber
Week 17 : 1 Sept	Supervised Play
Week 18 : 8 Sept	Opening Strong Balanced Hands
Week 19 : 15 Sept	Supervised Play
Week 20 : 22 Sept	Opening Strong Unbalanced Hands
Week 21 : 29 Sept	Supervised Play

Any player wishing to brush up on their bidding skills or play a more modern game is welcome to attend.

Contact Chris Snook 0413 136 435 for further details. Ideally email me (chris@snook.id.au) to say that you are coming so I can print sufficient notes and prepare boards, but ad hoc attendance is also welcome.

MEN AT WORK?



When it takes four to hang a string of fairy lights,
how many blokes does it take to change a light bulb?

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).

November Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Diana Drummond & Gwen Francis
Monday PM Novice	Trevor Mallory & Yvonne Mallory
Tuesday Night	Rozalyn Wright & Denise Hartwig
Wednesday AM Restricted	Graeme Ryan
Wednesday PM Open	Bill Redhead & Liz Zeller
Wednesday PM Novice	Adrienne Montague & Angela Worrall
Thursday Night	Michelle Porter
Friday Morning	Ross & Beverley McCasker
Friday PM	Liz Zeller

Congratulations. Chris

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

The race has now been run and the rankings presented at our Awards and Christmas Party

Points Earned	Rank at start of year	Member	
6.76	Nil Master	Graeme Ryan	
14.74	Graduate Master	Harold Coggan	5 th in Queensland
15.48	Club Master	Jim Harvey	
15.95	Local Master	Gretchen Graf	
20.21	Bronze Local Master	Marie Steger	
26.20	Silver Local Master	Debra Coward	
48.73	Regional Master	Pauline Curin	1 st in Queensland
17.64	Bronze Regional Master	Estelle Dehnert	3 rd in Queensland
22.68	State Master	Greg Munck	
33.21	Bronze State Master	Rozalyn Wright	
66.15	National Master	Kathy Duke	4 th in Queensland
60.78	Bronze National Master	Joan Mladen	
48.15	Silver National Master	Hema De Zoysa	3 rd in Queensland
54.01	Life Master	Mavis Simpson	
30.01	Bronze Life Master	John Erlandson	
56.58	Silver Life Master	John Churchett	
109.46	Gold Life Master	Denise Hartwig	4 th in Queensland
127.91	Grand Master and above	Elizabeth Zeller	

In total, all the members of our club earned 1460.59 green, 320.32 red and 179.20 gold masterpoints at the Toowoomba Bridge Club since 1st January, so that is an average of about 4.4 green and 0.97 red points each. Well done

Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In November, I processed results for 43 sections from 33 sessions yielding 147.68 green and 30.02 red masterpoints.

Master Rank Promotions for November

Denise Hartwig	Promoted to Grand master with 1000 points, at least 700 red/gold, at least 200 gold
Diana Drummond	Promoted to National master with 150 points, at least 75 red/gold
Estelle Dehnert	Promoted to State master with 50 points, at least 25 red/gold
Bev McCasker	Promoted to State master with 50 points, at least 25 red/gold
Eric Rudorfer	Promoted to Bronze Local master with 25 masterpoints
Frances Leeson	Promoted to Bronze Local master with 25 masterpoints
Yvonne Mallory	Promoted to Local master with 15 masterpoints
Graeme Ryan	Promoted to Club master with 5 masterpoints
Jenny Bridge	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints
Ann Williams	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints
Rosemary Goodsell	Promoted to Graduate master with 2 masterpoints

TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB 2024 PAIRS CHAMPIONS



Restricted Pairs
Trevor Corthorne & Ian Costin

Open Pairs
Trevor Henderson & John

A small, dedicated field played in the Club Pairs Championship on Sunday 10th November. There were 12 pairs playing in the Open section and 12 pairs playing in the Novice section. Will Higgins was our Director and did a splendid job whilst also playing. (Will was also filling in with Estelle Dehnert to give us an even number of tables, and they came 3rd in the process).

I looked after the movement and scoring, and these were ideal numbers such that we could play what is called a “Barometer Howell”. All this means is the movement was a 6-table Howell playing eleven 5-board rounds. Usually, boards circulate around the Howell movement and this would have required boards numbered up to 55, and would present a great risk of people accidentally overhearing results from the morning session that they might encounter in the afternoon. To overcome this, Barometer scoring is done where all six tables play the same set of 5 boards during each round, and this means that theoretically we could calculate scores at the end of each round and display them (like a Barometer). We could but I was playing and scoring, so was a bit too busy for that.

In the open section, John and Trevor H did well in the morning, hitting the lead after the 4th round. Bill and Elizabeth had a good afternoon and nearly caught John and Trevor H, but not quite, as John and Trevor H hung on for a well-deserved win. If you like data, you can see the scores and ranks after each 5-board round on our website.

In the novice section, it was a similar outcome, with Ian and Trevor C having a good morning, and seeing Yvonne and Trevor M catching up fast until Ian and Trevor C had a huge last round.

I just re-read the above. I know it is a gaggle of geese, a herd of elephants, a flock of sheep, but what do we call a collection of Trevors? To differentiate I’ve added family name initials 😊

Open Section	
1 st	John Churchett & Trevor Henderson
2 nd	Bill Redhead & Elizabeth Zeller
3 rd	Will Higgins & Estelle Dehnert

Novice Section	
1 st	Ian Costin & Trevor Corthorne
2 nd	Yvonne Mallory & Trevor Mallory
3 rd	Gretchen Graf & Marie Steger

Thank you all for playing, congratulations for the wins that you all had at various stages, and well done everyone 😊. Chris

HAMILTON (CAPPELLETTI)

Intervening after a 1NT opening (particularly a strong 1NT) can be dangerous if a natural overcall is made with a balanced or semi balanced distribution. Competing against a 1NT opening has less to do with HCP than shape. While LANDY was one of the earliest conventional defences devised, since then there have been at least 50 conventions developed all have their strengths and weaknesses.

One of the more popular conventions played over a 1NT bid by opposition is Hamilton. Hamilton was devised by Michael Cappelletti (sometimes called the Cappelletti system) and while it is commonly known as Hamilton in western and central USA and Canada, it is known as Pottage in the UK.

Hamilton is a fairly complicated convention and takes a little bit of practice. Irrespective of whether you use Landy or Hamilton, always give due consideration to vulnerability, your position in relation to the 1NT opener, the strength of the 1NT and your partner's sense of humour!

HAMILTON

Bidding over 1NT by the opposition

You	Your partner's response
2C 10+ HCP a single suited hand (normally 6)	Bid 2D Your partner will pass if that is his suit or bid a major
2D 10+ HCP and both majors – normally 5-5	Bid your best major. If holding 12+HCP and 2 three-card majors, Bid 2NT. This will tell partner your strength and it asks partner to bid his strongest major.
2H 10+ HCP 5 hearts & 5 or 4 in a minor	With 3 hearts and less than an opening hand pass. With 12+ bid 3H. With 3 in both minors, bid 2NT asking partner to bid his minor.
2S 10+ HCP 5 spades & 5 or 4 in a minor	With a fit, and less than an opening hand pass. With 12+ bid 3S. With 3 in both minors, bid 2NT asking partner to bid his minor
2NT 10+ and both minors 5:5	You must bid your best minor.

Please note: :

- 1. When you first start playing bridge, you need to ignore advanced conventions such as Hamilton until you have the basics under control.**
- 2. When you are responding to Hamilton, you need to factor in that after 1NT (15-17) and a Hamilton intervention (10+), there are only 13-15 HCP left outstanding between 2 players. If you have a tendency to gamble, you also need to factor in vulnerability.**
- 3. A 5:5 shape with 10+ HCP is the equivalent of an opening hand.**



DIRECTOR – CHRIS SNOOK



**Congress Convenor
TIM PORTER**



A GRADE 1st Ron Clarke, Pamela Evans, James Evans with Pres Greg Munck & Congress Convenor Tim Porter (Janeen Solomon missing)



A GRADE 2ND June Glen, Jim Wood, Jenni Buckley, Alan Hamilton with Pres Greg Munck & Congress Convenor Tim Porter

TOOWOOMBA SWISS TEAMS



**B GRADE Greg Munck, David Roberts, Ngaire Wills, Eileen Josey
with Congress Convenor Tim Porter**



**C GRADE Desley Hanrahan Lyn Vary Suzanne Brazier Rozalyn Wright
with President Greg Munck & Congress Convenor Tim Porter**



Raffle Winners Jim Wood, Gabrielle Elich & Pauline Curin

TOOWOOMBA SWISS TEAMS



Whilst our Congress's rely on the organisation and running of the event by our Congress Convenor and Congress Director, the success of these events relies on those members who volunteer their time and energy to run the kitchen, act as caddies and help with the set up and clean up.

Thank you Christine Gilshenan, Annette Mitchell, Jan Flynn, Michelle Alroe & Tony Pattison

CONGRESS CONVENORS'S REPORT

The Toowoomba Swiss Teams Congress was held on Sunday 8th December. It attracted 16 teams including four and a half teams from other clubs in Brisbane (Sunnybank, QCBC, and Toowong) and Caboolture. The Local teams were competitive with team Buckley and De Zoysa battling it out with outsiders Evans and Moses for 1st position. The Evans team started well behind but improved steadily through the day to take the 1st position with 3 rounds to go. Team Buckley started in the lead but fell away before regaining 2nd on the last round. In the A division, the place getters were Evans team 1st for QCBC – Ron Clark, Pamela Evans, James Evans and Janeen Solomon – taking home \$480. 2nd were the Buckley team – Local Jenni Buckley and Jim wood with visitors from Toowong- Alan Hamilton and June Glenn – winning \$320.

Prizes were also awarded in each of the B and C divisions.

1st in B division were locals Team Roberts – David Roberts, Ngaire Wills, Eileen Josey and Greg Munck – winning \$240.

1st in C division were locals team Brazier – Suzanne Brazier, Lyn Vary, Rozalyn Wright and Desley Hanrahan- winning \$160.

Once again, the day was made very enjoyable by the positive spirit engendered by the play and the volunteers who gave generously of their time in the kitchen, as caddies, as well of course in the garden in preparation for the gathering. The club was decorated with flowers from the garden making it look very pretty. The day was rounded off with a few social drinks at the end of the day while waiting for the prize presentations.

Thank you too to the players who pitched in at the end of the day to tidy up and return the club to its weekday play configuration.

Tim Porter- Congress Convenor

ILLEGAL PARKING WARNING

The wet weather brought more than rain for one member. Parking on the side of the road in Stuart Street near the Bridge Club under overhanging vegetation to shelter from possible hail the member was unaware that the non marked roadside was a designated nature strip. The new Local Law states motor vehicles cannot have any wheels on the nature strip. All wheels must be on the road. Previously it was legal to have two wheels on the nature strip. This is no longer the case. The hail did not arrive but a \$64.00 fine arrived in the post a week later!!

Only park in the Club grounds or in the designated parking space in Stuart Street used by dog lovers and bridge players.
Michele Alroe

Date Claimers

- **Welcome Back Pairs:** Wednesday Afternoon 1st January. This is just a normal Wednesday afternoon session, with the addition that I will organise some little treats for afternoon tea. If there are sufficient entries then the afternoon will be graded, otherwise we'll play as the one field.
- **Toowoomba Under 500 and Novice Pairs congress:** Sunday 19th January. See entry form for further details and enter via the events section on our website or direct to MyABF. We will play in two separate grades: Novice (players with fewer than 100 masterpoints) and Under 500 (not surprisingly for those players with fewer than 500 masterpoints). About 85% of our membership are below 500mp so just about everyone is eligible to play. It would be good if we had a decent crowd for our first congress of the year.
- **Col Martin Shield:** This is a pairs event that runs on Tuesday Nights in January and some of February. It is an eclectic event where you can play as often as you wish and your highest four scores from the six sessions are counted. Play starts at 7:00pm and we usually finish around 10:00-10:15. It is not a late night.
The event dates are January 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th January and 11th & 18th February (we have a week off at the start of February so our regular Tuesday folk can play in the Tuesday daytime event on that day or for those at the Gold Coast congress).
The event is named to honour our friend and long term member, committee member, Director and masterpoint secretary.
- **Autumn Top-Tail Pairs:** Tuesday 4th February. This is a new initiative where you enter as an individual, and the Director/Convenor will then assign partnerships with the top seed playing with the bottom seed, second seed with second bottom, etc. It is a fun day along similar lines to our recent Pro-Am events. This is a good way to meet new people in the club and to support our newer players being integrated into the club sessions.
- **Club Teams Championship:** Saturday 16th February (two sessions). There will be an Open and a Restricted/Novice section. Also, we are going to try a new event specifically for our Rookies (new players, those straight out of lessons and up to 10 masterpoints). It will be a one session event (eg just the afternoon) and I have called it a **Perfect Teams** event, where four friends nominate as a team and they will play three matches in the afternoon, playing one match with each team member. We will make sure there is plenty of support onsite to help you, but you will be playing normal bridge with your peers and will be gaining a lsome experience in a teams environment. Please support this new initiative.

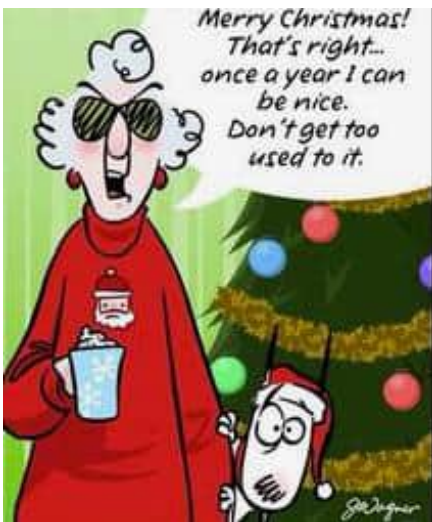
All these events are listed on our website in the "Calendar" area, are usually listed on the website front page, often have a flyer on display in the clubrooms, and are announced by the Directors (should be at the start of each session). They are also mentioned on the TV announcements when these TV's 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

From your Ed.

I would like to thank all the members who have taken part in supplying their profiles for the newsletter. What an interesting group of people make up the members of our club and as I say to members when I ask them, we join a club, meet lots of people but actually know very little about them. If you haven't been asked yet, don't think you have escaped my notice. Apart from one edition where I focused on new members, I have been asking people going backwards to when they joined. I also have a list of people who have joined since August 2024, and I will be asking them next year.

I would also like to thank Suzie Fraser for the dozens of photos she has taken as well as Kathy Duke, Bev McCosker and David Roberts. Because people are travelling or have family visiting etc, there will be no newsletter for January. The editor is having a break and hopefully the newsletter will resume in February.



As I am always looking for articles that might interest members to put in the newsletter, if you have a funny experience at the club or would like to share something with members, please send it to me jgclift@bigpond.com.

Obviously, I am a fan of old crabby Maxine, she reminds me of me. Not that I would ever say anything she says, (although I might think it), but she does amuse me.

Hope everyone has a great Xmas and looking forward to catching up with you all next year.

Cheers Glenys



GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



Roy Reynolds

My family has bred here-fords & thoroughbred horses since 1840 including 4 Melbourne Cup winners. Went to boarding school aged 9, played in the 1sts in all sports, represented Qld school boy rugby whilst in grade 11. Breeding stud cattle, you meet people all over the world. Moved to town 2011. Love gardening, wood-working & slow cooking. Have met a lot of nice people & new friends playing bridge. *Roy*



Adrian Mayers

Born in the Netherlands, the 3rd son of a family with 11 children. Joined the Dutch Marines when I was 16 & served in Dutch New Guinea after turning 18. Married Cory & we came to Oz in 1969. We ran our own business until 2000 when we moved to the Sunshine Coast. Moved back to Toowoomba in 2011 when Cory was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and is in care. Bridge has given me a lot of pleasure and friends over the years, and where-ever you go, you can always get a game. *Adrian*

A yearlong assignment brought me to Toowoomba, 1973 from Sweden. Fell in love with all things Aussie, especially the man I now have been happily married to almost 50 years. and for me, a totally new life!! We bought a farm, raised two beautiful sons. Farming, cattle, carnations, took over my life, nursing abandoned. Love of food, cooking and bossing people about, made for a busy catering enterprise lasting 25 yrs. Retired now. *Annica*



Annica Sheppard

Born in Toowoomba, married with 2 sons & 1 daughter. Have been retired since 2005. Admire all things beautiful. Like to read; play mahjong. Played golf, (not well) but managed a hole in 1 and had my name on the board. Play bridge (not well) but managed to get my name on the board in Restricted Teams. Have travelled and I have some fun friends. Don't like getting old but a sense of humour eases the pain. *Diana*



Diana Drummond



Margie Maddison

I very much enjoyed my working life as an Occupational Therapist working mostly in mental health & disability. I have 3 wonderful children and 7 grandkids. Taking up bridge in my retirement, I followed my mother's footsteps. I am grateful for my good-natured partners, Coral & Suzanne & enjoy the quirky characters who end up at the bridge table – I like to think I am one of them. Always up for a chat in those brief moments about our lives, books, travel etc. Cheers to our thriving bridge club. *Margie*



Jim Wood

My life revolves around playing bridge, working as a volunteer with St Vincent De Paul, attempting to do cryptic crosswords, dabbling in ancient history. and frequenting the Botanical Gardens on fine days. Last but not least, looking after my Basil plant. *Jim.*

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



Carol Wilson

Grew up in a card-playing family in Nundah. Dreamt of becoming a ballet dancer but at age 16 wasn't willing to give up parties & ball-room dancing. Worked as a stenographer until after marrying & we decided to have our family (2 girls). When the time was right, returned to the legal profession. Peter & I have travelled extensively overseas & in Oz. Moved to Highfields in 2010 with Peter letting me know Toowoomba had 2 bridge clubs. *Carol*



Alison Lewis

Born in Ipswich & trained as a music specialist. Met my husband in the Bach Choir & we moved to Canberra where I was Director of Music at CCEGGS. Moved to Toowoomba in 2003 where we raised our 2 children. In 2010, my husband, Greg, and Glenys Clift encouraged me to attend bridge lessons even though I was working part-time and had young children. I am very grateful to both of them as I love the challenge of the game. Only play now when we are not travelling. *Alison*

Early schooling in Wollongong, then ANU studying economics & politics. Moved to Toowoomba in 1978, joined the CES & married Cathy (2 children, 5 grandchildren). Taught English in Japan 1995 and we have travelled extensively since 2006. Have entered the Carnival of Flowers Garden Competition since 1980 & been dancing for 15 years. Served on the TBC committee & was President of the DDBC for 3 yrs during COVID. *Jeff*



Jeff Aitchison

Married 49 yrs, Trained as a nurse at the PA, Sydney followed by midwifery & worked in Batlow after we moved to Tumut where our 3 daughters were born. Moved to Toowoomba where I did my psych training at Baillie Henderson. I am a cancer survivor and am grateful to the Bridge Club for the wonderful support from many members who told me they were survivors. In a nutshell, my life has been mostly good – the bad making me appreciate the good. *Pam*



Pam MacIntosh



Mary Gillespie

I am a relative newcomer to Toowoomba, arriving about twelve years ago from Buderim... against the tide many say! Originally from Darwin where my three children were born, we lived in Buderim for thirty years. I bless the day I learnt bridge which has helped greatly in my transition. *Mary*



John Cox

A Gympie boy, now lives in an outer suburb of Gympie called Toowoomba. Moved in 1981 as a consultant paediatrician. Practiced as such for 40 years, a registered pharmacist for 30 years and a J.P. for 50 years. Author of multiple academic papers, mainly Aboriginal health and genetics, 30 + years in medical politics + director of a number of failed genetic Co's. Hobbies were spear fishing and snow skiing, no good at either anymore, basically now an unpaid under-gardener without any special skills, so trying bridge. *John*



You may have noticed we have new bins to encourage the correct sorting of rubbish!
The recycle bin is clearly labeled for your reference.

✓ WATER CUPS ✓ WINE GOBLETS ✓ CARDBOARD



Please place glass bottles (including wine bottles), plastic water bottles and drink cans in the bin outside the west back door.



- ✗ NO Biscuit Wrappers
- ✗ NO Tissues
- ✗ NO Cheese Wrappers
- ✗ NO Food Scraps