



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

November 2010

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## President's Report



Our clubs 29<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. At this meeting Ray Moore and Bruce Hinchliffe stood down from the positions of acting Treasurer and Vice-President respectively, and Joyce Ziesemer and Henry Eastment

from Management Committee positions. All have made excellent contributions to the management of our club, often with many hours of work behind the scenes, and we thank them for all their good work.

A new committee was elected with myself as President, Annette Sullivan continuing as Secretary, Lorraine Sutton taking on the role of Treasurer and Floyd Wilson as Vice-President. Carol Lombardo and Hugh Robinson are welcome additions as committee members. Denise Hartwig, Pam Gebbett, Glenys Clift, Ray Moore and Bruce Hinchliffe have continued their involvement with the management committee from 2010. Also elected to positions were Chris Snook as Masterpoint Secretary, Denise Hartwig as Congress Convenor and Carol Lombardo as Providore. These new Office Bearers and new Management Committee contain a wealth of managerial and bridge experience and I am sure

they will continue the good work of the past few years in further developing our wonderful club.

I have received agreement from the Management Committee to reform a Social Sub-Committee for the club, to improve communication between sessions and to help organise our major events. I am looking for one volunteer from each session to sit on this committee, and the Providore will be ex-officio a member as well. The primary role of each member will be to:

- (1) Promote upcoming social events at their session and to coordinate entry lists from the players at that session;
- (2) Provide help for the major social functions and/or coordinate helpers from their session for that function; and
- (3) Propose new social events as appropriate (eg Race Days, charity days, etc).

Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to all of the volunteers of the club who: deal boards for each session, direct sessions of bridge, prepare the room and kitchen before play, cleanup the room after play, look after the gardens, clean the gutters, water the gardens, mow the grass, help with the restricted and supervised play sessions, shop for the kitchen, cook the cakes and biscuits; make sandwiches; buy cakes and donuts; replenish the table supplies; sharpen pencils; wash the tablecloths; and the dozens of other important jobs that I have not yet mentioned. The club runs as well as it does and we all get to enjoy our bridge because of your efforts. **So well done and thankyou!!!**

**Chris Snook** ☺  
President

## Welfare Officer

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

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Chris Snook
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Floyd Wilson
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Annette Sullivan
<b>TREASURER</b>	Lorraine Sutton
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	Glenys Clift Pam Gebbett Denise Hartwig Bruce Hinchliffe Carol Lombardo Ray Moore Hugh Robinson Floyd Wilson
<b>MASTERPOINT SECRETARY</b>	Chris Snook
<b>PROVIDOR</b>	Carol Lombardo
<b>CONGRESS CONVENOR</b>	Denise Hartwig
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	Glenys Clift
<b>QBA DELEGATES</b>	Chris Snook Denise Hartwig
<b>ZONE REPRESENTATIVES</b>	Chris Snook Denise Hartwig
<b>PRESS OFFICER</b>	Kim Nicoll
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	Henry Eastment
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	Floyd Wilson
<b>CLUB TEACHER</b>	Glenys Clift
<b>MEMBERSHIP BADGES</b>	Pam Gebbett
<b>TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR</b>	Bruce Hinchliffe
<b>GARDENING CO-ORDINATOR</b>	Lise Moore
<b>MAINTENANCE CHAIRPERSON</b>	Will Higgins
<b>HOUSEKEEPER</b>	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 and Fundraising 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 all of the building and surrounding gardens. If you notice something needs repair, then let Will know 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:

### GRADUATE MASTER

Geoff Buckham  
Josh Davenport  
Kaye Fisher  
Marie Newbury  
John Oxenham  
Ann Robertson  
Keith Jenkin  
Ron Newbury  
Jack Lloyd  
Bunny Powne

### CLUB MASTER

Barry Copley  
Rhonda Duck  
Lesley-Ann Parry  
Lynette Power  
Byron Longford  
Anne Arnold  
Suzanne Brazier  
Judy Desjardins  
Joe Geiger  
Lesley Meyer

### LOCAL MASTER

Elizabeth Goodchild  
John Hede  
Ann Klibbe  
Rita Lyons

### \*\*LOCAL MASTER

Denise Hartwig  
Anneke Bierenbroodspot  
Gail Blencoe

### REGIONAL MASTER

Carmen Powell

### STATE MASTER

Carmen Powell

### \*STATE MASTER

Laurie McRoberts  
Barbara Wippell  
Elizabeth Zeller

### NATIONAL MASTER

Robert Fulton  
Ian Jesser  
Katherine Weaver

### LIFE MASTER

Merna Atkins

### BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Chris Snook



**WELL DONE!**



## 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.

Elwyn Capel  
Patricia Ford  
Kevin Hansel  
Mary Rehburg  
Phyllis Strong

Happy Bridging.

### MEMBERSHIP SUBS

It is that time of year again. Membership Subs are due by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 and can be paid any time from now on. Home Membership is \$43 and Alternate Membership is \$20.

Subs can be paid to our Treasurer Lorraine Sutton, our Secretary Annette Sullivan, any committee member or Director. DO NOT include your subscription money with your table money. You need to go to the office and get a receipt. Last year we had some "interesting" times to say the least, tracking down people who had paid their subs with their table money, didn't get a receipt and their money was recorded as table fees. Please ensure you are given a receipt from the Membership receipt book when you pay as this is your only proof of payment (and our only record).

In all fairness, to be eligible for the birthday club, your subs need to be paid by the first week of March and any paid after we have lodged our list with the ABF will not qualify until the following year.

### GIFT VOUCHERS FOR XMAS

If any member would like to give their partner or another player a small Xmas gift, the club can do gift vouchers for a free game similar to the birthday voucher with the recipient's name on it. It would be valid for 12 months and obviously, they would cost \$5.

To purchase gift vouchers, contact our Secretary, Annette Sullivan.

## MONDAY BRIDGE

Monday bridge in its current format will finish on the 6<sup>th</sup> December - the Monday before the Xmas party. This is to give a break to all the people who make it possible by coming as a fill-in and helper. I would like to thank Peg Alcock, Judith Shearer, Judith Higgins, Betty Steele and Zara Clemesha for volunteering and making this afternoon the great success it has been.

However, this will be replaced by Holiday Bridge. It will still remain a restricted session up to 50 masterpoints BUT you will need to organize a partner before you come.

Supervised Play will start again on the first Monday in February, 2011.



Cheers,  
**Glenys Clift**  
Membership Secretary/Club Teacher



## Treasurer's Report

I would like to remind everyone that renewal of annual Membership fees is due **before** 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2011. At the last AGM it was determined the ordinary membership remain the same at \$43.00. So please start paying your fees.

The club, thanks to everyone's efforts, is in a very sound financial position. The club now has \$100,000 invested in a Term Deposit, of which some of the funds will be used to pay for the new car park extension to commence next year.

Social bridge playing at the club has increased by 14% for August/September/October this year compared to the 3 months last year. Congress entry fees are up 12.5% on last year. Wonderful effort from everyone.

Happy bridging.



Lorraine Sutton,  
**Treasurer**



## Providore's Report

Firstly, I would like to thank all the wonderful club members who have contributed cakes, savouries and sandwiches to the kitchen for our afternoon teas, Swiss Teams Day and Melbourne Cup. I appreciate your help and support.

The Melbourne Cup was quite a successful day, most club members dressed up which was quite fun to see. Even though most of us did not manage to pick a winning horse, the day was a fun day.

The CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on Saturday Dec 11. The lunch will be a 3 meat Classic Spit Roast Menu. There will be a choice of salads, potatoes, bread rolls and desserts of mud cake and pavlova. Club Members are not asked to bring anything on the day. A social bridge game will be played after lunch for anyone who wants to stick around.

As we can only cater for 120 people on the day it is important to book with Carol before the 1st of December as the booking will be closed on that day. The cost for the lunch is \$12.00. My phone numbers are 4630-1487 or 0412-007-783, please feel free to phone me at anytime.

The kitchen has a few containers left behind by club members. If you are missing a container please have a look to see if your container is in the kitchen.

Also if you want to leave special food in the kitchen pantry please feel free to do so, but please put your name and date on the container as some things have been forgotten and have spoiled.

Lastly I would like to thank everyone for their help and support to the kitchen.

### PLEASE NOTE

**Elizabeth's last day over the holidays will be 22 December. She will return on 10 January to again prepare afternoon teas.**

**You may like to bring your own cakes or sandwiches over that time. Biscuits, tea and coffee will be provided as usual.**

Thank you  
**Carol Lombardo**  
Providore



## Librarian's Report

### Re-Cataloguing the Library

I have re-catalogued the books and DVDs in the Library and they are now identified by a sticker on their spine as follows.

Each book now is catalogued using the first three characters of the Author's name and a number. If there is more than one copy of the book in the Library, this number is followed by a point and the number of the copy. For example, a book with the sticker KLI 2.3 is by an author whose surname starts with KLI (probably Klinger) and it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> book by Klinger in the Library.

Each DVD now has a sticker with its number after the letters DVD, If additional copies of DVDs are purchased, they will have a point followed by a number as for books.

All the Borrowing Cards have been amended in line with the above.

A special thanks to all those members who returned books so that I could complete this task.

The old Videos have not been re-catalogued but may still be borrowed.

### Missing Books

Whilst re-cataloguing the Library, I discovered that there are about 20 books missing. These may have been disposed of when we moved, borrowed but not recorded or, as I found on a few occasions, just handed on to another member without completing the Borrowing Card.

If members find a Library book that does not have a new sticker on its spine, could they please return it to the third shelf in the Library so that it can be re-instated into the Library?

**Henry Eastment**  
Librarian



### Vale

Since the last newsletter, regular club players, Ray Howard and Jenny McGrath passed away. Our condolences to their families.



## HIDING THE BIDDING DETAILS DURING PLAY

### Question

Could you please tell me the Rule that says the Bidding Slip must be covered after the auction is finished? What about when bidding boxes are being used?

### Answer

As written bidding is not used in many parts of the world apart from Australia and New Zealand, it is not specifically covered in the laws of bridge. Rules dealing with written bidding become part of regulations, which are the responsibility of individual clubs. However, for the sake of consistency, and because it is easy, most clubs will use the regulations of their State Association by default.

The common rule is that the bidding slip should be removed from view after the third player has played to Trick 1. By doing so, consistency with the relevant Law 20 is achieved. Law 20 says that a player has a right to a review of the auction up until they have played a card to the first trick.

So, the opening leader is entitled to review the auction till they make the opening lead, declarer can have a review until they play a card from dummy and the third player can get the review till they play to Trick 1.

*(from an article by Matthew McManus for the Australian Bridge Directors Association (ABDA))*

## CLAIMING

I truly understand the frustration newer players have when all of a sudden Declarer puts his or her hand on the table face down and claims the remaining tricks. Your initial reaction is to think "What! What's happening?" You can't follow what they are talking about – this card taking this trick, that card taking that trick and throwing away that card under some other card".

However claiming is part of the etiquette of the game. It is considered boorish if you can see you have the rest of the tricks in hand and continue to play, causing the opposition to worry about what card to keep or throw, when really it is not going to make any difference what they play.

I can remember many years ago at a Congress, Ralph Parker who is a very good Brisbane player (and a nice bloke), claimed, rattled off some line of play at the speed of lightning which I couldn't

follow and I said "I would like to play the hand out". Next thing, Ralph calls "Director" and I sit there horrified thinking "Oh my God, what have I done now". That is when I found out that once a player has claimed and shown his cards, the hand cannot be played out. So I simply pretended to understand what he was talking about and sat there feeling most mortified.

So while claiming is correct, it is also courteous to place the cards face up on the table (not wave them around in the air) and explain your line of play clearly and slowly so people can follow you. If your opponents still look dubious or feel they would have won a trick (because you have forgotten about an outstanding trump) then the Director must be called and will sort it out.

## THE JOYS OF PLAYING BRIDGE ON A CRUISE SHIP

While you can book a bridge cruise where you play bridge just about every day and pay to be part of that group, nearly all cruise ships now have bridge sessions run by a qualified Bridge Director which don't cost anything.

On the ship we came home from America, our Bridge Director was an ex-attorney who 8 years earlier had had a stroke. While he was going through rehabilitation, his wife talked him into going back to bridge which he hadn't played since he was at University. He is obviously a very clever player because within a couple of years, he was playing with the best of them and had qualified as a Director. Where he thought his life had finished, he actually started a whole new career. The only after effect of his stroke was that one of his legs was in a brace. Now he spends more than half the year on boats sailing all over the world running bridge with his wife as his assistant. When we reached Sydney, he was flying home for two weeks then flying to London to join the Queen Mary – nice if you can get it.

John and I met some great people whilst playing bridge, we also met three absolute sh\*ts. These three pairs would always get there early so they could sit north south and then terrorize all the poor E/W who came to their tables. One of these delightful souls was a nasty old thing who had quite a sweet wife that he also terrorized. John and I always seemed to play E/W and our strategy with them was to play as quickly as possible and get away.



However one day after we had played a board against him, I began to explain something to John and he yelled at me "Would you stop that". I politely ignored him and kept talking. "I told you to stop that" he yelled at me. Before Clifty got up and did something which might get us chucked off the ship, I took a deep breath and said in the politest and nicest voice I could, "You sir are the rudest man I have played bridge against in 25 years". As I trembled waiting for his response, I couldn't believe it, he was like a balloon that had just been pricked – we didn't get another peep out of him for the rest of the day.

### **Oops and the Unintended Call (Law 25)**

*I continue to see questions from players in relation to Law 25, including misinterpretation and incorrect reference to the 1997 laws that no longer apply – thus I have modified an earlier article from the April 2009 and June 2007 newsletters. Chris.*

Do you know there is a law that allows you to change a call that you did not EVER mean to make? It is Law 25.A.1 which states "Until his partner makes a call, a player may substitute his intended call for an unintended call but only if he does so, or attempts to do so, without pause for thought. The second (intended) call stands and is subject to the appropriate law."

This means that if you make a call and later realise that something else is written on the bidding slip then call the Director and let them decide if you have made an unintended call, and if so the Director may allow you to change it to the call you really intended.

Examples of unintended calls are...

1. You really think you should have bid 6S on that last hand, and it is troubling you. You hold 5 points with 3 spades, 4 hearts, 3 diamonds and 3 clubs; and intend to pass – and look aghast at the bidding slip to see that somehow you have written 1S !!!!!
2. You hold 16 points with 5 spades, 5 hearts and 3 clubs and yet write 1D when you really meant 1S. Goodness knows why!

The term "without pause for thought" requires some judgement from the Director. It does not matter whether your pencil is still on the bidding slip or not. An unintended call is one that was never under consideration even for a nanosecond. An unintended call appears on the bidding slip

without any conscious thought and very much to the shock and surprise of the player who made it. There is no point in showing your hand to the Director – the call must not have been in your mind.

Getting the system wrong, answering the wrong question and passing partner's cue bid are not unintended calls. A player must have chosen to write one thing and for some inexplicable reason wrote a different call which had not ever been under consideration. The Law is mainly to cover the use of Bidding Boxes – where you decide on a call but accidentally pull the wrong Bidding Card out of the box – it is a real mechanical error.

The following are not unintended calls:

3. You hold 18 points and have 6 spades, 4 hearts and 3 diamonds. You remember you are playing 15-18NT and so bid 1NT. In this case you meant it! It is not unintended, you just made a mistake.
4. Partner (North) calls 2C, East passes and you call 2NT showing a balanced hand and 8+ points. Left hand opponent (West) is about to call when you realise that they had actually opened 1NT initially but you didn't see it. Partner is doing a Hamilton 2C relay bid NOT showing a Benjamin Two type opening hand. This is a mistake – you always intended to call 2NT it was just based on the wrong information.
1. You have 13 HCP, 4 spades, 1 heart, 3 diamonds and 4 clubs and open 1C but then you find an extra spade and want to change your call – you cannot because at the time you made the call you fully intended for it to be 1C.

### **When a player changes their bid anyway**

Sometimes a player makes a call, and then goes "oops" and scribbles a new call over the top of their original call – without having called the Director. Law 25.B covers this situation which is an infraction against the rules.

Law 25.B.1. Like all infractions, left hand opponent can accept this new call by calling over it, in which case the first call is cancelled and the auction continues. Information about the first call is "unauthorised information".

Law 25.B.2. If left hand opponent does not accept the new call then it is cancelled and the original (scribbled out) call stands and the auction

continues. Information about the second call is "unauthorised information".

If the "withdrawn call" referred to a suit and his side become defenders then lead restrictions will apply the first time their partner is on lead. The Director will stay at the table to explain the options in relation to this.

## Why Is It Called Bridge?

The "*ancestor*" of bridge was Whist. Whist went through many stages of evolution and in the 18<sup>th</sup> century became very popular with all classes. With the migration towards the New World, sailors and immigrants took along their card games and they became very popular in (what is now called) the United States.

Around the 1890's the game of Bridge was introduced to the United States. The rules of the game underwent many changes made by its players. Harold Vanderbilt did much to perfect Bridge in 1925. He introduced rules, principles, treatments and even a scoring table. His established rules became so popular that his game, called Contract Bridge, was adopted by the majority of players.

How did the card game come to be called Bridge? An interesting question, because no one knows precisely where the name "*Bridge*" came from, although it is fairly certain that it has nothing to do with other meaning of the word bridge.

The invention of bridge in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was, evidently, based on a card game long popular in the Near East and known at that time as Russian Whist. The word Whist itself, by the way, is an old British equivalent of shhh!, and is a natural name for a game that demands silence from its players. Russian Whist was also known as "*biritch*" or "*britch*", both of which sound Russian although neither of them seems to be an actual Russian word. In any case, once the British took up the game, "*britch*" became "*bridge*" through a process known as folk etymology, which is a fancy way of saying that people often substitute a word they do know for one they don't, even when the substitution makes no sense.

So, the answer is that the name "*bridge*" seems almost entirely random and apparently does not mean a thing!



## Melbourne Cup Day

The following collection of photos show that our members still know how to party.



Teacher Glenys Clift got a special welcome home after her North American odyssey from a star pupil, Byron Longford.



"Fast Phil, the Punters' Friend" was again on the job at our Cup day. He was pleased to take sweep \$\$\$ from Ann Klibbe and Desiree Fenaughty.



This trio of Cup Day lovelies competed in the "scariest" category . . . who do you reckon won?





Providor Carol Lombardo helps bookie's clerk Keith Jenkin sort through sweep tickets on Cup day.



Best hat prize went to Kaye Fisher at the Melbourne Cup party.



Fashionable trio at the Melbourne Cup party are Cheryl Offner, Sandy Parker and Kay Behrend.

### *Social Sub-Committee*

**One volunteer from each session is sought to join our Social Sub-Committee. Please have a chat with other players, or committee members about helping with this vital role. I will come to each session next week to collect nominees.**

Thanks

Chris

### *Rules Reminder*

- Players should be **seated** 10 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (eg windows, airconditioning).
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the club Executive.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.
- No smoking is permitted in the clubrooms or within 4 m of any entrance. The "designated smoking area" is beneath the Avocado trees or, only if it is raining and all windows are closed, under the South verandah.

**A SAFE & HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL**