



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

January 2015

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350  
PO Box 16045, Northpoint 4350



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### President's Report



Here it is another year and I hope that everyone had a very happy and joyful Christmas. With the New Year already upon us I assume everyone is looking forward to the new Bridge year.

Our next big project is the Open Day on Sunday 15th February 2015, commencing at 10am. It is hoped that all Members will get behind this to make it a successful day, and bring a friend, relative or neighbour. Details on the day's activities are included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Another day to place on your calendar, and support as much as you can, either by playing or helping out on the day, is Patron's Day on Sunday 7th March 2015. Please come along and introduce yourself to our Patron, Clive Berghofer.

Other upcoming events are the Toowoomba IMP Butler Pairs Congress on 31st March 2015 and the Toowoomba Novice Pairs Congress on Sunday 7th May 2015.

The Gold Coast Congress is also coming up shortly from the 21st to 28th February 2015. I understand that a number of our members will be playing and I encourage even the beginners to enter and enjoy the Congress as there is room for their participation with Rookie Pairs (0-10 MPS) on Sunday the 22nd February and Thursday 26th February 2015 and Masterpoint Pairs (0-50 MPS) on Wednesday 25th February. There is also a Novice Pairs (0-99.9 MPS) held on the Friday 27th February 2015. So, all you newcomers to the game please give a thought to playing in these events. A reduced entry fee applies if you nominate and pay by 7th February 2015.

I extend my appreciation to all members who helped pack up the room before the carpets were cleaned over the break and re-arranged the room afterwards.

We have just been advised that Jeff Aitchison will no longer be able to be the Grounds Co-ordinator as he is selling his house and will be moving a considerable distance from the Club. Jeff has done a magnificent job on nurturing the flowers interspersed amongst the shrubs. Jeff also entered the Club in the Carnival of Flowers Garden Competition which produced second place a couple of times and has enhanced our public recognition.

I would like to congratulate Byron Longford on being among a handful of Queensland Bridge players awarded 2015 James O'Sullivan Award for Masterpoints achievement. Byron was also instrumental in giving newcomers lessons on Tuesday mornings and is now offering the same at our new restricted session, which commenced on Thursday 8th January and attracted 7½ tables. Congratulations Byron on doing such a magnificent job for the Club.

Our Teaching Team has put together a new program, which I hope the members will find very useful. The Team has put a lot of valuable time and effort into this program. I would also like to thank Annette Sullivan for her continuing support in this project.

It is hoped that all our Members, both new and old, will avail themselves of this new program.

Keith Jenkin  
**President**

### Welfare Officer

Please contact Glenda Filbee on her home phone (4636-7622) or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Glenda will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>         | Keith Jenkin   |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>    | Adrian Mayers  |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>         | Glenys Clift   |
| <b>TREASURER</b>         | Chris Snook  |
| <b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b> | Peter Cory<br>Robbie Fulton<br>Pam Gebbett<br>Anne Klibbe<br>Roger Ley<br>Diana McDougall<br>Leonie Spence |

## OFFICE HOLDERS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR</b>       | Chris Snook                              |
| <b>CONGRESS CONVENOR</b>               | Robbie Fulton                            |
| <b>MASTERPOINT SECRETARY PROVIDORE</b> | Chris Snook<br>Keith Jenkin              |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>            | Diana McDougall                          |
| <b>QBA DELEGATES</b>                   | Chris Snook<br>Keith Jenkin<br>Roger Ley |

## **ZONAL DELEGATES**

|                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>PRESS OFFICER</b>                | Kim Nicoll                |
| <b>TEACHING COORDINATOR</b>         | Glenys Clift              |
| <b>LIBRARIAN</b>                    | Jean Moetara              |
| <b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>            | Floyd Wilson              |
| <b>HOUSEKEEPER</b>                  | Bette Flamsteed           |
| <b>SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR</b>      | George McKinnon           |
| <b>WELFARE OFFICER</b>              | Glenda Filbee             |
| <b>FIRST AID KIT</b>                | Roger Ley                 |
| <b>TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR</b>         | Bruce Hinchliffe          |
| <b>INFORMATION &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b> | Chris Snook<br>Peter Cory |

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>BUILDING MAINTENANCE</b>      | Adrian Mayers  |
| <b>GROUNDS MAINTENANCE</b>       | Jeff Aitchison |
| <b>WEBMASTER</b>                 | Peter Cory     |
| <b>BOARD DEALING COORDINATOR</b> | Roger Ley      |
| <b>BIRTHDAY CLUB</b>             | Pam Gebbett    |
| <b>RECORDER/CONCILIATION</b>     | Henry Eastment |
| <b>PARTNERSHIP ARRANGER</b>      | Pam Gebbett    |

As well as the elected and appointed positions, the Toowoomba Bridge Club has three sub-committees to help coordinate the running of the club:

## TOURNAMENT SUB-COMMITTEE:

**Tournament Directors:** Val Buchanan, Glenys Clift, Henry Eastment, Ian Jesser, Adrian Mayers, Ray Moore, Chris Snook, Ed Willey, Floyd Wilson, Liz Zeller

**Trainee Directors:** Peter Cory, Gabrielle Elich, Keith Jenkins, Roger Ley, David Lynch, Leonie Spence

## SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE:

Leonie Spence, Virginia Hathaway, Kim Nadler, Beth Brown, Gwen Francis and Pam Gebbett

## TEACHING SUB-COMMITTEE:

Glenys Clift, Trudy Dunne, Denise Hartwig, Keith Jenkin, Ian Jesser, Chris Snook, Leonie Spence, Liz Zeller

## **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership Subscriptions for 2015 were due to be paid by the 31st December. The deadline for payment is the end of February. We will be registering members with the Australian Bridge Federation in March.

If you have been away or simply forgotten, please send your subscription form and payment as soon as possible. Members who miss the deadline may qualify for a surcharge from the ABF.

There will be a reminder send out at the end of January to members who are still outstanding. If you have paid and receive a reminder please contact me or our Secretary or Treasurer.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year for 2015.

**Diana McDougall**  
Membership Secretary

## **New Master Rankings**

Congratulations to the following members who have achieved new Master rankings:

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b><u>Graduate</u></b>  | Don Dowe<br>Lesley Buck<br>Patricia Egan         |
| <b><u>Club</u></b>      | Kathleen Mulherin<br>Sue Dowe                    |
| <b><u>*Local</u></b>    | Alison Lewis<br>Jill Cory<br>Kay Behrend         |
| <b><u>**Local</u></b>   | Arthur Bilby<br>Margaret Tucker<br>David Edwards |
| <b><u>Regional</u></b>  | Maureen Grayson<br>Barbara Power                 |
| <b><u>Gold Life</u></b> | Edwin Willey                                     |

## Masterpoint Secretary's Report

The following table lists the number of green masterpoints awarded in each of October, November and December for each main club session:

|        | Totals | October | November | December |
|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| Mon    | 108.38 | 27.42   | 35.89    | 45.07    |
| Tues   | 45.62  | 12.15   | 18.74    | 14.73    |
| Tnight | 22.79  | 12.54   | 4.40     | 5.85     |
| Wed    | 58.82  | 22.21   | 23.01    | 13.60    |
| Thur   | 9.81   | 4.19    | 2.04     | 3.58     |
| ThurN  | 69.21  | 28.93   | 24.37    | 15.91    |
| Fri    | 41.13  | 14.27   | 18.93    | 7.93     |
| Sat    | 11.35  | 1.70    | 7.37     | 2.28     |
| Sun    | 0.00   |         |          |          |
| Comps  | 16.12  |         | 8.80     | 7.32     |
| Superv | 22.53  | 6.55    | 10.87    | 5.11     |
| Total  | 405.76 | 129.96  | 154.42   | 121.38   |

Many of our newer players monitor their masterpoints closely. Let's follow the masterpoint information flow in more detail.

At the end of the session, the Director will process all the results and you may see masterpoints listed on the results printouts. They are provisional only and do need to be checked.

On the "Toowoomba Bridge Club" website you can also view "Individual Results History", and this shows a list of the pairs sessions that you played and the provisional masterpoints. Note that results and masterpoints for teams events are not listed here, and neither are results and masterpoints from Congresses.

At the end of each month, I check and collate all results, calculate the Eclectic Results and calculate and submit the green masterpoints to the ABF Masterpoint Centre for processing. Around the same time, results from all Congresses for the month are processed by the ABF Masterpoint Centre. This is the definitive place for you to check your masterpoints. If you think some have gone missing, then you should speak to me (the Club Masterpoint Secretary).

The direct link to see your masterpoints is:  
<http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/myawards.asp>

You can search by ABF number, name or see a list per club or per Congress event. You might also find it interesting to view "Club Reports" for 4-688.

I close by acknowledging the significant achievement of Byron Longford, Ian Jesser and Liz Zeller earning over 100 masterpoints during the 2014 calendar year.

Cheers,

**Chris Snook**

Masterpoint Secretary

## Treasurer's Report

As at the end of December 2014, the club had \$6856.20 in the Congress account and \$39,131.19 in the General account. Out of these funds, we do have to pay all your ABF and QBA levies at the end of March (approx \$10,440) and there are always bills in the pipeline to pay (just like at home).

On average, our monthly bills are around \$7500, so we have a cash reserve of about five months if income stopped but all expenses continued (which is good for a community organisation such as ours). Of course, in real life this would never happen as most of our income and expenditure are in proportion to the number of tables that play. So if the money really did dry up, then so would the expenses.

In addition, we have three term deposits with the Heritage Bank as a "sinking fund" with a total balance of \$116,666.19. This fund is to cover future expenses such as repainting, replacing carpets, carpark repairs, replacing air-conditioners, etc.

Overall, our club continues to do well in providing excellent playing facilities for the game we all love so much.



Best wishes,  
**Chris Snook**  
Treasurer

## Grounds Coordinator

As President over the past two years, I was privileged to have Jeff Aitchison working in the role as Grounds Coordinator. Jeff has had to relinquish this position because he is selling his house and moving to a "newer one" at Westbrook, and it would not be possible to continue his work at the club from such a distance.

Jeff, I take this opportunity to thank you so much for all your work in the gardens – your quiet dedication has reaped considerable benefits for us all.

I'm a bit of a gardening Neanderthal, but even I feel refreshed as soon as I drive into the gardens at the start of a session, or leave at the end of a session. All your hard work and fresh ideas have

been appreciated by me, and I am sure by all the other members of the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

I'll also miss your little mate who you often brought to visit whilst you were watering and weeding.

Cheers,  
Chris

### **POSITION VACANT**

With Jeff Aitchison moving to Westbrook in the near future, the position of Grounds Co-ordinator for the Toowoomba Bridge Club has now become vacant.

#### **Qualifications needed:**

*A love of gardening*

#### **Remuneration:**

*Probably nothing*

*(If you are lucky, a small honorarium at the AGM)*

#### **Responsibilities:**

*To ensure the gardens & grounds are kept tidy.*

*Co-ordinate with the Lawn Mowing Contractor*

*Ask the Committee to arrange working bees if needed.*

*If you are interested, please contact our President, Keith Jenkin.*

### **Maintenance Report**

New tiles have been installed outside the kitchen area and we are organizing a carpet layer to fix the carpet edges where the carpet meets the tiles.

I have 3 solar security lights installed on the 2 east corners of the building and one above the front door, they will come on automatically when somebody enters the parking areas at night.

I have been made aware that some pavers are very uneven on the corner of the smokers' area and that the paintwork outside is getting a bit grimy; these issues will be discussed at the next committee meeting to determine what action should be taken.



**Adrian Mayers**  
Maintenance Coordinator

### **Providore's Report**

I would like to thank everyone who helped me in the kitchen in the past year, especially those who supplied afternoon tea on various occasions, including sandwiches and cakes, etc.

I am looking forward to the New Year and I would encourage everyone interested in supplying sandwiches at various sessions. You will not be out of pocket as I will pay for any reasonable cost for sandwiches, providing dockets are produced. Please talk to me so I can have a roster drawn up. Please consider this as we all try to make the Club the best in the State.

Happy bridging.

**Keith Jenkin**  
Providore



### **Social Report**

The social committee is working hard to ensure discount rates for several of the performances held during the year at the Empire theatre. Once dates and costs are known, we will advertise on the Bulletin board and following newsletters.

Once a month coffee get-togethers, are held at the Zaraffa's coffee Cnr, North and Ruthven St. on the first of the month on Monday's at 10am, Tuesday's at 9am and lunch at noon Wednesday's. See you there.

Some people have indicated they would like to get together for a meal, or a movie etc. If you are interested, please contact Leonie. Those who would like to do the graveyard tour please contact Leonie also. Several people in our club are keen Gardeners, so if you want to get involved contact any of the committee.

Australia Day is on a Monday this year so get ready for tea and damper and scones for some Aussie spirit.

Miss Saigon. Will be performing Thursday 18 June 8pm, Friday 19th June 8pm, Sat 20 June 8pm and then on Sunday 21 June 2 pm. Groups of 6 or more will be \$30 p/p. Please indicate on bulletin board your desire to come and your performance preference. I will book when I have 6+ for any session.

Tombstone tours only 4 available this year and only during the day. Sat and Sun in May and September. \$5 cost.

The committee members are: Leonie Spence, Pam Gebbert, Beth Brown, Kim Nalder, Virginia Hathaway, Gwen Francis and Keith Jenkin.

### **Leonie Spence**

Social Committee Chairperson

## **Congress Convenor's Report**

First up, as we haven't played a Congress since my new tenure, then logically, I should have little, or nothing at all to report.

By the end of March we will have launched ourselves into a new year of Congresses. For a club with such a large membership, 400 plus, we would have to be among the top 6 clubs in the state. However, our attendance record for Home Congresses and special events, (Qld Wide Pairs, Nation Wide Pairs etc.), leaves a lot to be desired.

Novice Pairs or Novice Teams would have to be our number one challenge. We, as a club, should be tackling these Congresses vigorously because most of our club players are in this category. (Approx 74% of members are below the 100 Master Point cut off for Novice Events). I'll discuss this topic in a later newsletter as we get nearer Novice Events. I'd also like to discuss, at a later point in time, Club members approach to the QWP and the NWP events.

Moving on to our next Congress, The Toowoomba Butler Pairs on 29<sup>th</sup> March this year. I will be posting the entry on the QBA site sometime in the next few weeks, after the entry form has been approved by the Director, and then announced by session Directors, I'll start taking entries. For those who do not know, BUTLER PAIRS is a scoring system, not a movement. It is not my favourite system to play, but it does reward you for good bidding and card play.

As in all Congresses, you will never meet the same pair twice and you will be drawn against the pair closest to you in scoring, (this is called a Swiss movement). Therefore, to sum up, if you are a pair playing well and having a good day then you will meet another pair, also playing well and having a good day. If things are not quite rosy for you, then you will be paired off against another

pair who are having a rough trot as well.

At the end of the day, no matter whether you are a local master or a grand master, we play bridge for the enjoyment and the company, and on the road home, Lorraine and I have a laugh at the hands we stuffed up and relive the hands we played well.

I hope you get as much enjoyment from your game of bridge as I do.

### **Robbie Fulton**

Congress Convenor

## **For the Directors**

One of the essential elements of the game of duplicate bridge is the Director who runs each bridge session. For most of our sessions the club uses playing Directors who, besides having come along for their own game of bridge, are volunteering their time and expertise to organise your game for you as well. All our Directors are accredited QBA Club Directors or higher (or are supervised trainees) and participate in ongoing training and development.

*The Laws of bridge are designed to define correct procedure and to provide an adequate remedy when there is a departure from correct procedure. They are primarily designed not as punishment for irregularities but rather for the rectification of situations where non-offenders may otherwise be damaged.*

***Players should be ready to accept gracefully any ruling, rectification or adjusted score awarded by the Director. This includes:***

- Sit where the Director tells you. The Director will choose the best movement for the room and will then attempt to "balance the field" which means ensuring there is a fair distribution of player strength NS and EW and spread the fast/slow players around the room. If there are two or more sections then this balance is even more critical. It is very poor form to pass running commentary on the Directors choice of movement, or seating arrangements.
- Accept, without argument, an artificial adjusted score (eg average, average+ or average-) if the Director rules that there is no time to play a board at the end of a round. This is not time for negotiation.

- Accept the immediate ruling of the Director after an established revoke. I often hear people arguing that they should get more or less tricks whilst the hand is still being played! Correct procedure is to play the hand and then call for the Director who then applies the automatic transfer of tricks. Then, and only then, may you consider whether your side suffered further damage as a direct result of the revoke – and if so, then the Director will then make a further adjustment.

Following on from this, it is highly improper to argue with the Director in any matter. If you have concerns with a ruling then you may appeal their judgement. If you are concerned with the Directing and/or conditions of play then you may speak to me after the event. Until then, Law 81A and 81B place the Director solely in charge of the session.

To help those players keen to learn more about the game, I will ensure that at each session the Director will have a spare Law Book at their table, which they will leave with you so that you can read the relevant ruling during the end of round break.

Our club has set procedures and forms to be completed if you wish to:

- **Appeal** a decision of the Director; or
- Report a possible **psyche** by yourself or by someone else at the table; or
- If you are unhappy with the **behaviour** of another player then you should report this immediately to the Director, or if the Director is involved or busy then report it to another Director. They will then attempt to remedy the situation, or will guide you if you need to lodge a complaint so that all the necessary information is recorded. Writing “a letter” sometime after the event is rarely in your best interests. By-Law 7 gives you further guidance on such matters and how to proceed and details the timeframes involved so that everyone gets a fair hearing.

If we all abide by the above then we will have an enjoyable time at each bridge session.

Happy bridging  
**Chris Snook**  
 Chief Tournament Director



## Winners are Grinners

The “Monthly Winner” awards are displayed on the noticeboard and on the club website. This is a good way to celebrate the high performing players in each session and also provide additional green masterpoints to those players who play regularly in club sessions. They are officially called “**multisession individual eclectic events**”.

### November Monthly Winners

|            |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Monday     | Bob Cheesman & Arthur Bilby      |
| Tuesday    | Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers   |
| Tuesday N  | Harvey Billing & Edwin Willey    |
| Wednesday  | Adrian Mayers & Henry Eastment   |
| Thursday N | John & Gabrielle Elich           |
| Friday     | Val McClement & Jackie Henderson |
| Saturday   | Adrian Mayers                    |

### December Monthly Winners

|            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday     | Arthur Bilby                   |
| Tuesday    | Adrian Mayers & Byron Longford |
| Tuesday N  | Chris Snook & Mohan Trada      |
| Wednesday  | Jackie Henderson               |
| Thursday N | Geoff Buckham & Dave Edwards   |
| Friday     | Ian Jesser                     |

### Invitational Days

As reported in the last newsletter and in the 2015 Bridge Diary, each month one session per “day” has been designated as an **Invitational Day**. In these sessions players are encouraged to play with members who are not one of their regular partners. The leading pair who are not regular partners will be awarded a free game voucher for them to use in any regular session at the club. If it is a Mitchell movement then the award goes to the top placed eligible pair NS and EW. If it is a one winner (Howell) movement then the top placed eligible pair. To celebrate the start of this new initiative, join me in congratulating:

#### Wednesday 7th January:

Pam Gebbett & Chris Evans  
 Denise Hartwig & Fleur Hopkins  
 Rhonda Dean & Mearon Geldard  
 Keith Jenkin & Jacqueline Henderson

#### Thursday Night 8th January:

Brenda Parry & Lawrence Price  
 Leonie Spence & Jean Bendall

Chris



## From the Bridge Diary

Some of our newer members may not be aware of how club competitions run and what the significance is of the name of some events. Here is a brief rundown.

### Col Martin Shield

Col Martin was a founding member of the original Toowoomba Bridge Club which was started in October 1959. Col was Senior Maths Teacher and Deputy Principal at Mount Lofty High School until his retirement in 1984. Throughout his time at the Toowoomba Bridge Club, Col was one of our most senior Club Directors and Masterpoint Secretary. He served many years on Management Committee. Col's main sessions in his latter years were Tuesday Nights, and it was a great privilege for me to take over Directing under Col's tutelage.

Col always stressed to me the importance of having multi-session green masterpoint events because the total number of green masterpoints in a year determines how many red masterpoint sessions a club will have. In his memory, we run the Col Martin Shield, which is a pairs event that runs over six Tuesday Nights in February and March. It is an eclectic event and your best four scores are added together to determine your overall placing. If you only play in four sessions then they all count, if you play in more, then you drop the worst scores.

It would be lovely to see an increase in table numbers for this event in keeping with Col's aims of increasing masterpoint awards to our members.

### Ivy Dahler Cup

Ivy Dahler was not only a highly successful player at international level but an important figure in administration, directing, organisation of major events and support for bridge in country areas.

After winning the Queensland Women's Pairs with Nancy Penfold in 1966, Ivy then maintained prominence in Queensland competition right through the 1970s and 1980s. She was a playing member of the Queensland Women's Teams in 1970, 1971, 1972, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1988 and non-playing captain in 1986 and 1987. She won the Queensland Open Pairs in 1978 (with Enid Busch) and the Queensland Women's Pairs in 1974 (with Gray Reynolds),

1976 and 1978 (with Fay Landy) and 1984 (with Rosemary Atherton). She won her last State event in 1998 when she was 76 (the Mixed Pairs with Neville Francis).

Ivy's contributions to bridge administration were even more significant as a National accredited Director with international experience. She directed at many events, most prominently, the Gold Coast Congress from its early days in the mid-1960s until 1985 (at which point she decided it was time for her to actually play in it for a change). She was also the Gold Coast Congress convenor in the early 1980s and a regular Director (and Chair of the Appeals Committee) at the National Open Teams in Canberra and other major national events. She also directed at the 1989 Bermuda Bowl held in Perth and was actively involved in setting up the 1985 Far East in Sydney.

Ivy also made major contributions to all the players and clubs around her, in running bridge classes, workshops or mentoring players.

The Ivy Dahler Cup is a pairs event that runs over three sessions on Tuesdays in March. Your scores for all three sessions are added together to determine the overall winner. You may play in one, two or all three sessions, but to be eligible for the overall award you must play in all three. If you plan to play all three sessions but at the last minute your partner is unavailable for one, then you are permitted one substitute player and can still be eligible. Each session and the overall awards are for red masterpoints. The Director will allocate seats to all players so that the field strength is "balanced" each week between NS and EW.

*In recognition of Ivy's support of newer players, there is also an Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs competition held in April and an Ivy Dahler Novice Teams competition held in June on Mondays. More about these later.*

### Friday Handicap Cup

This event runs over three sessions on Fridays in February. It is a pairs event open to all players. If you play in all three sessions then your scores are added together to determine placings and masterpoints. Then your score is adjusted by a "handicap" and these handicap results are used to determine the overall winner.

Your handicap is calculated as follows. First the

results of your last eight sessions are extracted, the best and worst result is removed, and the average of the remaining six is found. When determining handicap results, the scoring programme reduces the session result by applying a percentage of between 70% (stronger players) and 100% (weaker players), which is based on the player's past averages.

As an example, if you and your partner normally average 60%, then your handicap will be 66.67%. If you and your partner normally average 48% then your handicap will be 83.33%.

### **Perfect Teams**

This is a teams event that runs over three Thursday afternoons in March. Each team is comprised of four players, and in each week you will play with a different partner. After three weeks you have played one session with each of your team mates ... thus the name of Perfect Teams.

A teams event is played similar to regular pairs – you are dealt cards, you bid for a contract and you play to make the contract. The method of scoring is different. Your score is compared to one other table only ... your opponents. It does not matter what happens in the rest of the room.

If you sit NS, your EW opponents come and play against you, and you play and record the result for each board. Also, you send your EW team mates away to play against your NS opponents and they record their result. At the end of the match, you compare how well you scored on a board against the opposing team. The actual difference in score is converted to a new scoring scale called IMPs (International Match Points). This tends to flatten out the scores so that you don't automatically lose a match because of one bad (perhaps doubled) board. Don't worry, all the scoring is straight forward once you get started and the scoring software will do the most of the work anyway.

Key tactics in teams scoring is to make sure you always make your contract. There is very little reward for one overtrick, so you never risk a contract like you might in regular pairs. Many players (including myself) prefer teams' events.

Why don't you consider adding these events to your bridge calendar and share in the history of the Toowoomba Bridge Club?

Cheers  
Chris

## **PATRONS DAY**

### **SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2015**

### **GRADED PAIRS EVENT**

Our Patron, Clive Berghofer, has donated \$1000 for Prize Money and the club is contributing another \$500. The field will be graded into three sections to ensure you are playing in a level playing field.

There will be prize money for each field:

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b> | <b>\$250</b> |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> | <b>\$150</b> |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b> | <b>\$100</b> |

For those members who are fairly new to the Club, Clive Berghofer helped make our club house a reality by contributing all the site preparation and foundation work (saving us thousands) plus paying for our air-conditioning. He did this knowing he would not get naming rights so there was no public recognition of the help he gave us. We are very fortunate to have him as our Patron, so let's make this day a special one.



## **OPEN DAY**

### **Sunday 15th February 2015**

Planning is well under way for our next Open Day, and the QBA is subsidising us to the tune of \$700. This will be used to subsidise the cost of putting a full-page advertisement in the Chronicle.

*However, the best people to promote this day are our members*

**Flyers and brochures are available for members to give to members of other organisations you belong to, friends you think might be interested, family, put on community notice boards, etc.**

**These will be available on the entry table – please help yourself.**

Glenys Clift





## NEW HAPPENINGS FOR 2015

### Strategic Plan

Your Committee will be forming a Sub-Committee at our next meeting (Wed 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2015) with the object of producing a Strategic Plan for our Club.

What is a Strategic Plan? A Strategic Plan is a document that defines the short term and long term goals to enable our club to thrive and meet our members' needs. It is primarily a document to give this Committee and future Committees targets to aim for.

If you would like to contribute your ideas, you are more than welcome to use the suggestion box.

### Nationwide Pairs

This is a competition run by the ABF twice a month, which used to be held on Saturdays. While you get your normal green points, the results are compared to all the clubs participating and if you end up in the top half of the field, you will be given red points. Instead of being run on Saturdays, as in the past, it will now be shared amongst all our sessions on an ad-hoc basis.

### Invitation Days

|                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Monday         | Last Monday of the month   |
| Tuesday Day    | 2nd Tuesday of the month   |
| Tuesday Night  | 2nd Tuesday of the month   |
| Wednesday      | 1st Wednesday of the month |
| Thursday       | To be announced            |
| Thursday Night | 2nd Thursday of the month  |
| Friday         | Last Friday of the month   |

To make it easier for members to invite some of our newer players, we will be setting up an Invitation Day Register. This will enable players who only play in the Restricted Sessions to put their names down for a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday Invitation Day.

Members are too wary to ask our top players in case they get knocked back or don't feel they are good enough. This will make it easier for our more experienced players to ask a beginner.



## Miscellaneous

### 1. Charity Raffle.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the committee approved the running of a raffle in support of research for an Ebola virus cure. The press has been very quiet about the Ebola virus recently, but it continues and there is no cure at present. Medecin sans Frontiere are doing research into the disease. Maiduguri – the town in Bornu Province, Northern Nigeria is the place 230 young women were kidnapped, in the name of Allah! – it is also the town where Sally (my daughter) spent her early childhood. Sally has brought to life in paintings, scenes of Maiduguri; and one of these paintings is being raffled to raise money to send to Medecin sans Frontiere. The painting is on display in the clubrooms. If anyone is interested, there are six other pictures for sale. The raffle will be drawn on Patron's Day and tickets are one dollar each.

### 2. The Birthday Club.

I am delighted to say that we have recommenced our Birthday Club and I have started sending greetings this year. Gremlins creep into the best planned scheme and should this happen I would be grateful to be told.

### 3. Recycling.

The Toowoomba Regional Council has upgraded its recycling operations and can now cope with the little white cups that are near the water cooler. It's important that we are diligent in our housekeeping.

### 4. Partnership Arranging.

I am happy to continue finding partners for members, just so long as you tell me if you find one for yourself before I get back to you. Happy New Year to you all.

**Pam Gebbett**



## NOTES FROM THE TEACHING TEAM

In the past, we have encouraged new players to do the lessons twice. The first time is like learning a new language and on the second round, it hopefully starts to make more sense. But with Ian Jesser's Supervised Play session proving so popular with our newer (and some not so new) players, we felt it was prudent to re-think our lesson format.

As both Trudy and Denise, helped by Annette Sullivan had spent a fair amount of time at the end of 2013 revamping the lesson notes and hands, the thought of doing it all again was not exactly like winning lotto. But hopefully what we have done will make it easier and more enjoyable for people.

Byron Longford has now joined the teaching team and as well as running a new restricted session will be helping with the beginner lessons.

Like many other bridge clubs such as Toowong, Northern Suburbs, Arana, Beenleigh and the Qld Contract Bridge Club all our lessons are FREE for both new people and any members who wish to do a refresher. However, sessions where a lesson may be given and players earn master points attract the normal table fees.

Most people who join our club do so for social reasons and while it would be nice to do what Byron has done, be a Bronze Life Master in 4 years, most people aim to play a reasonable game of bridge and not let our partner down too much. (Mostly we let ourselves down!).

So hopefully those of our members who want to improve will find ample opportunity with the new format.



### The Teaching Team

Trudy Dunne, Denise Hartwig, Ian Jesser, Byron Longford and Glenys Clift.



## TEACHING PROGRAM FOR 2015

### BEGINNER LESSONS:

#### 8 WEEK BEGINNER COURSE

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH at 9AM  
with Trudy Dunne

THURSDAY NIGHT 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH at 7PM  
with Denise Hartwig

Introduction to Bridge

Opening 1 No-Trump

Stayman over 1NT

Opening the majors with a Fit

Opening the minors

Opening Balanced Hands with 12-14 or 18-20

Both sides in the bidding,  
Overcalls

Both sides in the bidding,  
Take-Out Doubles

This will be followed by 4 weeks Practice Play with Byron Longford (AM) and Denise Hartwig (PM).

### ADVANCED LESSONS:

#### 6 WEEK ADVANCED COURSE

WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY at 9AM  
With Glenys Clift

THURSDAY NIGHT 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY at 7PM  
With Denise Hartwig

Both sides in the bidding Negative Doubles

Opening 2NT

Opening Strong Twos

Weak Two's

Pre-Emptive Bids at the Three Level

Looking for Slam

This will be followed by 4 weeks Practice Play.

Practice Play helps reinforce basic bidding and gives new players tips on card play.



## SUPERVISED PLAY

with Ian Jesser  
WEDNESDAY 8.45

Players who come to Supervised play will be given help with the bidding and tips on playing the cards. You are free to consult your notes or cheat sheets. This is a great opportunity to learn and progress in a friendly environment.

The focus of supervised play is to reinforce the basics although more advanced topics may be discussed on request with a handout.

You can come with or without a partner. A printout of the hand records will be available at the end of play.

| <b>TOPICS AVAILABLE FOR SUPERVISED PLAY</b> |
|---|
| Responses to 15-17 NT                       |
| Playing NT promoting winners                |
| Responses to Weak Twos "feature showing"    |
| Counting Losers with Strong Hands           |
| Opening with The Rule of 20                 |
| Responses to a Take-Out Double              |
| When to draw trumps                         |
| Doubling 1NT                                |
| Using Negative Doubles                      |
| Transfers over 2NT                          |
| Both sides in the bidding & Vulnerability   |
| <b>ADVANCED TOPICS</b>                      |
| Cue Bidding the opposition suit             |
| Michaels Cue Bid                            |
| Unusual NT                                  |
| Re-opening the bidding - Balancing          |

## IMPROVER LESSONS & RESTRICTED PLAY:

(no partner required – BYO lunch)

THURSDAY 10AM -2.30PM  
With Byron Longford

The following program starts on the 8<sup>th</sup> January:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Lesson 1: | Introduction to Better Bridge. <i>This is a must for ALL Players Including Etiquette and other "Do's &amp; Don'ts".</i>         |
| Lesson 2: | Understanding System Cards. <i>Understanding System and system card are vital to Partnerships.</i>                              |
| Lesson 3: | Opening Hands at 1 level. <i>When should I open? Can I open with less than 12 HCP.</i>  |
| Lesson 4: | Opening Weak Hands and Feature Show. <i>How to determine if I should open a hand weak Am I too strong or weak to open weak?</i> |
| Lesson 5: | Bidding 4 card suits up the line. <i>Never miss a fit.</i>  |
| Lesson 6: | Barrier Principle. <i>How to show strength and shape.</i>   |
| Lesson 7: | Leads against Suit Contract. <i>How to determine what my BEST lead is from bidding and my hand.</i>                             |
| Lesson 8: | Leads against No Trumps. <i>Do I always lead Partners Suit?</i>   |
| Lesson 9: | Signals and Discards. <i>Let partner know what you want him to lead.</i>  |

There will be a break while the Gold Coast Congress is on between the 20<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February.



## Thanks to Our Sponsors

A reminder to members that we enjoy sponsorship support from the following companies:

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