



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

March 2011

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President's Report

Queensland continues to rebuild after the terrible damage caused by the floods in January, and it is pleasing to note the Queensland bridge community raised over \$45,000 to help this worthy cause. Closer to home, on 30th January the Toowoomba Bridge Club hosted a one day pairs event with support from players from all the bridge clubs in the local region. The proceeds of \$3,220.65 were donated via Lifeline to the local community.

Also, raffles were conducted during the recent Gold Coast Congress, so the contribution from the bridge community will continue to grow. A significant number of Toowoomba people played at the 50th Gold Coast Congress and although none made it to the winners podium, I am sure they all had a good time and did well on occasion. The Teams competition was the largest ever with 462 teams playing at the one time – that's 1850 players and 14 Directors at the one time.

Back at the club, Lessons, Supervised Play and Restricted Play sessions are now in full swing.

Many of these players have “graduated” to play in regular sessions, so please be gentle and make them welcome.

Our Project Manager, Ray Moore, will report on the details separately but it is pleasing to note positive progress in the Car Park project. This project will consume considerable club funds but will also provide us with desperately needed additional parking space. Please be patient and continue to park sensibly until the car park extension is complete.

In summary, your club continues to grow and it's resources improve; and I extend heartfelt thanks to the efforts of all those members who generously volunteer their time.

Happy bridging

Chris Snook ☺
President



Lifeline General Manager for Darling Downs and South West Queensland, Derek Tuffield thanks Chris Snook for the support the club has given Lifeline following the recent disastrous floods in Toowoomba, the Lockyer Valley and on the Downs.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Chris Snook
VICE-PRESIDENT	Floyd Wilson
SECRETARY	Annette Sullivan
TREASURER	Lorraine Sutton
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Glenys Clift Pam Gebbett Denise Hartwig Bruce Hinchliffe Carol Lombardo Ray Moore Hugh Robinson Floyd Wilson
MASTERPOINT SECRETARY	Chris Snook
PROVIDOR	Carol Lombardo
CONGRESS CONVENOR	Denise Hartwig
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Glenys Clift
QBA DELEGATES	Chris Snook/ Denise Hartwig
ZONE REPRESENTATIVE	Chris Snook/ Denise Hartwig
PRESS OFFICER	Kim Nicoll
LIBRARIAN	Henry Eastment
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Floyd Wilson
CLUB TEACHER	Glenys Clift
MEMBERSHIP BADGES	Pam Gebbett
TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR	Bruce Hinchliffe
GARDENING CO-ORDINATOR	Lise Moore
CARPARK PROJECT MANAGER	Ray Moore
MAINTENANCE CHAIRPERSON	Will Higgins
HOUSEKEEPER	Bette Flamstead

Three sub-committees coordinate much of the work in the clubrooms:

Tournament Sub-committee: Talk to your Director or a Committee member about the activities of this sub-committee, which cover all facets of bridge play at the club.

Social Sub-committee: This group helps organise all the social events at the club such as Melbourne Cup party, Christmas party, Birthday party and perhaps a few other special events through the year.

Maintenance Sub-committee: This sub-committee, led by Will Higgins, looks after the building and surrounding gardens. If you notice something needs repair, then let Will know (he tends to play Tuesday nights and Saturdays) or add a note to the "maintenance register" next to the results noticeboard. Tell the Director if you think the matter is more urgent.

New Master Rankings

Congratulations are extended to the following members who have achieved new Master rankings since the last newsletter:

<u>GRADUATE MASTER</u>	Richard Behrend Diana Drummond Judy Edwards Trevor Glasby Judy Hinchliffe
<u>CLUB MASTER</u>	Beth Brown
<u>LOCAL MASTER</u>	Judith Glasby Byron Longford
<u>**LOCAL MASTER</u>	Glennis Cowell Roger Ley
<u>REGIONAL MASTER</u>	Bruce Hinchliffe
<u>STATE MASTER</u>	Denise Hartwig
<u>NATIONAL MASTER</u>	Lennie Goodson



WELL DONE!



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.



*Don't worry about tomorrow,
you did that yesterday*

Membership Secretary's Report



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members who have recently joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

Gabrielle Erlic
John Erlic
Diann Fenwick
Joan Harms
Helen Henderson
Julie Johnston
Helen Lobwein
Bill Purcell

Happy Bridging!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Twelve months ago when we lodged our Home Membership list with the Australian Bridge Federation, we had 323 home members plus two Junior members and 65 Alternate members.

This month we will be lodging 350 names as Home members. The number of Alternate and Junior members remains the same giving us a total of 417 members. The most common feedback I get from new members is how welcome they have been made to feel; so, well done everyone.

Glenys Clift
Membership Secretary

Distribution of Newsletters

Some people seem unaware of why they do or don't receive hard copy of the club newsletter.

Newsletters are made available to members in one of two ways, ie: hard copy or electronic copy.

Contrary to some people's belief, the electronic version is not emailed to the member. Electronic versions of the newsletters are placed on the club's website (www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au) and may

either be read on line or downloaded/printed from your own computer.

Members were asked some time ago to indicate if they were happy to read or download the newsletter from the website – this saves the club printing and postage costs. Many members took up this option.

The procedure that has been adopted for hard copies has been to leave them in the club rooms for about a week to enable members attending session during that week to pick up their copy personally – again saving considerably on postage. After a week, any copies that have not been picked up are mailed to members.

With the passage of time, it appears that some people have forgotten that they nominated not to receive a hard copy and are looking for their copy amongst the ones left for members who nominated to receive a hard copy.

If members wish to change their method of receiving the newsletter, could they please let me know so that the appropriate change can be made to the mailing lists.

Treasurer's Report

Bridge playing at the club has increased by 7.4% for the year from August 2010 to February 2011 compared to the corresponding period last year.

Wonderful effort from everyone.

Happy bridging.

Lorraine Sutton
Treasurer



Comment from Chris: As at the end of February, the club had \$3029.24 in the Congress account and \$34,068.16 in the General account. Of course, we do have to pay all your ABF and QBA levies at the end of March (approx \$8800). Our monthly bills are around \$4500-\$6500, so we have a reserve of five months (which is good for a community organisation such as ours). We also have \$100,000 in a term deposit which is a Sinking Fund to be used for future refurbishment or major projects (such as the car park).

Providore's Report

Everything seems to be running smoothly in the kitchen thanks to Elizabeth helping me on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Our next event will be the Novice Pairs on Sunday the 27th of March; we will be looking for volunteers to bake some savouries or sweets. All contributions will be greatly appreciated by the hard working players!

We will also be looking for baked donations for the three day Congress starting on the 30th of April, ending on the 2 of May.

I am sure we are all looking forward to this Congress.

Thanks again to all those people who help out weekly bringing cakes and savouries.



Carol Lombardo
Providore

Congress Convenor's Report

The Club's first event for the year, the Novice Pairs is fast approaching. It is being held on Sunday 27th March is open to all players under 100 Masterpoints. I'd like to draw to the player's attention that out of those eligible players, the majority are actually under 50 Masterpoints! Thus, I hope to see a lot of players from the Monday afternoon and Thursday night sessions there. Entry forms are available at the club or you can phone me direct on 0432-838-022 to nominate.

Entry forms are also available now for the Toowoomba Pairs & Teams commencing on 30th April. Early entry forms and payment would be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Events

Dalby Swiss Pairs	20 March
Toowoomba Novice Pairs	27 March
Toowoomba Pairs & Teams	30 April – 02 May

Denise Hartwig
Congress Convenor

Club Teacher's Report

NEXT BRIDGE LESSONS

The bridge classes which are currently in progress will finish on the 11th and 12th May. Trudy Dunne will be starting the second lot of beginner lessons on Wednesday the 1st June. If you have a friend who would like to learn bridge and has missed the earlier class, they can contact Trudy on 4639-2447.



WORKSHOPS

MARCH: THURSDAY 31ST 9AM
Transfers after 1NT opening

The advantage of this system is that when you end up playing in a suit, the stronger hand stays hidden and you have a solution how to show a five card major and 8 HCP compared to normal Standard bidding where bidding 2 of a major is weak <8 and bidding 3 of a major promises 10 HCP.

DATES FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OUR NOTICE BOARD IN THE ENTRY FOYER EACH MONTH AND ON OUR WEBSITE.

APRIL: Cappelletti overcalls after 1NT

The advantage of this system is that it gives you a defence to 1NT bid by the opposition with a variety of hands.

MAY: 2♣ Checkback

This convention allows you to find out if your partner has 12, 13, or 14 points when they rebid 1NT. When you have 11 points this can solve your dilemma as to whether to bid on to game.

JUNE: Splinter Raises

Splinter bids are used to show good support for the last bid suit and a singleton in another suit. It is a game force bid with slam possibilities
Plus: **Roman Key Card Blackwood**

JULY: Drury

This convention allows you to find out if your partner opened light in 3rd or 4th position, or if they had normal opening values.
Plus: **End Plays – strip and throw technique**

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Provided there is enough interest, I am happy to run a five week course on Multi Twos.

Cheers,
Glenys Clift
Club Teacher



Project Manager's Report

Car Park Extension

Planning approval was finally given early this month and Engineering Plans are being prepared for Council. Tenders/quotes will be called by the end of March. Commencement of works will be delayed until after the May Congress to avoid parking problems. In the mean time, as much of the new landscaping as possible will be carried out. We already have in hand a lot of the plants and shrubs. We need any Council free plant vouchers if you have any you will not be using.

Final plans will be put up on the NOTICE BOARD when available. To see what the paving will look like with grass growing through, have a look at the Dentist's car park at the corner of Margaret and Clifford Streets [Withers].

Ray Moore
Project Manager

Garden News

Since the heavy rain, a small working bee was held over two weekends to weed and replace any plants, or dead from wet feet. [We did start with drought resistant plants]. Thanks to Noela Cribb, Joyce Ziesemer, Ralph as always and Henry for cleaning up. In addition, pruning and trimming was carried out.

We have purchased some of the special trees and plants demanded by the Council from the P.C.Y.C Sunday market and used all of the Council vouchers we had to obtain 23 shrubs from the Nursery, saving at least \$100. We would appreciate more vouchers.

Lise Moore
Gardening Coordinator

Individual Fun Day Saturday 21st May 2011

We introduced Fun Days as a way to welcome to the club new members who had just finished classes. They are not days for the serious bridge player but rather an opportunity for people to mix and allow our more experienced members to make people who have just finished lessons feel welcome.

In an individual event you will normally move to a table and play one board partnering each of the three people at that table. Then you move to a new table with three new people, and partner each of them for one board. It's all a lot easier if everyone plays the same system – obviously the one taught in the recent lessons.

There will be a notice going up at the beginning of May for people who would like to participate to put their names down. It is important that we have a lovely mix of new and experienced players. Running an Individual movement is not easy as special guide cards need to be prepared in advance – but the positive response of all participants makes it all worthwhile.

Let's make a special effort for afternoon tea and perhaps have time to socialise and have a little drink afterwards.

Cheers,
Chris Snook

Winners are Grinners

You might have noticed "Monthly Winner" awards 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. Here is how it works.

They are officially called "**multisession individual eclectic events**".

- They are a **multisession** event combining the overall scores of all your sessions on a given day in the month that have not already been counted in other events.
- They are an **individual** event so that you are not locked out of a monthly award because

you are a social butterfly who plays with different people. If you happen to play with the same partner all the time and win then you will share the combined masterpoints for first and second.

- They are an **eclectic** event which means that your best X scores are counted out of Y sessions. In a typical month there might be 4 days included, and your 3 of these scores are counted. Thus you can miss one session or have a bad day and still be in the monthly competition.

January Monthly Winners

Monday Byron Longford
 Tuesday Jean Crandell & Peg Alcock
 Tuesday pm Roy Constantine & Henry Eastment
 Wednesday Pat Penberthy
 Thursday Henry Eastment
 Thursday pm Judy Hinchliffe
 Friday Laurie-Marie McRoberts
 Saturday Laurie-Marie McRoberts

February Monthly Winners

Monday Floyd Wilson & Majella Wilson
 Tuesday Jean Crandell & Peg Alcock
 Wednesday Jackie Henderson & Glenys Clift
 Thursday Roy Constantine & Henry Eastment
 Thursday pm Bruce Hinchliffe & Judy Hinchliffe
 Saturday Robbie Fulton & Lorraine Sutton

Col Martin Shield

Liz Zeller & Eileen Josey

Friday Handicap Cup

Ray Moore & Lise Moore

Have a Laugh!

A tour bus driver is driving a bus load of seniors down a highway when he is tapped on his shoulder by a little old lady.

She offers him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munches up.

After about 15 minutes, she taps him on his shoulder again and she hands him another handful of peanuts.

She repeats this gesture about five more times.

When she is about to hand him another batch again, he asks the little old lady, "Why don't you eat the peanuts yourself?"

"We can't chew them because we've got no teeth," she replied.

The puzzled driver asks,

"Why do you buy them then?"

The old lady replied, "We just love the chocolate around them."

HIDDEN SIDE OF BRIDGE

North	
♠ J 9 4 3 2	
♥ Void	
♦ A 4 3 2	
♣ 5 4 3 2	
West	East
♠ 10 8	♠ K 7
♥ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4	♥ 2
♦ Void	♦ K Q J 10 9 8
♣ Q	♣ K J 10 9
South	
♠ A Q 6 5	
♥ A 3	
♦ 7 6 5	
♣ A 8 7 6	
Contract 4♠ by South: Lead ♥K.	

Can you make the above contract? Solution is on the back page.

Don't lie with a misfit!!!

A common problem that confronts us is when we have a normal opening hand but the auction quickly reveals we cannot find an (8 card) fit with partner. You don't like where partner is going and partner doesn't like where you are going, so one of us "rescues" to NT. This is rarely a good idea.

Example 1. You are West and are dealt the hand as shown, and the auction proceeds without interference from the opposition:

<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
S Q752	S K4
H 7	H KJ9854
D AKT32	D 84
C AJ7	C Q62

West: 1D An honest 5 card suit with 14 HCP
 East: 1H Equally honest with 4+ H and 5+ HCP

West: 1S 12+ HCP and 4S
 East: 2H East really has no choice but to repeat the long heart suit.

West: It is here that West often correctly eliminates most poor calls but then falls at the final hurdle:

3H Never, there's nowhere near enough HCP

2S Never, partner has already denied a fit.

3C Never, not enough points to force partner to game in NT.

This now leaves only two calls:

2NT This will sound much too strong for partner who will invariably think you are inviting to game and will raise with 8-9 HCP. You probably only make 6 tricks!

PASS Now, we see the lesser of all these poor calls is to pass and leave partner at the 2 level.

The motto is to avoid NT when you have a void or a singleton.

Example 2. A more obvious case of showing preference.

<u>East</u>
S KQ643
H T3
D JT93
C J3

Again West is Dealer and there is no opposition but this time you are East.

West: 1H An honest 5 card suit with 12+ HCP

East: 1S You tell the truth promising 4S and 5+ HCP

West: 2C Showing at least 4C but now a minimum hand with 12-15HCP. This also denies 4S for you and shows a dislike for 1NT.

So, we have a weak partnership (between 19-22HCP) and no established fit. Again, we'll look at all bids in order.

East: Pass Never, you might only have a 4-2 fit with partner in C

2D Never – remember a new suit by you here will be forcing for one round.

2S Never – partner has offered you two suit and will most likely have a shortage in your spades. You might repeat spades with a 6 card suit, but not 5!

Ok, so what is left is the two suits that partner did offer to us and we can guarantee partner has 5H but might only have 4C. So the possibility is for a 5-2 fit in Hearts or 4-2 in Clubs. Thus the correct answer is to show partner that you prefer their first named suit by calling Hearts. You **show preference**:

2H

The motto is that a "preference" bid shows all the strength of a PASS, but is moving the partnership to a safer contract.

Note: If you play a simple system and tell the truth, then East's 1S call has already denied having 3 Hearts so West will not get carried away with the delayed support.

If I have a strong responder hand (eg 10+ HCP) then I might show a side suit instead of immediately showing support for partners Hearts. I do this because I know I can jump in the bidding later if I choose to show delayed (real) support for Hearts.

Keep it simple and tell the truth.

Chris Snook

(and the thud you just heard was the sound of all my regular playing partners hitting the floor after fainting!!).

Some Prize Winners from the recent Warwick Congress.



Rae Capon and Carmel Stephens.



Mavis Simpson and Denise Hartwig.



Laurie-Marie McRoberts and Judy Briggs.

HIDDEN SIDE OF BRIDGE

1. Ruff with ♠2 in dummy and play ♥A from hand.
2. Draw trumps by way of a spade finesse.
3. Cash ♣A.
4. Play ♥3 and discard ♦2 from dummy.
5. West has to play a heart, on which discard a diamond from dummy and a club from hand.
6. West has to play another heart, and again discard a diamond from dummy and a club from hand, leaving:

♠ J 9											
♥ —											
♦ A											
♣ 5 4 3											
♠ —		♠ —									
♥ 9 8 7 6 5 4	<table border="1" style="border: none; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♥ —
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♦ —		♦ K Q J									
♣ —		♣ K J 10									
	♠ 6 5										
	♥ —										
	♦ 7 6 5										
	♣ 8										

7. Now West once again has to lead a heart – trump in dummy and discard a club from hand.
- A. *If East discards a diamond on the 8th trick:*
8. Cash ♦A.
9. Ruff a club in hand.
10. Ruff a diamond in dummy (establishing the last diamond).
11. Ruff a club in hand and cash your winning diamond.
- B. *If East discards a club on the 8th trick:*
8. Ruff a club.
9. Cash ♦A.
10. Ruff a club (establishing the last club).
11. Ruff a diamond and cash your winning club.