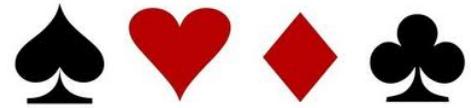


# Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



July 2021

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## President's Report

Very little to report this month, although I would like this opportunity to thank all members for their stoicism and patience during this seemingly never-ending Covid situation. During the short lockdown Julie once again provided members with the opportunity to play Bridge on Bridge Base Online – thank you Julie. You may notice that the carpets look less bumpy – we have had them stretched and tightened. We have heard that one of our most valued, and certainly most gifted members is back in Brisbane. Richard Wallis is back from Perth and we are all hoping that we see him back soon as a player, director and general valuable resource.

I would like members to give some thought to the September AGM which seems to arise with ever shortening years. We are always looking for people who can contribute to the running of the Club – I can guarantee that you would be surprised at the amount of work that is done to ensure the smooth running of even such a modest organisation as ours.

Our next big Club event takes place this Sunday – the BBC Graded Teams. So far we have 27 teams registered. I would ask members who are playing in this event to please contribute if possible to the smooth running of the day.

Elaine

**Shoutout to everyone who can still remember their childhood phone number but can't remember the password they created yesterday.**

© I Might Be Funny

**You are my people.**

## Tom's Administrators Corner

### BBC Graded Teams (Sunday 25 July, 9:30am)

BBC's next congress is coming up this weekend, Sunday 25 July. Please arrive by 9:15am for a 9:30am start. There are only a few more days to get your entry in so please enter ASAP if you haven't already. Entries close after Wednesday 21 July. In the unlikely event that Covid restrictions are still in place, table numbers will be restricted.

*Please Note: We are still looking for Spare Players for the Congress. Please phone 0450510196 or email [bbridgecentre@bigpond.com](mailto:bbridgecentre@bigpond.com) if you can help.*

### Saturday PM Ekka Pairs (7 August, 1pm)

BBC's next red point session will be 7 August, 1pm start. No prior entry is required. Everyone plays in the red point sessions. The cost will be a coupon for members and \$10 for visitors.

### Rugby @ Souths

The final two rugby games will be held 24 July & 7 August. Please arrive by 12:40pm to ensure a parking spot.

### Cold & Flu Season

As we are still in the midst of the cold and flu season, please continue to follow basic hygiene practises.

- If you are sick, or have cold/flu symptoms please think twice before coming to bridge. We rather you get well than sharing your cold or the flu with others at the bridge table.
- If you do need to cough at the bridge table, please cough into a tissue, handkerchief or your shoulder. Do not cough into the playing cards or on your hands.
- It is recommended that people wait at least 14 days between a dose of seasonal flu

vaccine and a dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. The 14-day time frame is a precautionary measure to manage the common side effects that may come with many vaccinations.

### Friendly Reminder

Please tidy up your table at the end of the session before leaving. This includes both pushing your chairs in and placing paper and rubbish (including crumbs) in the appropriate bins outside the kitchen.

### Lost & Found

There are a number of items that have been left at the club recently. Please let me know if you have an item missing that you suspect may be left here or if you have found anything at the club. In particular we have unclaimed glasses, glasses cases and umbrellas.

### Masterpoint Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received a masterpoint promotion.

- Leith Cameron - State
- Mark Penman – Graduate

### New Members

The Committee welcomes our new members and wishes them a long and happy association with BBC.

- Ewa Kowalczyk
- Lois Munro
- Greer Tucker
- Terry O'Dempsey
- Janeen Solomon

Tomas Corney

## I Hate \*#&@ing Plumbers

Dir: W  
Vul: Nil

♠ A K  
♥ K Q 10 5  
♦ K Q 10 5  
♣ A 8 7

♠ Q 10 9 8 6  
♥ J 3  
♦ J 7 2  
♣ 9 4 2

♠ 7 5 4 3  
♥ 8 7 6 2  
♦ A 9 8 6  
♣ 3

♠ J 2  
♥ A 9 4  
♦ 4 3  
♣ K Q J 10 6 5

Just when you think that there is nothing at the bridge table that can shock, surprise, amuse or annoy you, then a little event like this occurs. Sitting North I was happy to finally be dealt a hand that I felt I deserved and I opened 2NT. My naïve optimism that I was about to drift ineluctably into an unopposed 6 or 7 NT's was quickly dismissed when East overcalled 3D. Now was this a psyche bid, a psychotic bid or the bid of a man who had spent too long with his head down other people's toilets? Whatever, the bidding came to my partner sitting South who hovered on the cusp of unauthorized information by looking perplexed, confused and not a little aggravated. Sitting North I was

desperate for my partner to double, but sadly in this sequence it would mean that I would have to transfer to hearts. I wouldn't of course and I would have been happy to take the 2000 that would have come our way, or even more if declarer failed to make his Ace of trumps (eight down doubled has a nice ring to it). However partner eventually, and without enthusiasm, bid 4C, and I, under the logical assumption that East had the two red Aces, bid 5C in the hope that we were not going to run into a diamond ruff. The opening lead came down from a West, who I assumed had less points than a Yarborough, and I put down dummy and partner, in a *tour de force* of understatement, said "We've been duded!"

Well of course we made our 12 tricks for a complete bottom, zilch, a total zero, and the plumber was thrilled and has eaten out on the story, and is not above mentioning it, even now, to anyone who will listen. We did attempt to explain that sacrifices are a great part of the game of Bridge but not when the penalty you receive is likely to far outweigh the potential score against you.

Recent update: the plumber has declared "I'll never do that again". I'm still not certain that I will ever call a plumber out again – let the taps drip, let the toilets regurgitate. Actually he's a nice bloke and forgiveness could intervene in the next year or two.

Arne



## Bridge hand:

There is little doubt that good defence is the hardest part of bridge and a skill that is elusive to most of us. Take this hand for example – who amongst us would have killed N/S's contract of 3NT?

Dlr:South

Vul: N-S

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

South opened the bidding with a pre-emptive 3C and N/S subsided in 3NT played by South after North showed his spades and invited game. West led the eight of hearts covered by dummy's nine and West's ten and declarer played low. South clearly had the Ace of Hearts and a low heart continuation from West would cost a trick. But what about the King of Hearts? This is known as the Merrimac Coup which is a defensive play of the lead of an honour to dislodge one of declarer's entries. See what happens here – South loses his Ace of Hearts entry to hand and when West holds up his Club Ace until the second round South's entry to his long club suit has vanished and he is forced to settle for eight tricks.

*In 1898 an American coal ship, the Merrimac, was scuttled in a Cuban harbor channel blocking the channel and marooning the Spanish fleet in port.*

Arne

## Heard At The Bridge Table

I never drink alcohol while playing bridge. It interferes with my suffering.

I've always believed no matter how many games I win, I'm going to lose the next one.

A champion Bridge player is an amateur who did not quit.

Don't let worries get you down - play Bridge instead

I can concentrate at will on all the hands except the one I am currently playing.

I expect the worst in bridge and am rarely disappointed.

Through constant practice, I have become an expert loser.

You made your Ace of trumps. What else can you possibly want?

I know no one whom I would rather see in charge of the dummy.

I am such a fine player, no one can deny my right to be rude.

I play bridge to be entertained. If I wanted to be stressed and abused, I might as well stay home with my wife.

Partners are extremely important. Who else to blame when you lose?

If you cannot annoy your partner, there is little point in playing Bridge.

### **Neal, David and Fenna Funnies**

Gravity is fundamental for the universe and nature.  
But take it away and you just get gravy.

Tried to find a pun about carpentry.  
But nothing wood work.

A small boy was at the zoo with his father. They were looking at the tigers, and his father was telling him how ferocious they were. "Daddy, if the tigers got out and ate you up..." "Yes, son?" the father asked, ready to console him. "...Which bus would I take home?"

Customer: Waiter, I'm in a hurry! Will the pancakes be long?  
Waiter: No sir, round.

The salesman assured me that the new sofa will seat five people with no problems.  
Now all I need is to find five of my friends that have no problems.

My wife out of the blue said " You are not listening to me. "  
I thought that is a strange way to start a conversation.

### **Thought for the Month (in an increasingly depressing world).**

"The problem with the world is that the intelligent people are full of doubts, while the stupid ones are full of confidence."

### **Endgame**

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at [arneuser2@bigpond.com](mailto:arneuser2@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](http://www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org)