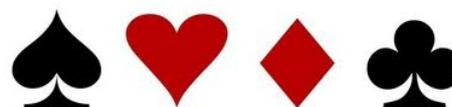


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



January 2021

Vol. 8 No 1

President's Report

Well, perhaps this has not been the start to the year that we were all hoping for. I don't think any of us enjoy playing in masks but hopefully by the time this rather late newsletter is out, masks will be a thing of the past, and we have had just a small taste of what many millions of people have had to endure for many months. Not that masks have not created some amusement (see Awards Section). As most of you know, but it is worth repeating, Julie Jeffries received a much deserved award from the QBA for her prodigious efforts in keeping BBC up and running during the worst times of the Covid crisis. Julie has been absent of late due to her difficulty in tolerating face masks – but we hope to see her back very soon.

It was with great personal sadness that I learned

of the death of Jill Plummer at the very end of 2020. Jill was a regular player at the Saturday session partnering Lab Pringle. She was a fascinating person with hidden depths and a wry sense of humour and I will miss her. The Club sends its deepest condolences to her friends and family. And of course it would be lovely to see Lab back playing at the club.

With the hopefully receding problems of Covid I would ask all Members to continue to support all sessions – there are signs of recovery in all sessions except Tuesday morning, which strangely continues to struggle.

My thanks to Peter Evans and John Kelly who have filled the gap in directing left by Julie's enforced absence.

Elaine

Tom's Administrator's Corner

Membership Renewal

Thank you to all members who have paid their annual membership. An email reminder has been sent to those members who have not paid. Please pay ASAP or visitor fees will apply when you next play at BBC. If you are not renewing, please let me know via email, phone, or in person. This is so I can remove your name from the records.

Covid Restrictions

The latest information from Queensland Health is that the Greater Brisbane restrictions will be eased on Friday 22 January, 1am, meaning that currently our Friday session will not require masks to be worn. Please note that there will be an official statement issued Friday morning with more details. Keep an eye on your emails and the BBC website at this time.

The following reschedules are subject to Covid restrictions easing on Friday 22 January, 1am.

Monday New Years Pairs - Week 2 (25 January, 9:30am)

Due to the 3 day lockdown, our second New Years Pairs session has been rescheduled from Monday 11 to Monday 25 January.

Beginner Lessons

Our first set of 2021 Beginner Bridge Lessons has been postponed due to Covid restrictions. They will now be held from 23 January to 27 February on Saturday mornings, 9:30am – 11:30am.



Saturday Summer Teams (6 & 13 Feb, 1pm)

The Saturday Summer Teams will be held on 6 & 13 February starting at 1.00pm each day. A team can consist of 4-6 players with 4 players playing each day. This allows teams to have a substitute if one or two players in the team cannot play both days.

If you need help finding another pair to form a team, please let me know ASAP. This event is an opportunity for players to play teams in a club atmosphere. Entry slips are available on the blue noticeboard near the front door at the club or you can enter on the BBC events page www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org/comingevents.asp

The cost each afternoon is a coupon or \$7 for members and \$10 for visitors. Please note: The only play on 6 & 13 February will be the teams. NO normal duplicate pairs on 6 & 13 February.

Tomas Corney

Bridge hand: Timing?

Dlr: South
Vul: N-S

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| | ♠ J 9 7 5 2 | |
| | ♥ J 8 | |
| | ♦ K Q J 10 | |
| | ♣ K Q | |
| ♠ K 10 6 3 | | ♠ 8 4 |
| ♥ 5 3 | | ♥ K 7 4 |
| ♦ 9 3 | | ♦ A 8 6 4 |
| ♣ J 10 9 6 2 | | ♣ 8 7 4 3 |
| | ♠ A Q | |
| | ♥ A Q 10 9 6 2 | |
| | ♦ 7 5 2 | |
| | ♣ A 5 | |

Via a bidding sequence lost to posterity South found himself in the testosterone fuelled contract of six hearts. Consistent with the bidding South played the optimistic contract

rapidly and thoughtlessly. South won West's opening J♣ with the Q♣ and led the J♥ and then another, drawing trumps.

He then led a diamond towards dummy but East, with Machiavellian cunning, held up his Ace until the third round. He then led a spade and since declarer could not get to dummy's good diamond, he finessed with the Q♠ to go down one!

The catchword here is timing. Win the first Club in hand with the Ace and immediately lead a diamond. If East takes the first Diamond and leads a Spade, South wins the Ace, gets to dummy with the K♣, draws trumps and runs the diamond to throw the Q♠. If East refuses the first Diamond, South draws trumps and then sets up the Diamond while the K♣ remains as an entry to dummy.

Arne

Awards

The Monty Python Award goes to Kris Prasad who, in a kindly gesture to amuse and entertain the others at the bridge table, attempted to imbibe the contents of his water bottle by filtering it through his face mask. His marinated shirt was a source of curiosity at subsequent tables.

The Kwashiorkor Award is presented to Daniel Chua who has developed an ingenious system of weight loss. By attempting to eat his Kit Kat through his face mask he has inadvertently developed a calorie controlled diet that he is anxious to patent.

The Beelzebub Award goes with ignominy to the Editor of this Newsletter who, after playing many years of questionable bridge, conspired recently to his first sub 40% score. I eventually decided that slashing my wrists would have been construed as an overreaction. Others I fear may differ!

A little something from Dawn Carroll:

The Chinese invented playing cards in AD 1000.
Some interesting facts and observations about "Playing Cards"

Did you know that the Traditional Deck of the Playing Cards are a strikingly coherent form of a Calendar?
There are 52 weeks in the year and there are 52 Playing Cards in a Deck.

There are 13 weeks in each Season and there are 13 cards in each suit.

There are 4 Seasons in a Year and 4 Suits in the Deck.

There are 12 Months in a Year so there are 12 Court Cards (Those with faces namely Jack, Queen, King in each suit)

The Red Cards represent Day, while Black Cards represent Night.

If you let Jacks = 11, Queens = 12, and the Kings = 13, then add up all the sums of $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots$ to 13 = 91. Multiply this by 4, for the 4 Suits, therefore $91 \times 4 = 364$, Add 1 that is the Joker and you will arrive at the number 365 being the Days in a Year.

Is that a mere coincidence or a greater intelligence?

Of interest is the sum of the letters in all the names of the cards, e.g., add up the letters in "one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, Jack, Queen, King" = 52!

The Spades indicate ploughing or working.

The Hearts indicates Love thy crops.

The Clubs indicates flourishing and growth.

The Diamonds indicate reaping the wealth.

Also, in some card games 2 Jokers are used, indicating the Leap year.

There is a deeper Philosophy than just merely Playing Cards.

The Mathematical perfection is stunning...



Heard at the Bridge Table

If God wanted us to play Bridge, he would have given us 13 fingers.

Of course Bridge is a sport. In fact, there is more swearing and cursing in bridge than in a football locker room.

“My bridge partner hasn’t an enemy in the world. It is just that all his friends hate him.”

Just because someone agrees with my partner doesn't make him right. It just means there's someone else out there as stupid as him.”

Bridge is my game and I play it seriously. Not well ... just seriously.”

“I still lose my temper sometimes when I’m playing – that’s one of the only parts I have left to lose.”

When arguing with your partner, never miss a good chance to shut up.

Married men who play bridge are lucky. They get to die sooner.

A little pearl from Neil:

Learning from your mistakes is not a good reason for seeking new mistakes to make.

And finally some fun from Neil and Inta, and many thanks to them for their welcome contributions at a time when we could all do with a laugh:

I relabeled all of the jars in my wife’s spice rack. I'm not in trouble yet....but the thyme is cumin.

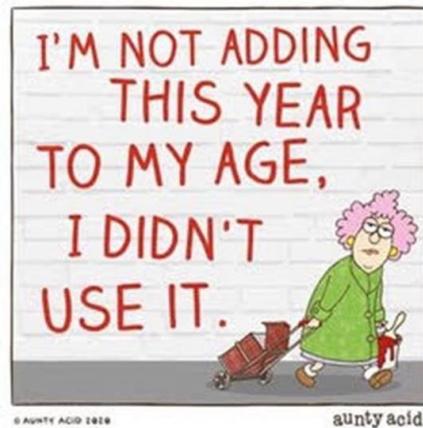
Got up this morning and ran around the block 5 times. Then I got tired, so I picked up the block and put it back in the toy box.

I think my neighbour is stalking me as she's been Googling my name on her computer. I saw it through my telescope last night.

Money talks but all mine ever says is good-bye.

You're not fat, you're just easier to see.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.



If you're refusing to wear a mask due to concerns your brain won't get enough oxygen, I think that ship has already sailed. 😞

Be good to your spouse, Remember, right now they could poison you and it would be counted as a covid death.

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arnejuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone at 3342-0105. Current and past newsletters available for viewing and download on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org

